The circumstance that helped the fundraiser reach its greatest potential happened when a farmer was unable to donate potted plants. The temple was in a rural agricultural area and it was typical for the local farmers to donate flowers, vegetables, and plants. A particular farmer who had a business raising quality potted plants donated flats of them each year. One year, just two days before the bazaar, he unexpectedly was unable to deliver the plants and it was estimated that the bazaar would lose at least $500 in revenue! Presale scripts were sold and even a deficit of that amount would have had a substantial impact on the event’s success. An emergency meeting was called to discuss this matter. The discussion went on for several hours. Everyone agreed that it would be impossible to increase volumes of other items that could be sold. Arguments went back and forth about the controversial proposal to raise prices to make up for the loss. The strongest argument against raising prices was the fear that the temple would suffer an even greater loss in revenue because sales would be lower because of the higher prices. On the other hand, others took the view that prices were customarily too low. After a prolonged debate, the group decided to raise prices!

Because the organizers of this event kept great records, it was easy to identify those items that were popular in prior years and those that were not. Therefore, adjustments were always considered every year. Food and rummage items were the most popular and for this particular year the group reevaluated the prices for those items, in particular. Based on the comments that we have quality items at very reasonable prices, people were asked to adjust the prices for rummage and food items. People were apprehensive because prices were never at those levels before and no one could predict the outcome.

The day of the bazaar arrived and the most crucial time was the first few hours. The event started at 8 am and ended at 2 pm. As in past years, items literally flew off the tables and shelves and everyone crossed their fingers in anticipation of the result. Through mutual teamwork and by taking risks the group was able to reach its goal. Profits were even higher than the projections and the community and members did not complain at all. In fact, several commented that prices were still reasonable and happy that we finally raised them!

Cont. on p. 2
Everyone learned that change may be anxiety provoking but adapting and working together to meet the challenges of change can lead to being in a better place than the previous status quo. Yes, there were several who feared change and taking risks but their fears vanished when the final results were tallied. We all learned that risk is part of our daily lives and there is no guarantee of success, but we overcame our fears to work together with a common goal in mind!

Taking risks almost always invokes resistance and fear, including the risk of taking refuge in the Buddha’s vow which leads us to the Land of Bliss. No one has ever come back to confirm that there is such a wonderful place. Am I taking a risk in accepting this? I too, sometimes have fears and doubts but I know that based on Buddhist principles, I am totally incapable of saving or freeing myself from this world of suffering, Samsara, through my own efforts. I can only entrust in the vow that is focused on and working for me. Though just a foolish being, bonbunin, I can only hope truly to awaken to the Buddha’s vow and share my limited life with others.

How grateful I am for the Light which untiringly embraces a lost person like me, a person who has difficulty taking risks. Namo Amida-butsu.

NYBC Eitaikyo Service, October 14, see p. 5

80th Anniversary Banquet and Service Reminder
This is a reminder that NYBC will be having an anniversary banquet on Saturday, October 20. Also, a 80th Anniversary Service is scheduled for Sunday, the 21st, 11:30 am. Our guest minister and speaker is Rev. Ron Miyamura who is the head minister for the Eastern District.

Shojoj Ryori Class with Guest Minister , October 27
Rev. Masami Asao will be conducting a cooking class from 10am-12 noon on Saturday, October 27, at NYBC. Rev. Asao is a Jodo Shinshu minister of the Takada-ha, one of the 10 schools of Jodo Shinshu. She resides in Tokyo and teaches classes there.
Class size will be limited to 20 and the cost is $50 for non-members and $30 for registered members of NYBC. Please call the temple at (212)678-0305 or register with a temple member. Should Rev. Asao not be able to come to NYC, Rev Ikeda will conduct the classes.

Annual Inurnment at Cypress Hills
Our annual inurnment into our Bussharido, NYBC Columbarium, at Cypress Hill Cemetery is scheduled for early November. Please call the temple at (212)678-0305 to make your request. By NY state law, two certificates are required: certificates of death and cremation. Please call the temple to inquire about the costs and donations involved.

