



The Buddhist Temple of Chicago

April 2022

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At the Spring Ohigan service, Certificates of Appreciation for longtime volunteers Chic and Yone Tsurusaki and Hank and Sheila Ito were received by their family member (L to R): Janice Shigihara, Michele Shigihara, Debbie Miyashiro, Tracy Ito and Patsy McEnroe



Hanamatsuri: Time to Celebrate by Rev. Patti Nakai

The commemoration of the birth of the historical Buddha called Hanamatsuri ("Flower Festival") is a time to celebrate, to show appreciation for the Buddha and his teachings which have brought wisdom and compassion into our lives.

This year we hope to return to a full-blown Hanamatsuri service on Sunday April 17. However, we will need crews of volunteers to help with decorating the hanamido ("flower shrine"), set up the altar decorations, dress the o-chigo (children dressed as ancient Japanese royalty) and present the flower offerings for each temple unit. If you can be available on the weekend of April 16 and 17, please contact me at rev.eshin.patti23@gmail.com or call the temple.

I hope this Hanamatsuri will signal a return to larger gatherings at our temple. Although we will stream this service as with all special services online at Facebook Live, we would like to see more folks on Sunday. So far only a handful of volunteers has been helping out with services but we need more people to help with the tech and labor. Please don't take it for granted that we will continue to have Sunday services and other activities. It all depends on having enough volunteers to operate.

Also we hope to welcome new members by being open and accepting of all the people who come wanting to learn more about Buddhism. I plan to start another "Brief Introduction to Buddhism" class in April, so please spread the word to those who may be interested. We live the Dharma of oneness and interconnection when we go outside our comfort zones and work with and get to know people from backgrounds different from ours. Let's celebrate Hanamatsuri together!



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Asoka Society News by
Dennis Chan, Asoka President

Spring has arrived and Asoka has resumed. You are invited to come to our monthly luncheons on the third Saturday of each month at 1pm at the temple.
Last year we began a new activity: preparing and delivering bento boxes for members who were unable to come. Annual dues are \$25 (payable to "BTC Asoka Society"). We would love to see you and welcome your participation at our next meeting on April 16.



Scheduled activities – subject to change

Weekly services – Sundays 11am - in-person, Facebook Live only April 3 and 17
Second Sunday Children’s Dharma School service - on Zoom and in person
Qigong (Chinese exercise) – Tuesdays 11am - online Zoom and in-person
Thursday Meditation 7:15pm – on Facebook Live only
Sunday Meditation 9:30am – in-person only
Aikido (martial art) – Sundays 3:30pm – in-person only
Asoka Society (social gathering) – 1pm third Saturday April 16th
Craft Class – 10am Saturday April 16th

The above activities are open to the public and free (donations appreciated).

If you are interested in the two activities below, please leave your contact information and the group will set up an appointment for you to visit them.

Iaido (martial art) – Mondays 7:00pm
Kokyo Taiko (drums) – Friday evenings, Sunday afternoons

In Memoriam: Rev. Sunnan Koyo Kubose

March 7, 2022

BTC members and friends were saddened to learn of the passing of Rev. Sunnan Koyo Kubose. During the time he served as minister, helping his father Rev. Gyomay Kubose, from the late 1970s through the 1990s, he was known as “Rev. Sunnan” and he left many memorable impressions on everyone he interacted with at the temple.

Buddhist Council of the Midwest and Heartland Sangha are sponsoring a local memorial gathering on Saturday May 14 in Evanston. For details, contact asayohoribe@sbcglobal.net

On Saturday May 21, the Bright Dawn Center of Oneness will be live streaming the memorial service from California. For details, see brightdawn.org

Deepest Sympathy

Chiharu Mark Yasumoto	March 6, 2022
Kay Takeda	March 11, 2022
Yuri Hamada	March 17, 2022



Ministerial Succession & Natsu Matsuri

By Bill Bohlman, BTC President

Contact Bill at budtempchi@aol.com



You may wonder what ministerial succession and Natsu Matsuri have in common. The answer is Sangha involvement. As we slowly return to some semblance of normal, these two items demand our attention.

On March 6, the first meeting of the ministerial succession committee was held. Nineteen temple members attended both in person and on Zoom. Wendy Fawcett, our VP Temple Relations acted as the chairperson. The committee reviewed the projected budget needed for a full time resident minister. Based on these projections our current revenue would not cover this cost without drawing upon our reserve funds. Further discussions touched on a variety of items related to the qualifications we would want in a future minister and what our options might be if we cannot find a full time minister. The committee decided to hold meetings on the first Sunday of each month after service at 12:15. At the present time there are no potential candidates but a concerted outreach is planned. The committee felt it was of the utmost importance that the approach to the teachings that has been the BTC tradition must be maintained. Future meetings are open to all members; the Zoom login information is available from me or Rev. Patti.

It is unlikely that a full scale Natsu Matsuri with food and entertainment can occur this year. Although the pandemic seems to be diminishing, many people might not feel comfortable with the close quarters we find ourselves in at Natsu Matsuri. More importantly, many of the individuals who were responsible for making sure the food is properly prepared and running the kitchen operation are no longer able to do so. Unless a new generation of kitchen leaders is found we will not be able to have the selection of food items of previous festivals. We hope these new leaders will step forward so that the Natsu Matsuri tradition can continue. For this year, we are hoping to be able to have a presale and pickup teriyaki chicken day.

A temple is only as strong as its membership. For over 77 years, BTC has flourished thanks to the hard work and dedication of its members. Unfortunately, many of the members who made Natsu Matsuri possible are no longer able to do so. The future of Natsu Matsuri, and the future of the temple, is up to the members. With gratitude to those who came before it is time for the new group of leaders to step forward.

2022 Board of Directors

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Wendy Fawcett

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April 2022 Calendar

Events may be canceled or moved:
 Check www.facebook.com/budtempchi
 for the most up-to-date changes.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Taiko* 7pm	2
3 9:30am Meditation 11am Monthly Memorial Service 3:30pm Aikido	4 laido* 7:00pm	5 11am Qi-Gong	6	7 Facebook Live Meditation 7:15pm	8 Taiko* 7pm	9
10 11am Children's Service 3:30pm Aikido	11 laido* 7:00pm	12 11am Qi-Gong	13	14 Facebook Live Meditation 7:15pm	15 Taiko* 7pm	16 10am Crafts 1pm Asoka
17 9:30am Meditation 11am Hanamatsuri Service 3:30pm Aikido	18 laido* 7:00pm	19 11am Qi-Gong	20	21 Facebook Live Meditation 7:15pm	22 Taiko* 7pm	23
24 9:30am Meditation 11am Lay Service 12:15 Board Meeting 3:30pm Aikido	25 laido* 7:00pm	26 11am Qi-Gong	27	28 Facebook Live Meditation 7:15pm	29 Taiko* 7pm	30

*laido and Taiko require appointments made in advance (see page 2)