From the Desk of Rev. Kodo Umezuo

P resident Ron Murakami an-
ounced that the Executive Com-
mittee decided to pay down the Cal-ifornia Bank and Trust (CBE) loan to $500,000 using funds from the Relief Effort, JSC Receivables Account. He also informed the National Board that the Los Angeles Betsuin had offered a loan to the BCA to help pay off the California Bank and Trust loan. Knowing their generosity, President Ron Murakami has informed the Betsuin that the loan would not be pursued at this time since a different option is under consideration.

Bishop Umezu informed the Na-
tional Board that the current Go-Monsho Koshin Ohtani will be stepping down in June of 2014. Bishop Umezu re-empha-
sized that Bishop’s Administration’s priority and important commitment of BCA to its ministers, ministerial aspirants, members, and potential members.

Rev. Marvin Harada and Kiyonobu Komohara, Co-Directors of the Center for Buddhist Education (CBE), announced that the Minister’s Assistant Program Seminars were reorganized into four seasonal sessions and that the Spring 2013 session was focused on beginners and intermediates. The CBE schedule for the rest of the year was presented to the meeting attendees.

Rev. Jerry Kyoei Hirano, Chief of the BCA Ministers’ Association, an-
nounced that the Ministers’ Association has determined that only Kukishin ministers will be allowed to vote at BCA meetings. They voted to suspend budget requests by August 15 so that the Budget and Finance Committee can have the in-
formation for their September 21, 2013 meeting.

Richard Endo, Chair of the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS) Board of Trustees told the National Board that the IBS Board has approved a loan to the BCA to help pay off the JSC bank loan and I hope to have this completed by September.

There will be a great sense of relief and intermediates. The CBE schedule for the rest of the year will be filled later. A new phone system will soon have three investment portfolios that temples can choose from when creat-
ing a custodial account. Mr. Mizuno and Mrs. Vivian Endo, Chair of the Institute of Buddhist Studies, the BCA Bookstore, Hong- wa-ju Temple, and Byodai University. We’re pursuing a practical option that will allow us to achieve the final step of paying off the last $500,000 of the JSC bank loan and I hope to have this completed by September. Thank you everyone for helping us get this far.

Message from the Desk of Rev. Kodo Umezuo

T he month of June was busy with a number of events happening at various locations. There was a special Buddhism in America co-spon-
sored by the Northwest Dis-
27 participants including heroes thoroughly enjoyed a few days with Dr. Taitetsu Arakaki, former interim supervisor, has stepped down from her position as Admi-

From left to right: Rev. Tetsuo Unno, Rev. Umezu, Rev. Shinji Okudera.
**ENMANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

The pionner members formed the Sounoma County branch of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco in 1953. The temple received the designation “Emmanji” from the Hongwanji in 1954 with the assistance of Bishop Kenju Masuyama. The name can be translated as “A garden temple in peace and harmony.”

This current temple building was originally built in 1952 for the Chicago World’s Fair Japa- nese Pavilion. The building was disassembled in Chicago and was brought to Sultanport by rail. The temple building was reconstructed without nails using Japanese carpenters and local wood. For World War II, the temple sustained structural damage, some of which is still visible today.

**3200 Grassstreet Hwy S, Sultanport, CA 60427 (707) 823-2252 www.emmanji.com**

*Note: This series introducing BCA temple committees to the 2013 BCA Calendar.*

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**BCA NATIONAL BOARD 2013**

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**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2013**

The 7th Annual Baby Boomers’ Seminar

WAKE UP & BE ALIVE!

**Keynote Speaker:**

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Look out for details & registration information

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**The Most Important Rooms in the JSC**

Our Jodo Shinshu Center is a wonderful facility that is constantly being utilized for many excellent programs and seminars by the Institute of Buddhist Studies, Center for Buddhist Education, and the BCA Bookstore. In the building we have a beautiful Krodo, where we hold services and have lectures. There are classrooms, offices, a library, a conference room, and guest rooms for people to stay in, like a hotel or dorm. These rooms are all important and have their purpose. But to me, the most valuable rooms in the JSC are the kitchen and the dining room.

