

The Buddhist Temple of Thicago BULLETIN





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Tradition and Creativity, **But Able Camels Come First**

At the 2014 Maida Center retreat at the end of July in Berkeley, CA, I was pleased that three of our temple members attended: Ruby Tsuji, Ann Yi, and John Kelly. Besides being a great opportunity to listen to Dr. Nobuo Haneda (since long trips to Chicago are now out for him), it was a chance for our members to meet people from the West Coast temples who have been following Dr. Haneda for a number of years. Also, as at other gatherings such as the Eastern Buddhist League conventions, people are impressed with our members as representatives of a temple which is open to diversity and supportive of the serious study of Buddhism.

The theme of this year's retreat was "Tradition and Creativity." At the start, Dr. Haneda reviewed his comments in the similarly titled article in his book Dharma Breeze, but the rest of the retreat was an indepth study of the Larger Sutra and Shinran's commentary. Dr. Haneda is an important pipeline in

Calvin Manshio and a Thousand Candles

Calvin Manshio, an old friend of The Buddhist Temple of Chicago, passed away at the end of July. For those of you familiar with the Japanese American community in Chicago, he needs no introduction.

There is insufficient column space for an exhaustive biography of his accomplishments. For those of you unfamiliar with Calvin, he was most often described as a "leader" in the Japanese American community. Think of him as one of the filaments that connected the different parts of our community, and usually through positions of leadership: as a columnist for the Chicago Shimpo, Chicago representative for the annual Washington, D.C. meeting of national Japanese and Japanese-American leaders, the president of the Asian American Bar Association, Japanese American Service Committee, Japanese Mutual Aid Society of Chicago, and the Chicago Japanese American Council, Chair of Asian American Coalition, and as the President of the Buddhist Temple of Chicago, from 2007 to 2009. Professionally, he was

bringing the deep tradition of the Jodo Shinshu teachings to me – my meeting him was key to drawing me to Shinran and finding the spiritual nourishment that I didn't get from my dabbling in Zen. At the last part of the retreat I felt uncomfortable when Dr.

Rev. Patti Nakai Resident Minister

Haneda said that along with being students of the tradition we have to become creative and go beyond our teachers.

I'd like to describe my discomfort by referring to the page-long passage in the retreat reading material that Dr. Haneda took from Thus Spoke Zarathustra Frederick bv

Nietzsche. It didn't surprise me that he quoted Nietzsche – in the old days (early 1980s) when Dr. Haneda taught the study class at our temple, he often used quotes from Nietzsche and several other modern Western philosophers. The passage we read was called "The Three Metamorphoses." First, Nietzsche says the

(Continued on page 6, left column)

an attorney and member of the Illinois Commerce Commission. Most importantly, Calving was a son, sibling, husband, father, and grandfather.

There were many wonderful remembrances by loved ones and friends at his memorial in August. The



Glenn T. Fujiura Temple President

anecdotes provided insights into his personality and the things that made him unique. It was also clear from the stories that Calvin was many different things to different people. As a passing acquaintance I can only provide a snippet recollection.

As he was for so many in the Japanese American community, Calvin was my parent's attorney. I recall our family discussions over legal matters would usually end with this bit of advice: ". . . and if anything happens to us, get in touch with Calvin. He will take care of things."

(Continued on page 6, right column)



Temple News July 2014

- 7/03 Myles Yasuda joined the Higashi Honganji Youth Hoshidan trip to Kyoto and Hiroshima.
- ₱ 7/06 July monthly memorial service. *** Rev. Ashikaga conducted Japanese service. *** Kokyo Taiko performed at the Windy City Ribfest in Uptown. *** Many volunteers reassembled the hondo chairs with new cushions and painted frames (see article and photos on page 5).

♥ 7/09 Rev. Nakai attended monthly Uptown Clergy lunch meeting.

7/12 Rev. Nakai attended memorial service for the late Mrs. Miye Yada at Lakeview Funeral Home. Mrs. Yada helped with BTC's craft group and many other groups (Midwest Buddhist Temple,

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:

Atsuko Nakanishi

Lakeside Church etc.) *** Rev. Nakai participated in Bon Odori at the Midwest Buddhist Temple.

