



長栄山 円経寺

Upcoming Highlights:

- Fall Ohigan service will be held at 10:30 am on Sunday, **September 23rd**. During the service, we pay respects to our ancestors and practice the Buddha's teachings by observing and emphasizing the Six Paramitas (Giving or Sharing, Self-Restraint, Patience, Diligence, Meditation or Serenity, and Wisdom or Insight).
- The Nichiren Order of North America (NONA) will hold a convention in Las Vegas the weekend of **September 29-30**. Anyone who is a member of a NONA temple, sangha, or church may attend. Details: www.seattlebuddhist.org/2012-NONA-convention.pdf.
- On **October 2**, Priests from Shumuun (head office in Japan) will visit our temple. We want them to meet as many members as possible, so please come and help us!! We will have lunch & tea together. More info will be available shortly. Please let Mamiko know if you can come. Thanks for your help in advance!!!

Priest's Message from Kanjin Cederman Shonin

Hello Everyone,

The feeling of fall is now in the air and the days are getting shorter. The upcoming months are going to be fun. We have many important services such as fall Ohigan and Oeshiki. Please go to our website and fill out your family members names on the Ohigan form file provided for the memorial and mail it in with your donation. We have just passed our second year as an inde-

pendent temple and will have a visit from our organizational headquarters in Japan. In addition, we will attend the NONA conference, which will be held in Las Vegas. As we grow it is important that we have the continued support from our current members and new members. We have many opportunities for people to help the Sangha and practice the Buddha's teachings. Most importantly our dharma school

is growing and we are in need of volunteers to help with the current children and new children as they arrive. This is a critical year and we need everyone to help in our growth so that we can see the Temple become a beacon of compassion and hope in our great city and beyond. Won't you join us?

*With Gassho,
Kanjin Cederman Shonin*

A Challenging Year Ahead of Us

After two years as a young Temple we face a most serious challenge in our third year to grow and maintain ourselves as a Nichiren Shu Temple.

When Cederman Sensei and other members established Choeizan Enkyoiji Temple then they did a marvelous job of setting the groundwork for what we enjoy now. That task has been completed – with great thanks to all of you.

In the next year, we will be close to growing out of the space we now have in addition to needing a meeting place that is more conducive to family participation and member access. Financially, we presently have no assurance that our

income from our present membership will be sufficient to lease and maintain a new Temple location and provide adequate income to support our Head Priest.

To date our own fundraising efforts have been adequate but not sufficiently successful to be able to rely on that effort, as it was, to meet any significant needs in the future.

It appears to me that our primary resources are our own membership, significant other supporters and resources from Japan. We can meet our needs for the upcoming year with a significant effort by everyone concerned and a significant increase in membership and

support.

We presently do not have a membership committee nor an active effort to secure additional financial support from Japan. This should be a top priority in addition to continuing our efforts to find a new location and additional financial support.

These important issues are before the Board now and they welcome input from those who have some experience in these areas or have the time to devote their efforts to them—we have a year, which is enough.

*Errol Scott
Vice President*

How I Met the Buddha...But Failed to See Him: (The frustrating wanderings of an errant soul.)

By David Hunt

"There is none so blind as he that will not see." (Old English proverb)

I was the mongrel offspring of a mixed marriage; *Boston-Brahmin-Liberal* and *Southern-Redneck-Hillbilly*. As the prior nine matrilineal generations had been, I was baptized and attended various Congregational churches, that is until I was 14 years old. After 7 years of perfect attendance at the Wollaston Congregational Church, under the despotic authority of one Reverend Nye, and his henchman, Deacon Cole, I was unceremoniously thrown out (through a door that opened inward...) of the church and informed I was no longer welcome due to my inherent adolescent evilness!

For the next 50 plus years I was a spiritually "poor wayfaring stranger, wandering thru this land of woe." During my ecclesiastical wandering in the wilderness, I dabbed in *atheism, Unitarianism, Judaism, Deism, The Course in Miracles, hedonism, the Seattle Unity Church, fringies, hippies, various communes, and found God on LSD*. Alas, even 9 years of psychotherapy brought little or no solace. But I digress.....

