

# BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FOWLER



## THE WHITE PATH

MONTHLY BULLETIN VOL. 484

JUNE 2019

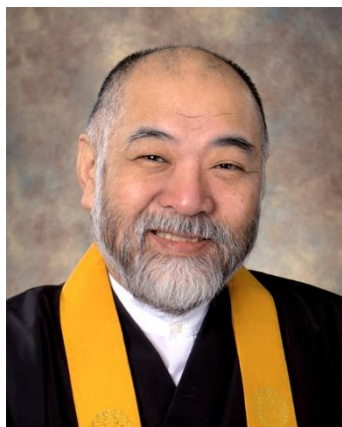
### JUNE

2 (Sun)	10:00 a.m.	Rennyō Shonin, Monthly Shotsuki & Dharma School
10 (Mon)	7:00 p.m.	Golf Club Meeting
11 (Tues)	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
18 (Tues)	7:00 p.m.	Obon Practice
22 (Sat)	9:00 a.m.	BWA Meeting
25 (Tues)	7:00 p.m.	Obon Practice

### JULY

1 (Mon)	7:00 p.m.	Obon Practice
11 (Thu)	7:00 p.m.	Obon Practice

## Rennyō Shōnin Memorial Service



Rennyō (1415~1499) *Shōnin* (=Master of Honganji) was the 8<sup>th</sup> Monshu of the Jōdo Shinshū School and substantially the founder of the present Honganji organization. When he succeeded his father as the Monshu, Honganji-temple was supported by less than two thousand families. Astonishingly, during the next 40 years of his leadership, approximately 5~8 million people converted to Jōdo Shinshū Buddhism. That number was almost half of the entire population of Japan in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Surely, the foundation of Jōdo Shinshū society up to the present time became firmly established. Since then, people refer to him respectfully as

‘Rennyō the Restorer’.

Rennyō Shonin an excellent religious leader, established a revolutionary missionary organization and also greatly influenced the development of politics, economy, education, art and architecture etc., in 15th century Japan. In general Japanese history, he is considered to be a representative person of the early modern culture of Japan, which is considered to be the basis of the present Japanese lifestyle.

Rennyō Shonin’s greatest achievement was his success for sharing the exalted teachings of Shinran Shōnin to the general public in the 15th century of Japan. Furthermore, even though such a difficult task, he accomplished writing in a very simple and clear ‘Hiragana’ (= original Japanese), assuming that an indefinite number of people would read and listen from the beginning. This method can be said to be the forerunner of media strategy leading to the present age.

Among the short articles that can be said to be a clear and easy-to-understand manual for the purpose of spreading the teachings of Shinran Shōnin, the most significantly clear core teachings of Shinran Shōnin is "Ryōgemon". The Japanese Original is considered to be a sacred writing of Jodo Shinshu second to "Shoshinge". "Ryōgemon" as well, is memorized by all followers of Shin Buddhism. And generation by generation, it was recited during the last 500 years since the time of Rennyō Shōnin.

The new interpretation by Rinban is as follows:

Ryōge-mon - How I am Aware of the Nenbutsu in my Nature

by Rennyō Shōnin, the 8<sup>th</sup> Master of Hongan-ji, 15c

*Tearing myself out of ego’s grasp, and the unreliable practices of Self-Power, I rely upon the original intent of the Buddha, the Myōgō, which reveals itself as the Nenbutsu, to guide me beyond my inherent behavior **and towards** the assured course of supreme Awakening. My Awakening is dependent on **my** being a positive force for **others’** Awakening.*

**[Peace of Mind]**

*When 'Myōgō' comes alive as Śākya-muni Buddha's natural voice in Nenbutsu, buddha-nature emerges interdependently by 'Myōgo' of the cause and 'Stored-Karma' of the conditions, with a sensation of sharp joy associated with Awakening. At that moment, the grave karmas transform into virtuous cause. From this time forth, I shall repay, rejoice, and extol my gratitude in Tathāgata and his Nenbutsu for this rare and wondrous moment.*

**[Gratitude]**

*I gratefully acknowledge that my listening to the universal Truth-reality is due to the unique achievements of Shinran, the Hearer of Dharma (=Shōnin) and the untiring efforts of successive masters.*

**[Masters]**

*As a practicing follower of the Nenbutsu, I shall live my remaining life without prejudice or discriminatory views. I shall discard false rituals and break the bonds of unproductive actions. I shall long for and promote a world of physical, mental, cultural and social non-violence, in order to establish a true Sangha, where no individual would ever be impaired from realizing their full potential.*

**[Law]**

If your respective temple conducts a 'Rennyō Shōnin Memorial Service', please make every effort to attend and honor Rennyō Shōnin for his accomplishments and works.

# BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FOWLER

## Monthly Board Meeting

May 14, 2019

Members Present: Ron Yoshimoto, Kimihiro Sera, Sharon Asakawa, Barton Ashida, Chari & Gerald Nakayama, Gary Mukai, Craig Honda, Craig Sakaguchi, Jim Fujikawa, Ken Hashimoto, Rick & Marlene Miyasaki, Kevin Nagata.

I Welcome/Gassho: Meeting was call to order by Pres. Barton Ashida 7:05 p.m. Gassho by Sensei Craig Honda.

II Treasurer's Report: Treasure's Report submitted by Ron Yoshimoto. Motion to Accept by Ken Hashimoto & second by Sharon Asakawa, motion passed.

III Approval of 04/09/2019 Minutes: correction was made, Motion to approve Minutes by Ron Yoshimoto & 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kimihiro Sera, motion passed.

#### IV Old Business

A) Fellowship Golf Tournament: Thank you, Full Field of players (140 players), 2020 Fellowship Tournament Sat April 18<sup>th</sup>.

B) Minister Update: Rev. Nakata was accepted by all churches except Fowler/nay vote.

C) Thank you to Arlene Keithley for assembling 2 First Aid Kits- one in the Church Kitchen & Youth Building. Thank you to Greg Mukai for new Fire Extinguishers. Greg Mukai is in process of Exit signs.

D) Mail Delivery issues still pending.

E) Monthly Toban assignment still pending.

F) Other: Ron Yoshimoto as of March 27, Church is in compliance with IRS.

#### V New Business

A) Obon: Saturday July 20, 2019. Teachers & Practice Dates: To be announced. Obon Flyer/Poster: Marlene Miyasaki will look into new poster.

B) 16<sup>th</sup> World Buddhist Women's Convention: Gary Mukai motion to send Barton Ashida as Church Representative, Ron Yoshimoto second, motion passed.

C) CCDSTL allocated Funds to each Church: Gerald Nakayama to request funds for new laptop & Camera.

D) Ken Hashimoto request to set up clothing & shoes donation box on the church property "To Keep Clothing and Shoes Out of Our Landfills" Gary Mukai motion to accept, second by Kevin Nagata, passed.

E) Lights in Onaijin: Greg Mukai –need 8 new light, old lights cannot be fixed or replaced. Ken Hashimoto motion to replace all 8 units at \$200.00 apiece, it was second by Gary Mukai.

F) Social Hall Flooring: pending on appropriate time to repair.

#### VI Reports

Jr. YBA : Obon; sell shave ice

Dharma School : Obon; spam musubi

BWA March: N/R.

Fishing Club: Obon; Miniature Golfing, chuck wagon hot dogs. Keiro Day - Pending

Golf Club: Obon; beer, sake, Somen, & dogs. June 22<sup>nd</sup> Bayonet, July 7<sup>th</sup>

Camarillo, August 1<sup>st</sup> Morro Bay & SLO Obon, September 8<sup>th</sup> Dragonfly.

CCDC – N/R

CCMAC & V&P – N/R

BCA – Church upgrade security – Keep front door locked. Check Security around Church.

VII Communications/Announcements

May 25<sup>th</sup> prune pine trees

VIII Next Meeting Tuesday June 11, 2019

IX Acknowledgements/Gassho; Thank you: Refreshments; Jim Fujikawa, Rick  
&

Marlene Miyasaki

Gassho; Sensei Craig Honda

Meeting closed 8:25

Submitted by Craig & Tayoko Honda

**RENNYO SHONIN MEMORIAL  
JUNE MONTHLY SHOTSUKI AND  
LAST DHARMA SCHOOL  
SERVICE**

Sunday June 2nd at 10:00 am will be the Rennyō Shonin Memorial Service combined with the monthly Shotsuki memorial Service and the last Dharma School Service.

The Shotsuki names for the month of June are:

Kenso Okamura  
Kakuichi Kawano  
Otoichi Oba  
Randy Iwamoto  
Yutaka Nakamura  
Tomoichi Yamamoto  
Natsuyo Otani  
Shime Nakayama  
Asano Teraoka  
Yasu Kawano  
Masaichi Fujimoto  
Mikayo Nakamura  
Tsuneyo Fujimoto  
Ushi Toyama  
Akira Yokomi  
James Masaru Otani  
Tom Teramoto  
Tsukiye Teramoto  
Ted Tomohiko Kondo  
Jean Sakaye Ideta  
Laraine Miyake-Combs  
Amy Emiko Taniguchi  
Roy Takeshi Nakamura  
Atsushi Roy Kato  
Tadao Uyemura

James Yamamoto

**CHURCH TOBAN FOR JUNE**

**District III**

**Board of Governors:**

Kimihiro Sera  
Kevin Nagata

**Toban:**

Irene Hara  
Aiko Kamine

**JUNE BOARD MEETING**

The June Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 11th at 7:00 p.m.