- ₱ 7/13 Regular Sunday service. *** Elaine Siegel gave presentation of haiku poetry at Lake Street Church in Evanston. *** Rev. Nakai attended Treasures of Uptown Interfaith Coalition tour of the community garden on the rooftop of the Weiss Hospital parking garage.
- © 7/15 Bon Odori instructors met to practice the 2014 program.
- 7/16 Rev. Nakai attended Chicago Japanese American Council meeting *** William Shehan attended the Buddhist Council of the Midwest meeting at SGI.
- 7/18 July Bulletin mailed (7 volunteers)
- ₱ 7/19 Asoka Society met. *** Rev. Ashikaga conducted 49th Day memorial service for the late Ms. Jeannette Nicholas at the temple. *** Rev. Nakai attended Spiritual Beans interfaith discussion
- 7/20 Patrick Garone was lay speaker at Sunday service. *** Board of Directors meeting.
- 7/21 Bon Odori practices started (4 other sessions: July 23, 25, 28 and 31)
- ₱ 7/22 Rev. and Mrs. Ashikaga leave for Japan, returning Sept. 3 *** Rev. Nakai conducted ashes burial service for the late Merry Hirata at Montrose Cemetery.
- ♥ 7/24 Rev. Nakai conducted ashes burial service for the late Mrs. Atsuko Nakanishi at Montrose Cemetery. Mrs. Nakanishi is survived by daughter Miwa Neumann and son Ken.
- ₱ 7/25 to 7/27 Rev. Nakai participated at the Maida Center retreat in Berkeley, CA, also attending from BTC: John Kelly, Ruby Tsuji, Ann Yi.
- ₱ 7/26 Kumihimo (braiding) craft class
- * 7/27 Temple picnic with abridged service conducted by Bill Bohlman.

First Kumihimo Class Success

Our first kumihimo class in July was a great success. Kumihimo, or "gathered threads" is a traditional Japanese craft that is gaining popularity in the US. There were 11 participants who learned the basic eight-wrap braid and completed a beaded bracelet project. I am grateful to Alice Murata for organizing the participants and for helping with explanations, to Alice and Arlene for making a delicious lunch, and to Ruth Abbinanti for handling the payments.

We plan to have another kumihimo class with a new project for late in the fall. Stay tuned!

Gassho, Nancey Epperson

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Understanding the Nembutsu through recognizing the Paramitas in others.

Send in your recognitions!

- Sunday Service Participants: Karen Baier, Bill Bohlman, Jackie Denofrio, Patrick Garone, Anna Idol, Tom Lane, Lynnell Long, Alice Murata, Tanya Murdaugh, Betty Segal, Elaine Siegel
- Accompanists: Ruth Abbinanti, Mrs. Ashikaga, Mia Blixt-Shehan
- Audio Controls: Jacob and Wendy Fawcett.
- Sunday Service Refreshments: Karen Baier, Jackie Denofrio, Noreen Enkoji, Haru Ito, Amy Kawamoto, Cary, Don and Judy Oshita, Betty Segal, Ruby Tsuji. Picnic: Upaya Group
- Bulletin Mailing: Sue Balsam, Antoinette D'Vencets, Noreen Enkoji, Haru Ito, Chuck Izui, Masa Nakata, Ruby Tsuji.
- Cleaning temple washrooms: Jun Park
- Taking care of the temple inside and out: Tomio Tademoto.
- Maintaining and updating the temple website and computer: Shawn Lyte.
- Emptying the trash bins, filling them with new bags and putting them out for disposal: Sue Balsam, Adam Kellman, Ruby Tsuji.

Reminder: Scouts Reunion Saturday, September 27 – 5 to 9 p.m.

All past Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, their families and friends are invited to the Scouts Reunion at the temple on September 27. Come and renew old friendships and make new connections. Nostalgic photos will be on display and you are welcome to bring your own photos and souvenirs along with your memories. Light refreshments will be provided and if you can, please bring a side dish (appetizer, dessert, etc.) to share. It's open house, so come early or come late.

For more information, please contact Kerry Murakami at kerrymurakami@budtempchi.net.

