



GATEWAY



March 2019 - - Vol. LIV No. 3



Our WCBT Sangha enjoyed another wonderful retreat at the serene SLO Buddhist Temple over the Presidents Day weekend. A very special treat was Rev. Unno's Dharma talks. At 86 years old he still exhibited stamina, wit, and a deep and stirring wisdom that touched us all

The SLO 2019 Retreat - A Cherished Tradition

Joanie Martinez

WCBT Member

On a cold and rainy Presidents Day weekend, 19 hardy and adventurous Dharma friends drove north to San Luis Obispo (SLO). Two more members drove south from the Bay area, one being our Taylor Saucido who had just moved there, and the other, Connie Wong, from the Berkeley Sangha. Joining us from Higashi Betsuin was Steve Murata, and from Oxnard came Kris Hatakeyama. The 2 first-time participants were Tanya Kato from WCBT and Steve Murata.

We were fortunate to have Rev. Tets Unno as our guest speaker. His reputation as a dynamic, humorous, and down to earth guy precedes

him, and he certainly captivated our attention. He was personable as members wanted to sit and talk with him during our breaks. He called us by our names (we had name tags and he made sure he addressed us). With an ease in communicating, and citing many examples from his own experiences, Rev. Unno helped us all to connect with his messages. Among these messages in seeking a more fulfilling life was, "Accepting your causes and conditions is enlightenment." This may be a little less challenging to do some of the times, while terribly hard if not impossible at other times. We may look calm on the outside,

but feel unsure, frightened, or feel unfairness or anger on the inside. How much harder it is to accept our causes and conditions when we are going through an especially difficult or painful time. Our founder Shinran was one who was so honest with himself that through much self-reflection, he could recognize and admit this duality and inconsistency in his nature, our human nature. And so Shin Buddhism teaches that "everything is fine as it is, we are fine as we are (with all our limitations and imperfections)". Realizing this can help us in understanding that that is why

Please see SLO, con't on page 2



T H E G A T E W A Y

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

It's been a cold and rainy winter, but spring is around the corner with warmer weather and the promise of new growth and blossoms!

As of this publication, we have already honored out departed pets during our Pet Memorial Service. As part of the service, the story of the famous Japanese Akita dog Hachiko was presented to the Sangha. For those of us who have pets, this story of a dog's loyalty and love reflects the enrichment that pets give to our families.

Spring Ohigan service will be a late afternoon one on March 17. Service starts at 4:30 pm. Dharma School will have a lesson and activity for the children. We will learn about Ohigan, and, we will prepare the children for our Hanamatsuri service on April 14. The Dharma School staff hopes to see all of you. It will be fun! Look for our email blasts!

Gassho,
Claire Hansen

SLO, con't from pg. 1
there is "other power" or hongan; it is there just to shed light on something for us to awaken to. We know that Buddhism can enrich our lives, but Rev. Unno said we must put effort into learning about Shin so that we can come to deeply understand more, so that the power of realizations and awakenings can be experienced by us. Many times the realization won't appear for quite a while as it is gradual in nature; at other times it may be that "Aha" moment. Another simple message was, "Just be kind to everyone because you don't know what kind of pain they may be going through."

I asked different members why they made the effort to attend this retreat, especially with the inclement weather and longer drive. Here is what they said:

- Ted H: It feels good to come back, and while we are able to, we want to keep coming. I don't know when the last time will be.
- Claudia: I always look forward to this. It is very, very meaningful and it is a high priority event for us.
- Tanya: I had a chance meeting @ a Marie Callendar's in WLA with Rev. Unno and his wife; that led me to look him up and listen to him on YouTube, and that led me to this retreat!
- Jack: For the friendship. I usually work on most Sundays. I especially wanted to see Irv (from Berkeley).
- Alice: To hear Rev. Unno.
- Reiko: It's fun! I learn something new from different perspectives, and the scenery is beautiful.
- Dickie: Rev. Unno was interesting- his messages are communicated through his personal stories so it is easier to listen to and understand.
- Steve: I saw the retreat flyer in Higashi's lobby. I wanted to hear Rev. Unno.
- Julie: I was reluctant because of the weather, but I enjoy remeeting friends and am always glad to have come.
- Lee: I come to the retreat hoping to learn something that will lead me to experience "awakening" in this life, for spiritual inspiration.
- Haruko: I enjoy the Sangha. Even the drive up here was enjoyable - had lunch @ Solvang and visited my parents' old house in Pismo.
- Hisako: It's a tradition! It's a fun time to interact more with

others.