At the age of sixteen I was hired as a laborer, ("2nd assistant archaeologist") I immodestly proclaimed to all who would listen - excavating the site of the John Winthrop, Jr. Blast Furnace, in Quincy Massachusetts. The furnace, built in 1634, was the first "bog-iron-ore smelter" in the

new world, and had been lost for over three hundred years. The site was rediscovered in the early 1950's by one Roland Wells Robbins, a noted "historic sites archaeologist" who rose to fame after locating the long lost foundation of Henry David Thoreau's famous cabin on Walden pond.

Inspired by Robbins's research and his description of Thoreau's famous two-year sojourn at the then, bucolic Walden Pond, I quickly became enamored with Thoreau and his famous essay; *Walden*, on his life in the woods. I was especially drawn to his passages on how he built a log cabin, and then spent the better part of two years, living the most simple of existences "*sucking the very marrow from the bone of life*" as he so poetically wrote.

While being a city boy, born and schooled in Boston, the woods had always been a major preoccupation in my teen age fantasies. I read all that I could find of HDT's writings on nature, and to a lesser extant, politics. But, his now obvious Buddhist worldview escaped me - at least on any conscious level. Re-reading his writings almost sixty years later his words could have been said by the Buddha himself: "*And when the farmer has got his house, he shall not be the richer but the poorer for it and it be the house that has got him.*" "*There are a thousand backing at the branches of evil to one who is striking at the roots.*" "*Some show their*

kindness by employing the poor in their kitchens. Would they not be kinder if they employed themselves there?" "As if you could kill time without injuring eternity!"

For many years I have been told by my more astute and observant friends that my declared philosophy, as they understood it, was more Eastern than Western in orientation. (I have always considered myself a follower of the teachings of Jesus Christ, albeit while denying the existence of a patriarchal "creator" – supreme, or otherwise. I suspect that such was the thinking of Thomas Jefferson when he created his famous "bible".)

A year and half ago I met Rev. Cederman at a Masonic Lodge meeting. He invited me to visit the temple and I quickly felt that I had finally found the spiritual home that had eluded me for so long. My wife and I have been full members for close to a year now. While I have much to learn and many questions, I knew for sure I was in the right place when I learned recently that my idol, Henry David Thoreau not only was a student of Buddhism, but actually translated the Lotus Sutra from French into English!

"When the student is ready the teacher will come."

With Gassbo,

David Hunt



Soon to be Streaming Live...

We wish to extend our deepest appreciation to **Margaret and Larry Cram-Howie** for gifting the Temple a laptop and web Bloggie allowing us to broadcast live (and also archive) lectures and services. We tried this out during the NONA Retreat recording lectures and workshops to be broadcast later. What a great way to keep in contact with our Sangha members living outside of the area, like in Saskatoon, Canada and Japan. This is a very important step in growing our Sangha's membership. Soon we will be streaming live! Check our Facebook page for updates.

Again, thank you very much Margaret and Larry!



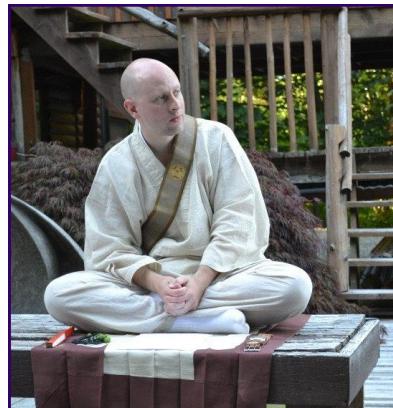
Summer Dharma Camp

From July 9th to July 13th, the temple held a Dharma camp for children. The schedule included activities such as kite-making, taiko drumming, origami, painting, and games. There were also activities and discussions that taught Buddhist values to the children. A good time was had by all.



Peace Walk

On August 1, 2012, members of our temple joined Nipponzan Myohoji monks on part of their **2012 Pacific Northwest Interfaith Peace Walk**. Also joining us were Rev Ryuoh Faulconer of the New England Sangha and Rev Myokei Caine-Barrett of the Houston Sangha who were in town for the NONA retreat. Following the walk, the Nipponzan Myohoji monks showed a movie entitled "Fukushima, Never Again." This was followed by our regular Wednesday night shodaigyo meditation.