BTC Kokyo Taiko Groups

Kokyo adult and children's taiko groups will resume in October. To join the adult group, please contact Linda Tademoto. To join the new children's group, please contact Miriam Solon at sarahksmom@yahoo.com and put "Children's Taiko" in the subject line.

The adult group has performances scheduled for October 5 in Skokie for the NCJAA, October 18 at the International Buddhism Festival at BTC, and a brief performance on October 19 at the Fujima Ryu recital at Northside College Prep.

Asoka Updates

The Asoka meeting for September has been canceled. Those scheduled for Toban should talk to Alice Murata (773) 463-4631 about switching to October, November, or December duties. The October Asoka has been rescheduled for October 11th at 1:00 p.m.

The BTC Mission Statement

Founded in 1944 as an administratively independent temple, The Buddhist Temple of Chicago aspires to the following:

- To present and explore the Three Treasures of Buddhism the Buddha (teacher), the Dharma (teachings), and the Sangha (community).
- To be guided and inspired by the historical Buddha, Gautama Shakyamuni, and the teachers who have followed Shinran Shonin, Manshi Kiyozawa, and Haya Akegarasu.
- To present the Buddha-Dharma in a language and manner relevant and understandable in contemporary America.
- To welcome all who seek the Dharma without any exceptions.
- To be a positive presence in our local community working to enhance the vitality of our neighborhood.
- To honor and continue the traditions of our founding members.
- To always live the Nembutsu Namu Amida Butsu.

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BTC BULLETIN

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Ruth Abbinanti, Rev. Patti Nakai, Gary T. Nakai, William Shehan, Ruby Tsuji, Ann Yi (Editor)

Feedback & Submissions

Comments, corrections, questions, & suggestions welcome. Submissions of articles, essays, book reviews, photos, poetry, news items, announcements, drawings, etc., strongly encouraged. Submissions will be reviewed for suitability and space availability. Anonymous submissions will not be published, but author's names may be withheld from publication upon request.

Contact

E-mail BTCbuledtr@hotmail.com or speak with anyone on the BTC Team

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Obon Weekend 2014

Thank You to Our Volunteers

Thank you to the many people who helped with our Bon Odori dance festival and Obon service. Both events were well-attended and some remarked there were more people at the festival and service than in the past few years. We would like to acknowledge the following:

Bon Odori set-up and clean-up:

Dave Fujii, Pete Izui, Alan, Mitchell and Eric Kato, Adam Kellman, Gary Nakai, Tomio Tademoto and Ron, Russell, and Sean Yoshioka

Bon Odori instructors:

Gwen Kato, Karen Kanemoto, Susan Kuse, Joyce Miyata, Naomi Mounce, Rev. Patti Nakai, Miriam Solon, and Linda Tademoto

Bon Odori taiko drumming:

BTC Kokyo Taiko members: Jeong Min Lee, Miriam Solon and Jeffrey Tademoto

From Midwest Buddhist Temple: Ryan Toguri

Bon Odori refreshments:

April Kellman, Jerry and Jane Morishige, and Betty Yoshioka

Obon luncheon:

Asoka Society under the direction of Chef Yasuo Mizuuchi

Obon altar and decorations:

Bill Bohlman, Nancey Epperson, Adam Kellman, Lynnell Long, Jun Park, Darryl Shishido

Child of Peace

By Darryl Shishido

Note: Our temple member Darryl Shishido wrote this poem after the recent passing of his mother Irene, referring to her Japanese name "Kazuko," which means peace-child. It's a reflection of the bittersweet feelings at Obon time — remembering our loved one's joyful and painful moments, missing them, and at the same time feeling their presence while dancing.

Child of Peace

1

A bag of old bones,

Flesh and blood—

Squirming in pain!

2

So much—forgotten!

So much—never asked!

So much—left unsaid!

3

Meriting a paradise,

Her pain extinguished—

Nirvana.

4

A great-granddaughter,

Newborn—

Her sweet nature, reincarnated.

5

Make her smile again—

Laugh, even!—

Dancing at Obon . . .















Photos by Photos by Ron Yoshioka and others.