- Richard H: To hear Rev. Unno
- Michelle: I missed the retreat for 2 years and this is a much needed break for me. I have been feeling stress and reconnecting to the teachings is great.
- Connie: This is my 3rd time coming, but I didn't realize I'd be the only one from Berkeley! I retired recently and am trying to say "yes" to more things. I appreciate each day and enjoy those who are a part of that day.
- Johnny: Being aware that I'm a Bombu, I take this time to learn more and deepen my appreciation of the Dharma. And I have a lot of fun with the Sangha!
- Taylor: I like reconnecting with everyone. The retreat gives me an opportunity to reflect, which is very different from my daily experiences.
- Joanie: Making the effort to get away for this retreat is so well worth it. We can't experience this in the same way on a regular Sunday because our lives are so busy. To just hang out together for the weekend, preparing, and having 5 meals together, working and playing together, and listening to the Dharma by a guest speaker such as Rev. Unno is so much fun and such a rich experience. We also learn from fellow members' kanwas. Our Sangha enjoys one another and we get closer. That's why we come back.
- Rev. Tets Unno: I enjoy the overall spirit of this retreat. There is cooperation, people are on time for the discussions and they return (to the circle after break) with enthusiasm, and they ask questions. They even cooperate to lead the chanting!



T H E G A T E W A Y

T E M P L E N E W S

The Study Class

The Study Class will meet on March 12 and 26 at 10:00 AM. Discussions will be based on selected topics that vary from week to week. The class usually meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.

For more information, please contact Rev. Miyoshi at (213) 219-6140.

Cherry Blossom Festival

The 2019 West Covina Cherry Blossom Festival will be on Saturday, March 16, from 10:00-4:00 PM and will be held at the Plaza West Covina, 112 Plaza Dr. The Temple will not have a booth but ESGVJCC will need help setting up and breaking down after the festival. Please come out to support the Center.

Spring Ohigan Service

Spring Ohigan will be observed on March 17 at 4:30 PM. We will have Rev. Frederick Brenion as a special guest speaker so please join us for this special service and stay for the complimentary otoki dinner following the service.

Oldies Dance LXII (62)

"Dancing Anew @ Oldies LXII (62)!" will be held on March, September 23. It's our 62nd Oldies with Steve Kikuchi & High Resolution providing favorite hits from the 60's, 70's and 80's. Please note the **new hours**. The dance will begin at **7:00 PM** and end at **11:00 PM** with lots of dancing and fun in between. The earlier hours, although giving us less time to set up, will make it easier for the members who come to help clean-up after the dance.

Presale tickets are \$20 or \$25 at the door. For info and song requests, contact Joanie at (626) 300-8947, joaniekmartinez@gmail.com or

Lillian at (626) 780-9866, lilnish77@gmail.com. Your Toban chairs will contact you about work shifts and assignments. Plan to come to the Center by 4:30 PM to help with the set-up and at 11:00 PM to help clean-up since we may not have help available to us. Donations are welcome for raffle prizes and drinks. Sign-up sheets for drinks will be at our Sunday service.

LABTF Hanamatsuri

The Federation Hanamatsuri Service and will be held on the April 7 beginning at 1:30 PM at the Nishi Hongwanji LA Betsuin in LA. Everyone is encouraged to attend the LABTF service after WCBT Shotsuki Service.

WCBT Hanamatsuri and Fun Day

West Covina's Hanamatsuri Service will be held on Sunday, April 14, at 10:00 AM. Everyone is invited to arrive early with flowers to decorate the *Hanamido*. There will be a special performance by the Dharma school children. We invite you to come and join us to celebrate the Buddha's birthday and stay for WCBT annual Fun Day which will follow.

WCBT Fun Day

WCBT Fun Day will be on Sunday, April 14, 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM at the Center Social Hall following the Hanamatsuri Service. All current and past WCBT members and their families are invited for an afternoon of games, potluck lunch and good times. We're asking everyone to bring finger food to add to the pizzas which will be provided. There will also be a special birthday cake for baby Buddha. Hope to see you there!

GATEWAY Staff

Layout & Editing: Rev. Nobuko Miyoshi, Hisako Koga, Claudia Haraguchi, Richard Kagawa

Contributors: Claire Hansen, Michael Jitosho, Joanie Martinez, Phillip Underwood

Circulation: Rev. Fred Brenion, Joy Kitaura

West Covina Buddhist Temple Mission Statement:

In the spirit of universal brotherhood, West Covina Buddhist Temple provides the opportunity for all to listen to and share the Teachings of the Buddha in order that we may awaken to our true selves, living our lives fully and dynamically.