Sumie Classes Offered
Sumie, Japanese ink painting, is offered every Thursday morning from 9 am until 11 or 12 noon. Techniques begin with the basics derived from the “shikun-shi”, the “Four Gentlemen”, which practices drawing the Asian orchard, bamboo, plum, and chrysanthemums. The classes are free however donations to NYBC are gratefully appreciated. Participants need to bring their own supplies and interested observers are always welcomed. The sumie classes are led by Rev. Ikeda. Please call the temple at (212)768-0305, with any questions. Everyone is welcome.

Cont. from p. 3

10月14日（日）午前11時半 永代経法要
永代経は毎年故人の忌日や春秋の彼岸などにお寺で永久に行う読経という意味です。ニューヨーク仏教会は80年前、関教善法師がアメリカに仏法を広めるために開かれてきました。仏教は仏の教えを聞くところですので、どなたでもご参拝いただけます。

10月14日（日）午前11時半から永代経法要を勤めますので、ご家族、お友達とお参りくださいようご案内申し上げます。

10月20日（土）80周年記念晩餐会と10月21日（日）記念法要
ニューヨーク仏教会80周年記念 晩餐会が10月20日（土）にありますので、ご参加いただきますようお願い申し上げます。また、記念法要を10月21日（日）午前11時半から、シカゴ仏教会住職であり東海岸教区局長のミヤムラロナルド師を迎えてお勤めしますので、どうぞお参りください。

Cont. on p. 4
信心はチャレンジ

私事ですが、いくつかのお寺に務めさせていただいたおかげで、それぞれのお寺で貴重な経験をさせていただきました。10年間お勤めさせていただいたある寺はバザーで毎年大きな収益をあげていました。バザーの成功には綿密な計画と、門徒さんや地域の人々の協力が大切です。バザーの目的は、お寺の基金を作るもちろんですが、全員が一つとなって目的を達成する経験も忘れてはならないでしょう。その時のバザーの委員長は、門徒さんや地域の人たちがお寺を支えてくださっていることをよく理解していた人でした。委員長は責任が重く大変な仕事ですが、彼は人々の意見を尊重し、バザーを楽しんで運営していました。そのためでしょうか、彼が委員長をつとめたバザーは二度とも成功でした。もちろん意見が一致しない事もあったでしょうが、人々は笑顔でバザーを楽しんでいました。

ある年、バザーの直前に思わぬ問題が起こりました。その当時、門徒さんの多くは農業で、バザーに切り花、野菜、鉢植えの花などの寄付がありました。バザーの二日前、毎年鉢植えの花を寄付してくださっていた農家から、「申し訳ありませんが、今回はお花の寄付ができません。」と知らせられました。この農家は毎年少なく見積もっても500ドルぐらいの寄付をしていましたので、ここままでは売り上げが相当少なくなります。

緊急会議が招集されました。数時間にもおよぶ長い討論の結果、この時点では商品の数をふやすことはできないので、売る物の単価をあげることしか解決方法がありませんでした。しかし、価上げに反対する人もありました。その人たちは「値段をあげると売れなくなり、さらに大きな収入減になるのではないか」という心配でした。それにたいして、値上げに賛成の人は「今まで安すぎたので、高くしてもいいのではないか。」という意見でした。話し合いの結果単価を高くすることになりました。

幸いにも、過去の価格についての記録がありました。人気のある物、あまり売れなかった物なども記録されていました。その記録から良い品質のものは適切な値段でした。しかし、食べ物や雑貨は人気があったのに値段は低かったので、値段を上げることになりました。しかし、長年ほとんど値段を変えずに安くしていたので、高くてどんな結果になるのか予想がつきませんでした。