Our "New" Hondo Chairs By Gary T. Nakai

Since it was widely recognized that they don't make sturdy chairs like our Hondo chairs anymore, it was decided to refurbish them instead of buying new ones, getting a better product for less money in the end. That is, providing we did the disassembly: removing the old cushions from the cushion plates and then reassembling the refurbished parts. And of course not to mention all the logistics of transporting chair parts to and fro. Many hours of work on our end went into making this overdue project worthwhile and affordable, and resulted in a superlative product.

Starting in January of this year, volunteers disassembled the chairs, carefully saving parts and hardware. The messy job of removing the cushions and padding (leaving the steel plates to which to mount the new cushions) occurred next. These plates were transported to be reupholstered in batches. The finished cushion assemblies were picked up. The chair frames were delivered off-site for preparation and to be painted. With the finished cushion assemblies and painted frames on hand, final assembly was all that was left to bring this project to a close. That happened on one miraculous Sunday afternoon immediately following service when a voracious hoard of dedicated workers reassembled all the chairs and placed them in the Hondo. In the end, 149 chairs were completely redone.

The players in this seven-month marathon of dedication were David Austin; Cedric Bassbey; Sue Balsam; Elizabeth Bautista; Bill Bohlman; Courtney Emery; Jacob & Wendy Fawcett; Glenn T. Fujiura; Mika Hamada; Roy Koizumi; Shoko Johnson; Lynell Jones; Morris Kawamoto; Janet Lipner; Lynn Maruyama; Carlos Menza; Debbie Miyashiro; Jerry Morishige; Michelle Mulcahy; the entire Oshita Clan – Don & Bea, Cary, Kenneth, Kelly, Bob, Radine, Robert, Riana, Ryan, Raquelle Riffle, Judy & Phil Black; Rev. Patti Nakai; Tom & Kiyo Omachi; Salamu; Yoneo Shimomura; Emily Stewart; Linda Triplett; Peggy Waters.

Furthermore, through Bill Bohlman's generosity of again donating his company's trade dollars to

finance part of this project, the right vendor was found. John Hauser of United Canvas in Antioch, IL and his crew did a spectacular job of reupholstering the seat cushions to look better than new and were fine people to work with too. From the high quality materials used and unmatched skill employed, they are experts at doing beautiful custom work. Real customer satisfaction in the making.



Jon Yamagiwa of Uptown Auto Service who had helped the temple on numerous occasions evaluated the refinishing of the chair frames. His expertise in auto refinishing made him a first choice to have the chair frames repainted. After careful preparations of the frames by hand he thought there might be yet a better refinishing method for our chairs. It was through his diligent research and attention to quality that he found a source in Allan Smiley, owner of A. Smiley Co., Inc. They specialize in an electro-deposition process of applying a highly durable paint with catalyst to irregular objects such as chair frames. Utilizing Jon's vast shop area prepared especially for this project, Allan and his son Alexander employed this unique process with outstanding results that made the frames look just like new! Furthermore, Mr. Smiley donated the paint as part of the project as a gesture to help the temple contain costs.

When you sit in our Hondo, you can contemplate further on the sangha at BTC, a sangha that works. According to Rev. Ashikaga who remembers these chairs in place when he first arrived back in the late 50's, "These chairs will now last another 60 years." To that I add, just stick around, you'll see!







Above: Reverends Ashikaga and Nakai admire the finished product. Below: Volunteers assemble chairs.

Photos by William Shehan and Gary T. Nakai.

... Tradition and Creativity

(Continued from page 1)

spirit becomes a camel – it must bear much and carry the the heavy load into the desert. Then in the desert, the spirit becomes a lion, fiercely fighting the dragon of "Thou shalt." After the dragon is vanquished, the spirit becomes a child, innocently going forth in play.

Dr. Haneda related these three phases to Shinran's discussion of the Threefold Mind in *Kyogyoshinsho*. Shinran breaks down the wording of Dharmakara's eighteenth vow in the Larger Sutra into a three-fold process – hearing the sincere mind/heart in "Namu Amida Butsu" (*shishin*), awakening to the experience of entrusting (*shingyo*), and desiring birth into a new life



(yokusho). In Dr. Haneda's words, as a camel, we load up on the teachings of Buddhism, receiving the living essence of it from historical teachers. Then as a lion, we experience the destruction of our old dualistic views based on egoattachment. Finally as a child, we are

one with Dharmakara's spirit of continual learning and enjoying the dynamic flow of life. In reference to Shinran's life and other individuals in Buddhist history it makes some sense.