The Temple's mailing address is:

West Covina Buddhist Temple
P. O. Box 1616
West Covina, CA 91793
(626) 689-1040

Website: www.livingdharma.org

Facebook: facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple

E-Mail: wcbt.livingdharma@gmail.com

MARCH BIRTHDAY

Brandon Kawaguchi, Kendra Kagawa, Brion Martinez, Edward Miyashiro, Cathy Nakano, Glen Fujimoto, Karolyn Fujimoto, Mae Horie, Joy Kitaura, Kelley Sakoda, Kathy Masai, Bob Yamashita, Danny Iwama, Lee Ezaki, Karen Ezaki, Andrew Kenji Ezaki, Claire Hansen, Dick Koga, Leo Kowalski, Miki Fukusumi, Tamara Teragawa, Alyssa Arnheim, Dana Yamada, Gavin Godoy, John Erickson, Bruce Whang, Emi Wexler, Reiko Ikehara-Nelson, Mitsuru Oshita, Tatsuo Okamura, Manuel Ortiz, Patricia Endo, Steve Underwood, Rev. Akira Miyoshi



THE GATEWAY

2019 San Luis Obispo Family Retreat

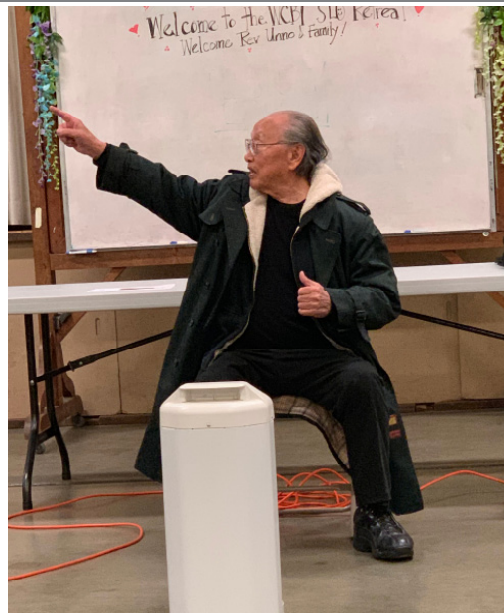


*Look out the window...
SLO clouds hovering so low.
Inside, Sangha laughs
-Joanie Martinez*





T H E G A T E W A Y





T H E G A T E W A Y

(「リトリート」11ページからの続き)

参加しました。

・ジュリーさん：天候が悪かったので迷っていたのですが、久しぶりに友人たちとの再会ができて楽しかったです。いつも参加できることを嬉しく思っています。

・リーさん：今生きている人生において私を「目覚め」に導いてくれる何かを学べることを期待して参加しています。

・はるこさん：メンバーの人たちが好きだからです。こちらに来るまでのドライブも楽しかったです。ソルヴァングで昼食をとってピスモにある両親の古い家を訪れることができました。

・久子さん：恒例の行事なんです。参加した人といつも以上におしゃべりをしたりして過ごす時間がとても楽しいのです。

・リチャードさん：海野先生の講義を聞くためです。

・ミシェルさん：去年と一昨年と続けて参加できなかったんです。だから今年こそはと思って。最近ストレスを抱えることが多かった

ので、教えと繋がっていることを再確認できる時間は本当に必要でした。

・コニーさん：今回で3度目です。でも今回はバークレーから私一人とは思っていませんでした。最近退職したのでできるだけ多くのことに挑戦してみようと思っています。日々にそして一緒に過ごしてくれる人たちにいつも感謝しています。

・ジャニーさん：凡夫であることを気付かされることで、もっと学ぶことができ仏法への感謝がより深くなります。

・テイラーさん：みんなに会えて嬉しいです。リトリートは自分を見つめ直す時間を与えてくれます。日常生活とは全く質の違う時間を過ごすことができます。

・ジョニーさん：ここまで足を伸ばして参加する価値のある時間です。忙しい毎日の中で、ここで過ごすような時間をもつことはなか



なかできません。みんなと一緒に聞法をして、ご飯を食べて、おしゃべりをして、と過ごす週末はかけがえのないものです。また感話からも多くを学びます。みんなとの距離を縮めてくれるこのリトリートをいつも楽しんでいます。

・海野先生：このリトリートの雰囲気をととても楽しんでいます。協力の精神、休憩後時間通りに席に戻ってくること、熱心な聞法の姿勢、私に質問してくれることなどです。調声にもメンバーが協力してくれるんですね！

Quote of the Month
I have learned silence
from the talkative,
toleration from
the intolerant,
and kindness from
the unkind; yet, strange,
I am ungrateful
to those teachers.
-Khalil Gibran

23rd Annual Golf Classic

changed it's day & place!