NONA Retreat

Choeizan Enkyoji was the host of this year's NONA retreat which was held from August 3rd to 9th at the Frog Creek Lodge in Lakebay, Washington. Retreat participants received training in a wide variety of activities including sutra chanting, Buddhist art, taiko drumming, and Buddhist/Nichiren customs and practices. They participated in suigyo (water purification), shodaigyo meditation, walking meditation, and work practice. At the end of the retreat, participants entertained retreat priests (and each other) with Buddhist themed skits.



Next year's NONA's retreat will be hosted by the Nichiren Buddhist Sangha of Greater New England.



Summer Activities



We had a busy summer at Choizean Enkyoji this year. We celebrated many special Buddhist and Japanese holidays including Obon and Tanabata. Our children's service on the first Sunday of the month has become a favorite at the temple, and the number of children participating is growing. Our membership is also growing, and Rev Cederman has given out a number of Mandala Gohonzon and Oshajo Ofuda. He also performed a refuge ceremony for people new to Buddhism and those who wished to renew their faith.



At the beginning of August, Rev. Cederman performed a Houroku ceremony, the first time the ceremony has been done in the US.

Houroku balances the heat and cold in ones ki at the hottest point of the calendar using moxibustion. On August 6, Rev Cederman and temple members participated in Toro Nagashi, the floating lantern ceremony at Greenlake. In

late August we threw a baby shower for Rev Cederman's wife. This will be the first baby born to a temple member since we opened the temple 2 years ago, hopefully the first of many!



Dharma Corner: "Sensei's Teaching"

I just returned from a weekend seminar at my teacher's temple in London, England. The theme of the seminar was on death and rituals as found in the Nichiren Buddhist tradition. It was based on our member Gregg Tralle's seminar on Nichiren Shu death preparation. I was able to use this information as well as collect and hear the teachings from Rev. Tsukamoto's stance. It was very enlightening and enjoyable.

The teaching that I would like to include in this newsletter is about the relationship of the priest and the lay Sangha community. Many people in the West have come to practice Buddhism from a non-Buddhist background, so their perception of the priest, service, and Temple may be different and they may not understand the different approach that is needed in the practice of Buddhism. In the West, many people look for a church based on their entertainment and comfort levels, like joining a social club. If they can get along with everyone and stand the politics, they are ok. Buddhism, on the other hand is different in many ways. We are here as a Sangha commu-

nity of Buddhist practitioners. One member said recently that I am "not very good at customer service." This was a very important comment because it shows the fundamental differences in the practice of the Buddha Dharma. I said, "I am not here to serve the customer". The reason I stated this is that the role of the teacher "Sensei" is to support and challenge each member in their practice not sell them something. The customer, "The Ego" is what we are here to see beyond. If I simply do what the customer wants, it is not true practice and a Con. That is why this is a difficult practice and a challenge to begin and sustain. Most people wish to simply be entertained and feel good. In our practice, whatever is our weakness will come out and will be presented for us to deal with through our practice and study. This is important in developing our awareness and growing beyond the small self. The Sensei supports and creates opportunities to practice and realize our illusions and ego, in a safe and supportive environment. However, most people do not like what comes out and act in the usual way by thinking "they must not like me" or "they did

such and such on purpose". Like a mirror everything reflects our small self founded in ignorance, greed, and anger and exposes these three poisons in our minds bringing them to light so that we may see them through reality. It is not up to the teacher if you are able to realize it or not, everything is up to you. We can just give you some skills and practice that will prepare you. Most people always follow the way of blaming others for one's ills and shortcomings. So as you can see we are not here to stroke your ego or take away your opportunity to practice. I wish that I could attain awakening and find happiness for all beings. However, that is the catch; it depends on their faith and forbearance to awaken. It is my hope that you can deepen your practice and truly understand the opportunity that is available when one joins the Sangha Community. Don't give up when it gets tough. "Endeavor! Endeavor! Without study and practice there is no Buddhism."

*With Gassho,
Kanjin Cederman Shonin*

New Temple Mon

By Gregg Tralle

You may have noticed that we now have a new mon, or crest, for our local Temple. We shall be using it quite a bit on our letterhead, cards, documents, correspondence and anything else we can think of!