バザーが始まって2〜3時間が大切です。この時よく売れれば良い結果ができます。イベントは午前8時に始まって午後2時に終わりました。みんながバザーの結果を心配しましたが、商品がよく売れ、純益は予想以上多くありました！また、バザーのものが高すぎるという苦情は無く「今まで安すぎたので、丁度良い値段になった。」という声でした。

人間は変わることが不安です。新しいことに挑戦するのが不安です。しかし、困難に挑戦する、チャレンジ精神が大切ではないでしょうか。自己を信じ、勇気を持ってチャレンジすることがなければ、希望を可能にすることができません。

さて、新しいことにチャレンジする不安、「浄土へ往生させていただけるのだろうか」という不安は同じではないでしょうか。誰もお浄土へ行って帰ってきた人はいませんので、お浄土はどんなところか誰にもわからないので不安です。人間は疑い深く、仏様を信じることがなかなかできません。しかし、私は自分で苦しみの世界にいる自分を救うことが出来ないので、新しい事にチャレンジするような心で、仏様を信じることしか道が内容に思いません。

信心はチャレンジです。未知のものに挑戦（ちょうせん）するのは不安なことです。しかし、凡夫の私は、本願を信じる以外に助かる道はないでしょう。阿弥陀様は私が目覚めるように照らし続けてくださっています。

南無阿弥陀仏

(Trans. A. Ishida)
Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Services Schedule for 2018

Shotsuki Hoyo is a traditional monthly service to remember your loved ones who died during that month, particularly in the intervals listed below. The Memorial Service provides a way to express your gratitude and recognize their continuing influence in your life. To arrange a shotsuki hoyo memorial service, please talk to Rev. Earl Ikeda or one of our minister’s assistants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>3rd Year</td>
<td>2012...</td>
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</tbody>
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October 2018
Shotsuki Hoyo Service
Sunday, October 7

Amioka, Masako 1973
Araki, Genichi 1972
Davidson, Charles ----
Davidson, Ignatius ----
Davidson, Inez ----
Davidson, Stan ----
Hino, Hironobu 1978
Horita, Hisako 1994
Ishida, George G. 2014
Ito, Eddie M. 2008
Ito, Haruo 2017
Kamano, Yuki 1995
Kishi, Haru 2002
Kusama, Junko 1995
Laath, Olivia 1991
Matsuda, Yone 1978
Matsumoto, Kinichi 2003
Mishima, Michiko 1997
Mitsuuchi, Kuma 1995
Mooney, Eiko 2011
Motooka, Mark 1981
Nakamura, Mayumi 2002
Nishimura, G. Guntaro 2014
Okajima, Robert Eiichi 2016
Okubo, Tome 1985
Sakiori, Jack 1991
Schroeter, Lydia 1993
Shirakigawa, Tonami 1926
Tayakura, Makoto 2012
Tashiro, Shigezo 1954
Tono, Harry Yoshiaki 1991

Tsui, Dorothy 2016
Wise, Blanche 1993
Wise, Lotus 1988
Yashiro, Masato 2014
Yasuda, Kentaro 2005
Yoshikami, Mitsue 1987

November 2017
Shotsuki Hoyo Service
Sunday, November 4

Bando, Gikyo 1978
Dymak, Antonio 1942
Dymak, Frank 1958
Eidson, John L. 2000
Hama, Yoriko L. 1974
Hara, George Yoshio 1994
Hara, Komayo Kay 2009
Harada, Hiroko 1990
Hayashi, Roy 1992
Iguchi, Yasuhiro 1990
Kan, Rev. Shunshin 1987
Kaneko, Dorothy 2006
Kodama, Teiji 2001
Kunihiro, Isami "Sam" 2017
Kubo, John J. 1986
MacDowell, Stephen 2004
Mitani, Usaburo 1932
Mochizuki, Tomie 1990
Nagawa, Mibu 1947
Ohtaka, Shojoji 1966
Okada, Edna Aki 1987
Okuma, Emiko 2009
Sochi, Mizue 2008