Later, Dr. Haneda went on to say "we" in America should be exercising more creativity in presenting Buddhism and coming up with our own new interpretations. I felt uncomfortable because the sentiment he expressed usually gets dumbed down to mean creating one's own touchy-feely interpretation of Buddhism.

At this point, I feel the greatest need remains for more able camels – there is so much to learn and bring into the desert of Buddhism in America. It's a desert because the connections to the teachings of the historical Buddha and great commentators are so sparse and shallow. At some much later time when herds of strong camels have carried a stockpile of rich Dharma treasures onto the English-speaking scene, then from this abundance we lions can sort out the "dragon-teeth from the jewels." And we all can look forward to generations of playful children of the Buddha, the direct heirs of the true Dharma.

... Calvin Manshio

(Continued from page 1)

So I knew about Calvin for many years, but did not know him personally until my parents' passing. About a year after my father's death, Calvin contacted me regarding some minor matter needing attention. Calvin could have easily mailed the materials but thought it would be good to see Gladys at least one more time. She was at an advanced stage of dementia at the time. He made what must have been an awful weekday drive from

his Uptown office near the temple thirty five miles out into the suburbs to personally meet my mom. So there we were, in the day room Alzheimer ofan intensive care unit. Calvin gently discussing nothing in particular with my mother. She recognized neither of us, but was pleased as punch



by the gentle attention of this well dressed Japanese fellow. I've long forgotten the legal matter but will always remember the time and thoughtfulness given to Gladys that afternoon.

Calvin had once said that it was the little things that made him feel good. That his grandparents had been intimidated by the system and helping people who could not figure things out was important to him.

Of all the impressive accomplishments I heard about at the memorial – and there were many – the



stories about the small acts of kindness and consideration were the ones that resonated most with me. A legacy is not a "thing" but thousands of encounters and effects, some big, most small. What I took away from Calvin's memorial was that for all the big

stuff he had accomplished, and clearly, Calvin had accomplished lots of big stuff, he was most cherished for the small, quiet acts of kindness to people all across Chicago.

As the Buddhist saying goes, "Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle . . ." Calvin burned brightly.

Buddha 'Bout Town: Buddhist & Cultural Happenings

- September 18-21: Joffrey Ballet presents three dances in their Stories in Motion program at The Auditorium Theatre. The third dance, "RAkU," tells a tragic love story and the burning of the Golden Pavilion in Kyoto, Japan. For tickets, visit http://joffrey.org/stories
- Through October 5, 2014: Onchi Koshiro: The Abstract Prints at the Art Institute, Gallery 107. Koshiro was a leader and innovator of the *sosaku hanga* (creative print) movement that revolutionized Japanese printmaking before and after WW II.
- Oct. 11-Jan. 4, 2015: Ghosts & Demons in Japanese Prints at the Art Institute. This exhibition includes Hokusai's series One Hundred Stories (Hyaku monogatari), featuring ghouls against bright blue backgrounds and depictions of Shoki, the Demon Queller.
- Dec. 20 & 21, various times: Tsukasa Taiko at the Museum of Contemporary Art. Artists from Tokyo, San Francisco, and Chicago perform two different programs. *Taiko Legacy 11* includes Korean drum, taiko, bamboo

flute, and kimono dance. *Reduction* explores taiko's more subtle beauty, drawing on Tokyo's new wave of performance art and dance. Box Office: 312.397.4010.