It was designed by **Chad Grohman** of Buffalo NY, a longtime friend of Cederman Sensei and a teacher at the design school in Rochester NY. Chad



has designed for us before (T-shirts) and with Cederman Sensei had the Gassho Do Store selling Buddhist accessories. Many are now in the temple's store, so you still have a chance to

buy them.

The symbolism of the new crest :

- ◆ Lotus — Beauty rising from the dirty muck.
- ◆ 9 Petals — The 9 stages of consciousness.
- ◆ Seeds — Potential, the future new Buddhahood.

We may even get new T-shirts, which would be nice at the NONA conference in late September!

Buddhist Sights & Sounds

To get familiar with Buddhist sounds, smells, and other special items, we will highlight some of them in each newsletter.

Courtesy of Gregg Tralle



HANAZARA

A dish with three streamers: white, blue and red in front, and is put down with the streamers coiled. The dish contains sange to be thrown during shomyo.

OFUDA

A talisman issued by a Buddhist temple. There are many different kinds available depending on the wish or situation. It is made by inscribing the name of a Buddha, Bodhisattva, or protector of Buddhist practitioners on a strip of paper, wood, cloth, or metal.

SANGE

Flower petals tossed during shomyo in praise and thankfulness ----- origin, when the Buddha preached the Lotus sutra, flower petals rained from the heavens.



October General Sangha Meeting

By Gregg Tralle

It has been just over two years since the founding of Choeizan Enkyoji Temple, with many changes and much growth during those 25 months. All the legal requirements were drawn: the Articles of Incorporation, the Certification of Incorporation, the Bylaws, and the Non-Profit Tax Registration.

In his 3 year forecast and to-do-list, Cederman-sensei had scheduled a review of the Bylaws to be done. We beat that by a year!

Gregg Tralle has redrawn the Bylaws of

Choeizan Enkyoji referencing the:

- ◆ Bylaws of NONA.
- ◆ Bylaws of Dai Bai Zan Cho bo Zen Ji (local similar sized Zen temple).
- ◆ Bylaws of Seattle Tankokai (local Tea Ceremony Association).
- ◆ Bylaws of East West Chado Center (replaced the Urasenke Foundation Seattle Branch).
- ◆ And most importantly, RCW 24.03.xx (the Revised Code of Washington providing the default

bylaws for non-profit organizations).

The Board of Directors will meet in September to review and vote on the proposed new set of bylaws. After the Board adopts them, it will be the Sangha's duty to review and vote on the proposed new set of bylaws. The date of the General Sangha Meeting to be held in October will be announced soon.

This will be a VERY important meeting and your attendance is most necessary.

Acknowledgements

THANK YOU'S:

Retreat

Special Thank You to Kazuko & Errol for letting 2 Shonins stay in your apt.

Kazuko for donating food for 2 days and cooking 6 meals at the retreat.

Errol, Kazuko & Pam for picking up the participants.

Pam for being the contact person.

Gregg & Lee for giving the participants the Funeral Lecture.

Kazuko & Errol for helping Mamiko to do the retreat grocery shopping.

Dharma Camp

Kisha-Marie, Megan, Mike, Quawi & Nana for helping make the camp a success.

Gollighugh family & Hester family for donating snacks.

Kisha-Marie for shopping for the camp materials.

Garage Sale

Kazuko & Errol for letting us use their house.

Kazuko, Errol, Hobana, David, Pam, Annika, Mike, Gabriel, Minna & Mamiko for

helping.

Kazuko & Annika for lunch & snacks.

Elizabeth, Gregg & Lee, Kazuko & Errol, Hobana & David, Gabriel, Tom Helm & Cederman Family for donating items.

General

Gregg & Lee for donating cards, scrapbook & repairing chairs.

Mike for donating the sink in the utility room.

Gabriel for donating the kitchen clothes.

Gollighugh family for donating the cake & kitchen items.

Kazuko & Errol, Mike, Gabriel & Hester Family for donating flowers.

Kazuko, Gollighugh Family, Hobana, Pam, Penne, Hester Family, Mike & Gabriel for snacks.

Gregg, Kisha-Marie, Mike & Gabriel for painting the wall and cleaning the Temple.