When we have events there, we share delicious meals that are cooked in the kitchen by staff and volunteers. We eat together in the dining room, talking and laughing. Sometimes the noise from all the laughter and conversations going on is so loud that you can hardly hear the person you are talking to. After meals, as people are cleaning up and washing dishes, the conversation and fellowship continues. I think that the activity in the kitchen and the dining room of the JSC has done more to bring all of us together in the BCA than anything that has occurred in the past.

People from the east coast to the west coast, Hawaii, Canada, Brazil, China, Japan and all gather at the JSC and share meals and conversation. Just like a family that enjoys eating together, too, everyone who attends events at the JSC comes to bond in a sense of family and community.

As our Sangha grows through the propagation of Buddhism and the Nembutsu, we maintain a sense of warmth and closeness within our Sanghas through sharing meals, cooking together, and sharing our life experiences within the Dharma.

**MESSAGES FROM THE BUDDHA**

*This free, 36-page booklet is available in English and Japanese (Budhu no Oroku). It contains parables and simple expressions which represent the essence of the Sutras—the true teachings of the Shakamuni Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. These passages were excerpted and edited from The Teachings of Buddha which is published by Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai Society for the Promotion of Buddhism.*

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**FREE PUBLIC LECTURE**

Presented by BCA Center for Buddhist Education in conjunction with the Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course

Professor John K. Nelson
Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of San Francisco

August 3, 2013 @ 1 pm

This talk will emphasize how a growing number of progressive Shinshu priests in Japan are exploring new approaches and affiliations that apply Pure Land teachings to pressing social and political concerns. The crises being faced by all Buddhist denominations... is being addressed through creative and experimental activities that (while sometimes controversial) demonstrate compassion and long-term commitment.

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― Alfred Ihara, Emeritus Professor, University of Hawaii

― Alfred Ihara, Emeritus Professor, University of Hawaii
A Breath of Fresh Air”

By Jenna Tokeshi, San Fernando Valley Honjoji Buddhist Temple

A s a college student, staying up at odd hours of the night while munching on my depleting stock of chips and cookies in my cramped dorm room is a common aspect of the college routine. With midterms, papers, club activities, and much more. We returned to our minds. During yoga, I was reminded to be grateful for our strengths that are capable of so much more than we realize. We take for granted things that we can do like running, walking, and breathing. Amongst all the chaos in life, it was a relaxing way to stop and smell the roses. We often forget how important it is to breathe and clear our minds. During yoga, I was reminded that we cause our own suffering and must strive to take the middle path. Like all other aspects of our life, we need to get done. While doing the exercises seemed difficult at first, but in the end everyone was able to do all the activities. Lastly, we discussed our body image and the physical characteristics that we think define us. Instead of paying such close attention to our short torso or big nose, we explained parts of our body that we were grateful for. Throughout the day we are healthy foods that were both delicious and nourishing. Healthy eating isn’t about counting out the fatty foods we love, but about eating in moderation. We don’t have to starve or deprive ourselves and be miserable. The connection between the mind and body is truly amazing. Once we set our minds to do something, our bodies can achieve so much. The various exercises seemed difficult at first, but in the end everyone was able to do all the activities.

Overall, I really enjoyed the time I spent working out and discussing healthy habits with my fellow dharma friends. At the end of the day I felt refreshed and ready to take what I had learned and apply it to my normal college routine. With mudras, final exercises, clubs, activities, labs, and sports, it is easy to put health on the backburner. This seminar was a good reminder that exercising, eating in moderation, being grateful for our bodies, and changing our minds are all easy, quick and simple steps toward living healthier lives. We re- ally only live once, so I think it is important to not only care for our bodies and make this life count.

In addition to a benefit of St. YBL, I wanted to thank all who were involved in making the event possible. I am so grateful that we have such amazing supporters when it comes to facilities, food and much more. I am also amazed by my fellow talented and awesome members of St. YBL who lead services, icebreakers, and work- shops. I always feel like I learn something new because each person has so much to offer.