In Memoriam
Yoriko Fujita Armstrong flew to Hokkaido, Japan due to the death of her father, Tamotsu Fujita, who passed away at 91 years of age. While at the funeral home, the 6.7 earthquake struck Hokkaido. Fortunately, Yoriko and her family suffered no injuries and her family’s house was undamaged, except for the inside of the house which was a mess! There were many, many big aftershocks which caused much stress and sleepless nights due to the tremors. They lost electricity for couple of days, but fortunately, when it came back on, she was able to communicate via email with her family and friends in this country. At first, there was a shortage of food to buy, until stores could be restocked. We extend our condolences and deepest sympathies to Yoriko, her family, relatives and friends.

日本人僧侶の精進料理教室
10月27日（土）午前10時から正午、アサオマサミ師が精進料理を教えてください。アサオ師は浄土真宗高田派の僧侶です。また師は東京で料理を教えておられます。参加費は、仏教会メンバーは30ドル、そのほかの方は50ドルです。クラスは20名。
お申し込みはニューヨーク仏教会（電話212−678−0305）へお願いします。

なお、アサオ師が不可能となった場合は、池田アール住職が代行。

サイプレスヒルズ納骨
11月初旬にサイプレスヒルズにあるニューヨーク仏教会納骨堂へ納骨を予定しています。納骨予定の方は仏教会（電話212−678−0305）へお知らせください。死亡証明書、埋葬証明書、納骨費などが必要となりますので、お問い合わせください。

墨絵クラス
基礎から学ぶ墨絵クラスが、毎週火曜日午前9時から正午まであります。興味のある方はご参加ください。講師はニューヨーク仏教会池田アール住職。墨絵に必要なものは自己負担です。参加は無料ですが、仏教会へ寄付をお願いします。
Gertrude Kihara and Ruth Funai enjoyed a scenic Amtrak train ride from Grand Central Station in NYC to Montreal, taking 12-hours, but about 2-hours at the Canadian border going thru customs. A tour of over 3-hours told a fascinating history and culture of the city and who knew that Montreal was an island? The guide said, “It has 6-months winter and 6-months construction” which was very evident wherever we walked. The city exudes a youthful vibrancy and with low rent, low college and university tuitions, and low crime rate, Montreal was voted in the top 10 most desirable cities to live-in. Dinner at a French bistro capped a wonderful stay!

A very comfortable train ride to Quebec was taken and the next day, Rev. Earl Ikeda arrived in time for a tour of the “Old City”, encircled by a huge stone wall. Picturesque building with history and culture made one wishing for a longer stay, especially to peruse the many antiquities, shops and boutiques! A dinner with local cuisine flavored the end of our stay. Back to Montreal via train with a 3-hour layover, allowed lunch in their small Chinatown, plus walking the street with many stores, restaurants and banks- catering to the many college and university students. A 5-hour train ride took us to Toronto for a wonderful EBL conference!

In the free time during the conference, Keiko Ohtaka, Gertrude and Ruth were reunited with a couple who had befriended them during the previous EBL conference there. A visit to the Aga Khan Museum, which opened last November, had a room of dishes and pottery dating back hundreds of years with progression of glazing and pottery techniques. Another room displayed weapons and jeweled ornaments (only for men) plus rugs that were beautiful! A delicious dinner at the couple’s assisted living residence, a tour of the facility and renewed friendship and camaraderie made the evening pass quickly! We are all ready to go back to Canada!

Every autumn, an annual Eitaikyo service is conducted at the New York Buddhist Church. This service is dedicated to those loved ones who are recorded in the Eitaikyo registry of NYBC and includes those persons whose funeral memorial service was conducted at the NYBC and whose ashes are maintained by the church.

The word Eitaikyo is a contraction of the more formal term, Ei-tai doku-kyo. Ei means eternal. It is composed of the Characters for a river with many tributaries that flows on and on. Tai means generations. Kyo means sutras or the words of the Buddha. Doku means to chant or read. Thus Eitaikyo means to chant the sutras for generations, eternally for our loved ones.