ONGOING

- The Field Museum features Buddhist artifacts in permanent sections devoted to China and Tibet.
- The Art Institute features large collections of Buddhist statuary and art in its Alsdorf Galleries and in its collections of Chinese, Japanese, Indian, and Korean art. Additional Buddhist art in other galleries can be found using the search tool available at the Art Institute site: www.artic.edu/aic/collections/
- The Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago features rotating works of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean art, often with Buddhist themes. Visit smartmuseum.uchicago.edu/exhibitions/asian-art/ for current highlights.
- Submit information on other Buddhist and/or Japanese cultural events in the Chicago area to: BTCbuledtr@hotmail.com

September Temple Events & Activities Guide



- See Calendar on page 8 for specific dates.
- Up-to-date details and last-minute changes are available on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/budtempchi
- All events are free, held at the Temple (unless otherwise noted), and open to the public.

>>>> Special Services & Events <<<<

- September 7 Sunday, 11 am Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service (English)
- September 21 Sunday, 11 am Fall O-Higan
- September 27 Saturday, 5-9 am Scouts Reunion, see page 3 for more information.

△ Regular Sunday Services **△**

- Religious Service (in English) Sundays, 11 am.
- Lay Speaker Sunday Third Sunday of month, 11 am.

Education & Meditation

- Introduction to Buddhism This 4-week course is held periodically throughout the year. Visit budtempchi.org for the schedule or e-mail Rev. Nakai at rev.eshin.patti23@gmail.com.
- Buddhism Study Class Starts Sept 10. Weekly Wednesdays, 7 to 8:30 pm. No previous Buddhism study required.
- Meditation Starts September. Usually Sundays at 9 am and Thursdays, 7:30 pm.
- Sutra Study Class Usually the second or third Sunday of the month, 12:30 to 2 pm. No previous Buddhism study required. This month: September 14.

Meetings, Socials, Volunteering

- Asoka Society No meeting in September (normally Third Saturday of the month)
- Board Meeting Once a month, Sunday, 12:30 pm. This month: September 28.
- Bulletin mailing & submissions Mailing is conducted the 2nd-to-last Friday of every month, at 10 am. Submissions are due eight days prior to the mailing on Thursday, 6 pm. See page 3 for details on submissions.

☼ Cultural Activities **☼**

- Chinese Movement (Qigong) Every Tuesday morning,
 11 am to noon. Call Dennis Chan 312-771-6087 for information & to register.
- Crafts Group Usually on first & third Saturdays, 10 am to noon. This month September 6 only.
- Japanese Fencing (Kendo) Dojo sessions held every Tuesday from 8 to 10 pm at Bethany United Church. Call Bob Kumaki, 847-853-1187 for info.
- Japanese Language School (children or adults) Every Saturday, 10 am. Starting September 13. Call Temple to register.
- Japanese Swordsmanship (Iaido) Mondays, 7 to 9 pm.
- Taiko (BTC Kokyo Taiko Drum Troupe) Fridays, 7 to 9pm. On break during September.







The Buddhist Temple of Thicago

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Rev. Patti Nakai, Resident Minister Rev. Yukei Ashikaga, Minister Emeritus

Rev. Gyomay M. Kubose (1905-2000), Founding Minister

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BTC CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER 2014

日本語の 祥月法要 9月7日 午後1:00 時 See Temple Events & Activities Guide on page 7 for more details. Events may be cancelled or moved after press time due to unforeseen circumstances. Check www.facebook.com/budtempchi for the most up-to-date changes.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
		11am Qigong	7 pm Buddhism Study	7:30 pm Meditation		10am Crafts
7 9 am Meditation	8	9 11am Qigong	10	11	12	13
11am Monthly Memorial Service (English) 1pm Shotsuki Hoyo (Japanese)	7pm laido	Train digong	7 pm Buddhism Study	6pm Bulletin submissions due 7:30 pm Meditation		
14 9 am Meditation 11am Service Sutra Study Class 12:30pm	15 7pm laido	16 11am Qigong	17 7 pm Buddhism Study	18 7:30 pm Meditation	19 10am Bulletin mailing	20
21 9 am Meditation 11am O-higan service and	22 7pm laido	23 11am Qigong	24 7 pm Buddhism Study	25 7:30 pm Meditation	26	27 5pm Scouts Reunion,
luncheon	7 pm laide		7 pm Badamom Glady	7.00 pm Moditation		see page 3
28 9 am Meditation 11am Service 12:30 Board Meeting	29 7pm laido	30 11am Qigong				