



長栄山 円経寺

May/June 2012

Priest's Message from Kanjin Cederman Shonin

Upcoming Highlights:

- It is a good time for Spring Cleaning! Our Spring Garage Sale fundraiser will be held on **May 26** in Ballard. Please drop of your donations to the Temple.
- On Saturday, **June 30**, members and friends of the temple will participate in the 22nd Annual Walk for Rice to enable Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS) to buy rice and provide support services for the ACRS Food Bank. Contact the temple to join or donate.
- From **July 3 to July 9**, the temple will be holding a summer Dharma camp for children. Details: <http://seattlebuddhist.org/dharmacamp12.html>
- Choeizan Enkyoji is sponsoring this year's NONA Weeklong retreat being held at Frog Creek Lodge in Lakebay, WA, from **August 3 - August 9, 2012**. Details: <http://nichiren-shu.org/NONA/pages/retreat.htm>. Volunteers needed!

Hello Everyone,

I hope this newsletter finds all of you in good health and spirit. We are very happy and thankful that we have our newsletter back on track. Thank you very much Penne. I hope this will connect all of our members both in Seattle and outside and keep people updated with all of our events and activities. I am happy that we have started on the first Sunday of each month a children's service, which is a lot of fun and has become very popular. This summer we have many great events planned and we need your help with them. We have taken on the great responsibility of hosting the

NONA Weeklong retreat.

Also, we plan to hold a summer camp for kids and need some volunteers and most importantly to get the word out to children who would like to attend. I hope to see everyone at the Temple and please help us in developing and growing our Temple.

With Gassho,
Rev. Kanjin Cederman



April 1, our first Children's Service. Following the service the children hunted for spring eggs.

Member Articles Wanted!

Please send in your articles on Buddhism or of your personal experiences in which the practice and teachings have helped you that you would like to share. Articles due **July 1**.

Email: choeizan.enkyoji.newsletter@gmail.com

President's Message

This year's NONA retreat is being hosted by Choeizan Enkyoji for the first time. It will be held in Lakebay, WA at the Frog Creek Lodge from August 3-9. This is a wonderful opportunity to fully immerse yourself in our practice and gain a deeper understanding of Buddhism.

There will be 4 Nichiren Shu ministers at the retreat: Rev

Cederman and Rev Sorenson from our temple, Rev Faulconer from the New England temple, and Rev Caine- Barrett from the Houston sangha.

If you cannot attend for the full period or if you cannot afford to pay for the retreat in advance, please discuss your concerns with Rev Cederman. He will try to work with you.

Please support our temple and yourself by attending this retreat if you can. I hope to see you there.

Pam Reaville

Hanamatsuri



On April 8, 2012, we held our Hanamatsuri (literally "flower festival") service. Hanamatsuri is a celebration of the birth of the Buddha, traditionally held on April 8th in Japan. Following the service, we enjoyed a potluck lunch.



Earth Day



On April 12, 2012, following the service on Earth Day, members of the temple cleaned litter from our "adopted" street, South Weller between 5th and 12th. After we had finished cleaning, members of Fa Sheng Temple, a Chinese Buddhist temple on South Weller, invited us in for refreshments.



The Mission

By Kanjin Cederman Shonin

Chapter 15 entitled, "The Appearance of Bodhisattvas from Underground" is a significant and important part of the Lotus Sutra. In this chapter, the Buddha summons forth Bodhisattvas from underground to protect, keep, read, recite and expound this sutra after his extinction. All of the other Buddhas and Bodhisattvas from other worlds ask for the opportunity to spread this teaching. However, the Buddha declares that he does not want them to spread it because they are not from this world. Suddenly, the ground quakes and thousands of billions of Bodhisattva-mahasattvas spring up from the underground led by four great leaders, Superior-Practice, Limitless-Practice, Pure-Practice, and Steadily-Established-Practice. Upon appearing they inquire about the Buddha's health and ask if the people are ready to hear the great teachings. The Buddha states, that they are ready because there are people that have established good roots and have heard this won-

derful teaching in the past. He states, that they have wisdom and are able to accept their instruction by faith. As I have stated before, this "faith" should not be thought of in the sense of just believing what the Buddha has said, but we should understand it to be ones faith in the original Buddha nature of all beings. This means that if we have had the great benefit of meeting the Lotus Sutra, then we were among the multitudes of supporters of these great leaders who have appeared to fulfill the great vow of saving all sentient beings. Our founder, Nichiren Shonin, believed his life to be that of the great leader "Superior-Practice" and that the Lotus Sutra is the main vehicle in this world to bring about the removing of the intense suffering of oneself as well as others. Therefore, it is important for each of us to understand why we have been led to this teaching and how we can actualize our practice to spread this wisdom both in our lives as well as to other suffering beings. This is the truest form of meditation estab-

lished in practice and action. We come to the realization that the Lotus Sutra is most suitable to the living beings of this world. If we look at other religious instructions and institutions they are all geared for some other world, age, or heaven making them inapplicable to the beings of this world in their quest to end their current state of suffering and misery. We come to the one mind that the only way to peace in our lives as well as the world is in the truth revealed in the title of "Namu Myoho Renge Kyo". Do you realize this? You personally have taken on this practice, each time we chant the sacred title of the Odaimoku, we re-create and actualize this vow in our flesh here and now! That is why Buddhism is not a religion, but true humanity revealing what it means to be human. So educate yourselves great Bodhisattvas for the sake of humanity and the world's future. As our founder Nichiren Shonin stated, "if only a word or a phrase spread it (the Lotus Sutra) to others". – Shoho Jisso Sho

Acknowledgements

THANK YOU'S:

Kazuko, Errol, Elizabeth, Mike and Ryunin sensei for cleaning the Temple.