At the NYBC, a special Eitaikyo Memorial Fund was established to ensure the continuation of the teachings of the Buddha and Nembutsu. This fund is established through the donations made in memory of deceased members of the family and friends. This ensures a perpetual service for the deceased even when there is no one left in the family to observe a Buddhist Service.

Because the purpose of Eitaikyo is to ensure that a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Service be conducted eternally in memory of a loved one, an initial substantial donation is requested to place a loved one’s name in the Eitaikyo registry. An amount of $500 or more is suggested. In addition, starting in 2019, there will be an annual fee of $250/urn to maintain ashes at NYBC. However, depending on individual circumstances, other amounts will be considered. Please consult with the resident minister.

Please join us for the Eitaikyo service on Sunday, October 14, and, in particular if a loved one has passed away in the past year. You can speak with Rev. Earl Ikeda about placing a loved one on the Eitaikyo register if he or she is not currently in the register and you believe it would be appropriate to place that person on it. Rev. Earl or one of the minister’s assistants can direct you in completing the appropriate forms and providing the proper documentation.
Every year over the Labor Day weekend, Shin Buddhists from the Eastern Buddhist League gather at a member temple for a conference or a retreat program. It is always great fun to meet old and new friends and learn about other Sanghas in their home locations. The 2018 conference was hosted by the Toronto Buddhist Church from August 31st through September 2, with the theme: Pursuit of True Happiness...The Shin Buddhist Path. Toronto Buddhist Church pulled out all the stops to ensure a wonderful experience for all the attendees. The various committees thought of everything to make us feel welcome. We had rides and directions as needed, wonderful meals, and seemingly unending snacks available. As everyone left happy, this conference would have to graded a success in terms of its theme.

There was potential drama because the original scheduled speakers, Revs. Bob and Patti Oshita, unfortunately had to withdraw because of family issues. At the eleventh hour, their places were filled by Rev. Grant Ikuta of the Steveston Buddhist Temple and Dr. Jeff Wilson of the University of Waterloo. These speakers not only generously filled in, but also retained the subject matter of the conference theme. The event began on Friday evening, where attendees were invited to meet the ministers and speakers. Rev. Ron Miyamura of the Midwest Buddhist Temple, as Kyokuchō of the Eastern District, introduced the ministers and speakers. Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi of the Toronto Church was the host minister. Rev. Earl Ikeda of the New York Buddhist Church completed the ministerial contingent.

New York Buddhist Church was represented by Rev. Earl and board chair Mariko Kato along with Isabelle Bernard, Ruth Funai, Cheryl Ikemiya, Gary Jaskula, Gertrude Kihara, and Keiko Ohtaka. Other sanghas represented were Ekoji, Seabrook, Twin Cities, Midwest, Hamilton Ontario, and, of course, Toronto. After the morning service on Saturday, the first program was given by Rev. Grant Ikuta on the “Pursuit of True Happiness” from a Shin point of view. Rev. Ikuta demonstrated — often hilariously — that, while we humans have undoubtedly benefitted from technology, in the end we still have that perception that we are each a single one in the world. This same perception was the beginning of Sakyamuni Buddha’s search for Enlightenment. Stories about Shinran’s life and struggles and those of some of the famous Shin followers affirm that every individual’s life is an important journey.

After lunch, Rev. Ikuta led a workshop which gave us a very small taste of Nai-kan (Inner Reflection) — a form of analysis developed by a Japanese Shin therapist. We were to write down everything we had received in the last 24 hours. In another column, we were to write down everything we had given to others in the same period. It was a real eye-opener for me and many others that we get a lot more than we give. A concert of soothing meditative music after the morning service on Saturday, the first program was given by Rev. Grant Ikuta on the “Pursuit of True Happiness” from a Shin point of view. Rev. Ikuta demonstrated — often hilariously — that, while we humans have undoubtedly benefitted from technology, in the end we still have that perception that we are each a single one in the world. This same perception was the beginning of Sakyamuni Buddha’s search for Enlightenment. Stories about Shinran’s life and struggles and those of some of the famous Shin followers affirm that every individual’s life is an important journey.