We are looking forward to our next retreat in June at San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple.
Meeting of the Mind: Part 2
By Ellisia Mine
Spokane Buddhist Temple

The three main ongoing topics discussed for our Dharma School students at the summer session were: (1) effectively sharing Dharma school materials, lesson plans, and training for teachers; (2) collaboration of the FDST with the Center for Buddhist Education, uploading more lesson plans to the headquarters wiki-space.com, and encouraging districts to submit projects and materials for distribution to other chapters; and (3) a summer retreat for teachers and pupils at the Oda temple.

The Southern District is also offering their workshop template for district or multiregional use, a mutually beneficial so- lution that we are carrying on when working through the challenges of the new school year.

We often cite the value of tradition in our conversations at the temple. It is a tradition that we carry when we practice the teachings of nembutsu as ‘tradition’ that we are carrying on when going out to the community. Mushim Ikeda, the two staged an example of the transformation that was also very relevant and impactful in her talk was, "The Soul of a Guide Dog". By Rev. Carol Myokei Himaka

A wonderful coincidence happened a few weeks ago when, in the span of a single week, I read a Wheel of Dharma article by Rev. Zuzeki Tangusho and had a most uplifting experience related to his theme. In his June article “A Special Memorial Service,” Rev. Taniuchi wrote of conducting such a service at the pet cemetery for a service dog named Purdy. One might wonder why a dog would receive such special consideration. To answer this question, one need only witness the warm and noble graduation ceremony of Guide Dogs for the Blind my wife and I attended in the dorm of GDB’s breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary Hospital, Dormitory, and extensive breeding area and nursery, Veterinary 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**Recognizing JSC Debt Relief Donors**

Starting with the January 2013 edition, we’ll begin recognizing donors for their Debt Relief contributions to help pay off the bank mortgage for construction of the Jodo Shinshu Community Center. This initiative was launched with a donation of $1,000,000 designated for the project. As of July 1, 2013, the mortgage amount was about $5,175,000. Even though the Debt Relief funding effort was designed for only a 12-month effort, the bank mortgage has been reduced to about $1,517,000 thanks largely to the generosity of our donors. Most importantly, the mortgage allowed us to avoid paying roughly $1,050,000 in potential interest on the loan and reduced monthly payments on the bank loan from $19,350 to $10,220. This generous response came during financially difficult times for many. Thank you and congratulations to the thousands of donors who helped make this happen.

### National Board Report

**Continued from Front Page**

By President Joe Tanaka

The National Board elected Jeff Matsuoka as the interim President of the Federation of Dharma School Associations (FBWA) for the period of time from 2013 to 2015. Mr. Matsuoka followed Mr. John Cupples who completed his term on June 30, 2013.

**FBWA**

**Continued from Page 2**

picture of Kanki-ken, which the Hawaii BWA wishes to distribute to their chapters in compliance with a resolution they recently passed. The Western Regional Director confirmed that plans have begun to host the world convention at the beginning of September in 2016.

After lunch we were given a tour of the Telus Convention Center located adjacent to the hotel by Mr. Kenji Yamanaka, who is the Managing Director for the event.

That we must endeavor to adopt the principles of Shinran Shonin. P. 412, Collected Translation of the Ondokusan, from Shinran Shonin. P. 412, Collected Work on the Practice of True Conception, 1994.

That we must strive to adhere to the entire topic of discussion as much as possible, and strive to achieve such a condition where even in social situations, our friends and associates are not taught to perform religious practices, but are only taught to practice our path, and not religious ones. Thus we see that the practices are performed only in a religious context.

For the remainder of the weekend, it is hoped that the international delegates to get better acquainted and appreciate what extras attending the convention will offer, or, as in the words of our previous welcome dinner at the Calgary Rocky Mountains, the Japanese and the BCA temples.

**FWA Continued from Page 2**

Norko was born. In 1970, he was assigned to the San Diego Buddhist Temple, and in 1983 he became the head minister of the temple, where he eventually retired in 1995.