**Board of Governor's (Rijji's)  
Duties**

1. Collect Church dues from district members.
2. Distribute and collect Annual Food Bazaar tickets in the district.
3. Notify members within the district of Church events.
4. Attend Church Board Meetings.
5. Provide a means of communication for the Church and the members in your district.

## **Toban Chairperson's Duties**

1. Schedule one general clean-up for the month.
2. Water landscape once per week.
3. Refreshments for meetings.
4. Open Church early before a service or event. Turn on heat or air conditioning.
5. Bring refreshments for monthly Shotsuki service.
6. Bring two Obupan (rice) for monthly morning Shotsuki service.
7. Furnish the fruit and cookies/manju for the altar.
8. Lock-up Church after service or event. Make sure heat/air conditioner is turned off.
9. Co-chair funeral meetings during your month.

## **CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES**

Kingsburg High School  
Caoilinn Hardy

Fowler High School  
Spencer Nakayama

## **FOWLER OBON**

The Fowler Obon will be on Saturday, July 20th. Please mark the date on your calendar. We need your support and participation.

## **BWA NEWS**

Thank you to the ladies from District III, Kenny Hashimoto and Mitsuye Shinkawa for cooking the chow mein after the Gotan-e service. District IV will be serving chow mein after the Rennyō Shonin Memorial service June 9. Please join us for the service and lunch.

The next BWA meeting will be Saturday, June 22 at 9:00 a.m.

## **FOWLER GOLF CLUB**

Thank you to all who made the 2019 event a huge success. Congratulations to the 2019 first place team of Kellen Kubo, Kendal Kubo, Jordan Yano-Goss and Steve Linton. The 2020 Fellowship Golf Tournament will be held on April 18th.

## **OBON PRACTICE**

### **Fresno Dharma Center**

Mon, June 3

Wed, June 19

Wed, June 26

Tues, July 2

Mon, July 8

Wed, July 10

Bring kachi-kachi, towel, round fan and folding fan.

For questions call Sharon Morikawa at 259-9578.

## CC OBON SCHEDULE

June 29    Visalia  
July 6     Reedley  
July 13    Fresno  
July 20    Fowler  
July 27    Parlier

### May 2019 Donations

#### Gotan-E Service

\$ 25.00    Joe & Irene Hara  
\$ 25.00    Ken & Janie Yuen  
\$ 25.00    Rick & Marlene Miyasaki  
\$ 25.00    Shig & Aiko Kamine  
\$ 20.00    Kimihiro & Hitomi Sera  
\$ 20.00    Gary & Arlene Keithley

#### Shotsuki

\$ 50.00    Chuck Ideta  
\$ 50.00    Russell & Ted Kageura  
\$ 50.00    Florence Nakayama  
\$ 40.00    Mrs Eiko li  
              Ms Yoshiye li  
\$ 30.00    Tosh & Mitsuye Shinkawa  
\$ 25.00    May Mukai  
\$ 25.00    Greg & Gay Mukai  
\$ 25.00    Keith & Heidi Nakayama  
\$ 25.00    Gerald & Cherie Nakayama  
\$ 25.00    Bey & Susan Driss & Family  
\$ 25.00    Linda Matsumoto & Family  
\$ 20.00    Gary & Arlene Keithley

#### Special Donations

\$ 500.00    C.D. Simonian Insurance,  
                  Inc.  
                  In Memory of David  
                  Simonian  
\$ 180.00    Ikebana Class  
                  March/April/May 2019



**For Tickets Please Contact Kurt Rye 559-720-7668**

**Father's Day Steak &  
Eggs Breakfast**

**Central California Nikkei Foundation**

**Donation: \$15.00**

**Location:**

**Fowler Buddhist Church**

**210 S 9th St, Fowler, CA 93625**

**Time:**

**8:00am to 11:00am**

**Date:**

**Sunday, June 16, 2019**



## Central California

*Buddhist Education Program*

### Lectures, Classes, Discussions and Dharma Talks



2019 Schedule

#### *Central California District Council Buddhist Education*

Sunday, June 30

10:00-11:30AM

Movie Showing

**'Let Me Eat Your Pancreas'**

Lunch will be served after movie

Buddhist Church of Parlier

360 Newmark Ave. Parlier, CA 93648

Ph. (559) 618-1528

Sunday, August 25

2:00PM

**Rev. Yufuko Kurioka**

From Berkeley Buddhist Temple

**The Art of the Japanese Tea Ceremony**

Reedley Buddhist Church

2035 15th Street Reedley, CA 93654

Phone: (559) 638-2146

Sunday, September 29

9:30AM-1:00 PM

**Nembutsu Seminar**

Guests of Honor

**Saburo and Marion Masada**

Who will share their experience of  
Incarceration during WWII and its ramifications.