Kazuko & Errol, Gollighugh Family, Kasey & McDermott family for offerings.

Ocean City Restaurant for food.

Baby Shower

Special Thank You from the Cederman family to:

Susan & Dan, Gollighugh Family, Kazuko & Errol, Hobana & David, Annika & Dr.Mito, Penne & Phil, Hester Family, Gregg & Lee, Miriam and Claire & Terrye.

Thank You So Much for Having a Baby Shower for our New Baby!!

DONATIONS:

Mito Family—Obon

Errol & Kazuko Scott—North American Post (x2)

Pam Reaville—501c3

Nipponzan Myohoji Monks

Gregg & Lee—Retreat

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

Hester Family

Gollighugh Family

Kisha-Marie Jones

Gregg Tralle & Lee Inman

NEW MEMBERS:

Kobayashi Family—Yukio, Masumi and Mayuko.

Recipe Corner

Creamy Spinach Dip

1 10oz packaged of frozen and chopped spinach
1 cup of mayonnaise
1 cup of sour cream
1 spring onion chopped
squeeze of lemon juice
1 tsp seasoned salt
white pepper to taste

1. Defrost the spinach, squeeze out all of the water until it is very dry.
2. In a medium bowl, combine the spinach with all of the ingredients.
3. Serve with vegetable crudité or bread. It looks best served in a hollowed out bread bowl!



Have a recipe to share or looking for a recipe?

Email choeizan.enkyoji.newsletter@gmail.com.

Calendar of Events

September 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						I
2 10:30am Tatsunokuchi Honan/Respect for Aged Day Service	3	4	5 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	6	7 No Shodaigyo	8 Aki Matsuri at Belle- vue College
9 Aki Matsuri at Belle- vue College; No Ser- vice	10	11	12 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	13	14	15 10am—2pm Bud- dhist Workshop
16 10:30am Nisshin Me- morial Service	17	18	19 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	20	21 7:00pm Shodaigyo Meditation Ballard	22
23 10:30am Ohigan Ser- vice; 11:30am Potluck; 1:30pm Reiki Reiju	24	25	26 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	27	28	29 NONA Convention in Las Vegas

October 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 10:30am Sunday Service; NONA Convention in Las Vegas	I	2 Priests from Shu- muin Visiting the Temple	3 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	4	5 7:00pm Shodaigyo Meditation Ballard	6
7 10:30am Children's Service	8	9	10 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	11	12	13
14 10:30am Oeshi- ki Service; 11:30am Potluck; 1pm Assis- tant Worskop	15	16	17 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	18	19 7:00pm Shodaigyo Meditation Ballard	20 10am—2pm Bud- dhist Workshop
21 10:30am Hachiman Feast Day Service	22	23	24 7:30pm Shodaigyo Meditation	25	26	27
28 10:30am Halloween Service	29	30	31 No Shodaigyo			

Every Wed. 唱題行（お寺）7:30pm

1st & 3rd Fri. 唱題行（バラード）7pm

9月 September 2012:

2日(日) ファミリーサービス 10時半
 子供向け仏教学校 11時半
 7日(金) 秋祭り準備のため唱題行(バラード)お休み
 8日&9日(土&日) ベルビューカレッジにて秋祭りに参加 日曜法要休み
 15日(土) 仏教ワークショップ 10時～2時
 16日(日) 日親上人命日法要 10時半 子供向け仏教学校1時半
 21日(金) 唱題行(バラード) 7時
 23日(日) 秋季彼岸会法要 10時半 持ち寄りランチ
 11時半 霊氣セミナー 1～4時
 29日&30日(土&日) NONAコンベンション会議(ラスベガス)
 30日 日曜法要 10時半

10月 October 2012:

2日(火) 宗務院よりお寺訪問
 7日(日) ファミリーサービス 10時半 子供向け仏教学校11時半
 14日(日) 御会式 10時半 持ち寄りランチ
 11時半 アシスタントワークショップ 1時
 20日(土) 仏教ワークショップ 10時～2時
 21日(日) 八幡様法要 10時半
 28日(日) ハロウィン法要 10時半

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 **November 1**.

Email: choeizan.enkyoji.newsletter@gmail.com

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南無妙法蓮華經
Namu Myoho Renge Kyo

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