Sunday activities began with the conference participants joining in the Toronto Buddhist Church’s regular service. Rev. Ron Miyamura gave the inspirational Dharma Talk in which he reminded us that Shin is uniquely a religion of “Thank You” as opposed to a religion of “Please” as are most others. Dr. Jeff Wilson happily segued onto this sentiment in his talk on “Happiness and Buddhism” by pointing out that in addition to being the religion of “Thank You,” Shin is also the religion of “Oops!” He regaled the attendees with funny stories about his recent sabbatical in Hawaii where he always seemed to be making silly mistakes. The point was that life’s misadventures are very much part of the Shin experience and that we are embraced by Amida just as we are.

The conference continued with TED talks by temple members and ministers. TED is usually defined as Technology Entertainment Design talks — but in this setting the definition was Teaching Enlightenment Dharma talks. Cont. p. 5
80th Anniversary Celebration of the New York Buddhist Church

October 20, 2018  Oriental Garden  14 Elizabeth Street 5:30-8:30 PM
Honoring the contributions of: Mr. Bon Yagi  Soh Daiko  Tachibana Dance Group

ALL SEATS HAVE BEEN SOLD, PUT YOUR NAME ON THE WAITING LIST

BUY SPACE IN THE EVENT BOOKLET: LINE ACKNOWLEDGMENT $75.00 —-; FULL PAGE: $750.00 —-; HALF PAGE: $500.00 —-; QUARTER PAGE $ 250.00 —-

I cannot attend, but would like to make a tax deductible donation to the New York Buddhist Church in the amount of $______________. ANY DONATION IS GRATEFULLY APPRECIATED.

PLEASE PRINT:  Name:_____________________________________________________

Company Name:________________________________________________________

Address:_______________________________________________________________Email Address: _________________________________

Telephone:______________________________

Please make checks payable to: New York Buddhist Church. Send this form along with your pay-ment to: New York Buddhist Church, 331-332 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10025.

So Daiko News  By Julianna Hessel

After a month-long break in which members found time to travel or relax at home, Soh Daiko is back at it again in the basement of the church, practicing hard to prepare for the new performance season. We are very excited to be dusting off our taiko muscles and start polishing our performance pieces. This season is a very special one for Soh Daiko, as 2019 is our 40th anniversary as a group.

Coming up on October 6th and 11th, we will be holding recruitment workshops for prospective new members. After two days of learning and auditioning, potential members will have the opportunity to participate in our three month trainee program. We are looking forward to introducing Soh Daiko to interested members of the community, and we hope to expand our family with dedicated and talented individuals.

For more information on recruitment and upcoming events, please visit www.sohdaiko.org!
Ongoing Activities

Children’s and Adult’s Taiko Drumming: Sundays, usually every other week, 1-2pm, 2-3 pm NYBC Dojo. Email Teddy Yoshikami at tyoshikami@verizon.net for more information. 
Soh Daiko Drumming: Thursdays, 7-9 pm and Saturdays, 2-6pm, NYBC Dojo. Practices are not open to the general public without prior permission. More information: www.sohdaiko.org.
Howakai: Japanese Study Group, usually first Thursday of the month, 7-8:30 pm
Chanting and Meditation: Usually Wednesday evenings, 7-8:30 pm
Ukulele Class and Strumming circle: Usually every other Saturday afternoon 12:30-2 pm
Dharma Study Group: usually first Saturday morning of the month, 10-11:30 am
Jinpukai (Okinawan Dance) usually every Monday 7-9 pm


Articles and photographs are welcome and will be published subject to suitability of content and availability of space.

Send contributions to Kokoro Editors: Gail Inaba, ginaba@optonline.net and Mariko Kato at mkatony@hotmail.com.