Gregg and Jonathan Bowman for arranging and giving the lecture on Funeral and Will arrangements.

Kazuko and Errol for donating furniture and kitchen items. Also for North American Post donation.

Gregg for donating the Kid's Day Kabuto and tea items.

Michael Welch for giving the Haiku Workshop.

Miriam Colman for picture donation.

Gollihugh family, Penne, Kazuko, Hobana and Pam for snacks.

DONATIONS:

Rafael & Mercedes Carrabba

Errol & Kazuko Scott

Mito Family — Ohigan, 501c3, ...

Ruth Hamada — 501c3

Stephen Baier

Sam Chilcutt

Pamela Reaville

Gregg & Lee — 501c3

Dolores Blueford — 501c3

Margaret and Larry Howie — 501c3

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

Errol & Kazuko Scott

Rafael & Mercedes Carrabba

Mito Family

Gollihugh Family

NEW MEMBERS:

Gregg Tralle & Lee Inman

Recipe Corner

Chocolate Oatmeal Coconut Almond Cookies

1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter

1 cup packed brown sugar

6 tbsp. white sugar

2 eggs

1 1/2 tsp. vanilla

1/2 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. baking soda

1 cup flour

2 1/4 cups rolled oats

1 1/2 cups sweetened shredded coconut

1 cup chocolate chips

1 cup sliced almonds

1. Preheat oven to 350F.
2. Cream together butter, brown sugar and white sugar.
3. Add slightly beaten eggs and vanilla.
4. Add flour, baking soda and salt, mixing at low speed until blended.
5. Stir in oats, coconut, chocolate and almonds.
6. Place on greased cookie sheet by rounded tablespoon. Bake for 15 minutes. Transfer to cooling rack to cool.



Have a recipe to share or looking for a recipe?

Email choeizan.enkyoji.newsletter@gmail.com.

Calendar of Events

May 2012

5/12 Workshop is a continuation of our series on Nichiren Shu funeral practices. It will feature lawyer Jonathan Bowman.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	3	4 7:00pm Shodaigyo Meditation Ballard	5
6 10:30am Children's Service; 1-3pm Assistant Workshop	7	8	9 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	10	11	12 10am-2pm Work- shop
13 10:30am Mother's Day Service & Potluck	14	15	16 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	17	18 7:00pm Shodaigyo Meditation Ballard	19 10-2pm Haiku Workshop
20 10:30am Izu Honan (Persecution) Service	21	22	23 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	24	25	26 10am-5pm Garage Sale in Ballard
27 10:30am Myoken Feast Day Service	28	29	30 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	31		

June 2012

Registration is required for this month's 3 part Discussion Series.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00pm Shodaigyo Meditation Ballard	2
3 10:30am Chil- dren's Service; 1-3pm Assistant Workshop	4	5	6 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	7	8	9
10 10:30am Ki- shimojin Service & Potluck; 1-3pm 1st Discussion Series	11	12	13 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	14	15 7:00pm Shodaigyo Meditation Ballard	16 9am-3pm Open House
17 10:30am Father's Day Service; 1-3pm 2nd Discussion Se- ries	18	19	20 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	21 Geshi Summer Sol- stice	22	23 10am-2pm Buddhist Workshop: Wasan
24 10:30am Aizen Feast Day Service; 1- 3pm 3rd Discussion Series	25	26	27 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	28	29	30 Walk for Rice, Sew- ard Park

Every Wed. 唱題行（お寺） 7:30pm

1st & 3rd Fri. 唱題行（バラード） 7pm

May 2012:

- 6th こどもの日法要 10:30am
アシスタントワークショップ 1-3pm
- 12th お葬式ワークショップ 10am-2pm（要事前予約）
- 13th 母の日法要 10:30am
持ち寄りランチ 11:30am
- 20th 伊豆法難法要 10:30am
- 26th ガラージセール 10am-5pm
- 27th 妙見菩薩法要 10:30am

June 2012:

- 3rd 水神法要 10:30am
アシスタントワークショップ 1-3pm
- 10th 鬼子母神法要 10:30am
持ち寄りランチ 11:30am
- 16th お寺オープンハウス 9am-3pm
- 17th 父の日法要 10:30am
- 23rd 仏教ワークショップ 10am-2pm
- 24th 愛染明王法要 10:30am
- 30th 行脚 10am

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南無妙法蓮華經
Namu Myōhō Renge Kyō