Buddhist Church of Fowler

210 S. 9th St.

Fowler, CA 93625

Ph. (559) 834-2077

Monday, October 21

7:00- 8:30PM

**Greg Mukai, CCMA**

Topic is

**Temple Food**

Short film and discussion on 'what is temple food?'

We will have a sampling of temple food

after the presentation.

Buddhist Church of Fowler

210 S. 9th St.

Fowler, CA 93625

Ph. (559) 834-2077

## Ongoing Classes and Discussions

### **Meditation for Everyday Life**

Sunday mornings

8:45 -9:30AM

*Rev. Kakei Nakagawa, Rinban*

Fresno Betsuin Dharma Center

2690 E. Alluvial Ave.

Fresno, CA 93720

Ph. (559) 442-4054

### **Buddhist Discussion**

Second Wednesday of the month

7:00-8:30 PM

*Led by Curtis Koga, MA*

Buddhist Church of Parlier

360 Newmark Ave.

Parlier, CA 93648

Ph. (559) 618-1528

*Please visit [fresnobuddhisttemple.org](http://fresnobuddhisttemple.org)  
regularly for changes to meditation class  
schedule*

# Reedley Obon Festival

*Sat., July 6, 2019*

*Reedley Buddhist Church  
2035 15th Street - Reedley, CA  
(on the church grounds)*

*Food for Purchase - 5:00 PM*

*Vendors include: Yoshi's Restaurant, Sergio's Tacos & Churros, Lolo's shaved ice, BWA Somen, Jr. YBA Mochi Ice Cream, and more!*



*Dancing begins - 8:00 PM*

*Featuring Fresno Gumyo Taiko*

*Everyone is invited to dance!*

*Hatsubon / Obon Service -*

*July 7, 2019 - 10:00 AM*

*Questions? - go to [www.reedleybc.org](http://www.reedleybc.org) or  
email [reedleybc@gmail.com](mailto:reedleybc@gmail.com)*







*Fresno Buddhist Temple*

*74<sup>th</sup> Annual  
OBON*

*"Festival of Lanterns"*

*Saturday, July 13, 2019*

*Fresno Buddhist Dharma Center  
2690 E. Alluvial Ave., Fresno, CA 93720*



*2:00pm Food, Beverages, Beer & Dessert Booths open*

*4:00pm Carnival Games, Bake-Walks, Taiko Drumming*

*7:30pm BON Dance, Memorial Ceremony, Taiko Drumming*

*OBON Dance... Join in on the fun... No experience necessary*

*Honor a loved one with a personalized memorial lantern! Call for information*

*Raffle!*

*For details & more information:*

*(559) 442-4054*

*info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org*

*www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org*

# Central California Nikkei Foundation

presents

## Bowling for Seniors A Family Fun-Raiser

Saturday, August 10, 2019  
1:30 pm to 4:00 pm  
Registration from 12:30 to 1:30

"The proceeds from this event will benefit the operations of Vintage  
☞ Gardens Assisted Living and the Nikkei Service Center" ☞

Freeway Lanes Bowling Center  
8265 E. Dinuba Avenue  
Selma, California 93662

Please join us for a fun-filled afternoon of bowling!  
\$25 per person / \$15 ages 10 & under (we will assign 6/lane)  
You may also purchase your own lane for up to 6 people for \$150

Includes:

2.5 hours of bowling / shoe rental / soda & slice of pizza  
Sign-ups for age appropriate competition  
50/50 Raffle & Regular Raffle Drawings

To sign up or for more info, call, text or email:

Henry Guerra @ (559) 355-2465  
[hguerra@prodigy.net](mailto:hguerra@prodigy.net)

or Carol Guerra @ (559) 355-2466  
[ckguerra@prodigy.net](mailto:ckguerra@prodigy.net)

You can sign up as a group or individually.  
We will assign 6 per lane, let us know if you want to be with friends & family!

Deadline is July 27, 2019, so make sure to reserve your spot!