In 1996, Rev. and Mrs. Taneda became grandparents of their first grandchild, Kyle. Then came a succession of six more grandchildren, with Jarod in 1998, Tylor in 2003. In 2006, Taneda Rev. enjoyed golfing, gardening, walking, and watching his 4 grandchildren grow up and become his second generation. He always enjoyed his occasional trips to Japan, to reunite with his relatives, and to visit his home temple. He particularly enjoyed participating in the activities of the Southern California Shiga-ken organization.

Rev. Koju Taneda served a full forty years for the BCA, serving as pastor of the Raymond Temple in Nipponzan Myohoji in Memphis, Tenn. He was able to learn from and see the level of dedication of our pioneering Issei leaders. I can say that I have matches their level of dedication, but I can say that I have always had the same spirit of a “kai-kyoshi” as our pioneering Issei ministers like Rev. Koju Taneda.

**Sogo’s Message**

Continued from Front Page

I felt that all the temples and those who have helped make this happen.

In 2012 the BCA National Student Financial Assistance Program, announced that (for the first time in four years) the Program would be providing financial awards to ministries aspirants. The Program’s funds increased significantly since management of the funds was changed to the Endowment Foundation.

**FWA Continued from Page 2**

Shingon Buddhism is located in the conven- tion complex included statues of the Buddha from all over the world. Indochina, Thailand, and Japan. They also had as a focal point of their exhibit, a complete altar that was donated to the museum by the Rev. and Mrs. Raymond of the Raymond temple in Alberta, when it disbanded in 2006. Susan Huntley wistfully shared that this was the first altar in the family to attend the Raymond temple in her youth.

For the remainder of the weekend, it is hoped that the international delegates to get better acquainted and appreciate what extras attending the convention will offer, or, as in the words of our previous welcome dinner at the Calgary Rocky Mountains, the Japanese and the BCA temples.

We were also treated to a tour of the Glenbow Museum located in the conven- tion complex. The exhibit included statues of the Buddhas from all over the world. Indochina, Thailand, and Japan. They also had as a focal point of their exhibit, a complete altar that was donated to the museum by the Rev. and Mrs. Raymond of the Raymond temple in Alberta, when it disbanded in 2006. Susan Huntley wistfully shared that this was the first altar in the family to attend the Raymond temple in her youth.

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**Sogo’s Message**

Continued from Front Page

I felt that all the temples and those who have helped make this happen.

In 2012 the BCA National Student Financial Assistance Program, announced that (for the first time in four years) the Program would be providing financial awards to ministries aspirants. The Program’s funds increased significantly since management of the funds was changed to the Endowment Foundation.

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picture of Kanki-ken, which the Hawaii BWA wishes to distribute to their chapters in compliance with a resolution they recently passed. The Western Regional Director confirmed that plans have begun to host the world convention at the beginning of September in 2016.

After lunch we were given a tour of the Telus Convention Center located adjacent to the hotel by Mr. Kenji Yamanaka, who is the Managing Director for the event.

That we must endeavor to adopt the principles of Shinran Shonin. P. 412, Collected Translation of the Ondokusan, from Shinran Shonin. P. 412, Collected Work on the Practice of True Conception, 1994.

That we must strive to adhere to the entire topic of discussion as much as possible, and strive to achieve such a condition where even in social situations, our friends and associates are not taught to perform religious practices, but are only taught to practice our path, and not religious ones. Thus we see that the practices are performed only in a religious context.

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オックスナード教会

A.別院本堂での講義の様子
ご門主さま来年6月に引退される

ご門主お言葉

このたび私は、本願寺住職、浄土真宗本願寺派門主を退任することにしました。
1977年（昭和52年）4月16日に就任以来、48年を経過しました。明年的6月1日に退任いたします。

私たちは、御仏が存在するために、この世界を創り立てる存在であることを認識していると言われています。これが、門主の役割であると私は考えています。

このたび、2013年6月に法統を継承することになりました。
今後とも、浄土真宗の歴史を真摯に見つめ、次世代へと教えが伝わるよう精いっぱい努めてまいります。

新門さまお言葉

このたび、2014年4月に法統を継承することになりました。

新門さま門徒の皆様のご好都合をお待ちしております。