DATE: Monday, June 3rd, 2019

PLACE: Hacienda Country Club in
La Habra Heights



Golf and sponsorship entry forms
will be available soon.



T H E G A T E W A Y

WEST COVINA HIGASHI HONGANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

February 21, 2019

Dear Members and Friends,

The West Covina Buddhist Temple and its Board of Directors cordially invites you to attend the Spring Ohigan Service which will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2019. The schedule for the service is as follows:

Date: Sunday, March 17, 2019
Time: 4:30 P.M.
Dharma Message: Rev. Frederick Brenion

We will be serving Otoki dinner immediately following the service.

Higan, meaning the Other Shore (of enlightenment), is a service is conducted on or about the vernal and autumnal equinoxes. At these times of the year, we endeavor to strengthen our commitment of the Buddhist life.

門信徒の皆様へ

立春を過ぎても例年になく寒い日が続いておりますが、皆様におかれましてはお元気で
お過ごしのことと存じます。さて春のお彼岸法要を下記の如くお勤め致しますのでご案内申
し上げます。お彼岸は古く聖徳太子の時代より行われてきた伝統ある法要です。私ども先達
はこの機会を仏様の教えを聞く良き機会としてまいりました。ご家族で一緒にお参り下さ
い。

記

春のお彼岸法要

日 時 2019年3月17日 午後4時半
場 所 日系コミュニティセンター
法 話 フレデリック・ブレニオン師 (英語)

* 法要後当番の皆様によるお齋がございます。

合 掌

Nobuko Miyoshi, Minister
開教使 見義信香

Johnny Martinez, President
理事長 ジャニー・マルティネス









T H E G A T E W A Y



WEST COVINA BUDDHIST TEMPLE PRESENTS

DANCING ANEW @ OLDIES LXII (62)!!

SATURDAY, March 23, 2019
7:00 to 11:00pm (NEW TIME!)

-  At the ESGV Japanese Community Center
-  Tickets: **\$20 presale**, \$25 at the door
-  Music by guest HIGH RESOLUTION
-  Drinks available, must be 21 or over
-  Dressy Casual
-  For tickets and/or information
Call or Text:

Joanie: **(626)300-8947** (calls only)
Lillian: **(626)780-9866**
or email: **lilnish77@gmail.com** or
joaniekmartinez@gmail.com

Irwindale Ave	WCBT/ESGVJCC 1203 West Puente Ave West Covina	Vincent Ave
Sunset Ave	West Puente Ave San Bernardino (10) Freeway	
map not to scale	West Covina Fashion Plaza	

WCBT/ESGVJCC is located about a mile north of the West Covina Fashion Mall. Parking in rear of buildings.



**NO HEELS
for Ladies.**





T H E G A T E W A Y

*To All Past And Current WCBT Members,
Families and Friends*

SAVE THE DATE!

**BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR BABY BUDDHA
(OR SANGHA REUNION/FUN DAY)**

*Join us for an afternoon
Full of Fun, Food and Good Times!*



*Sunday, April 14, 2019,
(Following Hanamatsuri Service)
11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
West Covina Buddhist Temple (Social Hall)
1203 West Puente Ave.,
West Covina, CA*

**More information coming regarding food
and the format of the event*



T H E G A T E W A Y





T H E G A T E W A Y

SLO リトリート ジョニー・マルティネス

今年も恒例のリトリートがSan Luis Obispo (SLO)で開催されました。雨の続くあいにくの天候の中19名が南カリフォルニアから車で北上、ベイエリアからの2名、コビナのメンバーでつい数日前に引っ越したテイラー・サウセドさんとバークレーメンバーのコンニー・ウォンさん、とサン・ルイス・オビスポのお寺で合流しました。畠山クリスさんもオックスナードから参加。今回初参加となったのは別院メンバーの村田ステイブさんとコビナに加藤ターニャさんの2名でした。

講師として海野徹雄先生をお招きできたことはとてもありがたいことでした。面白いだけではなく、熱の込められたお話をされることでとても人気の先生です。皆その講義を楽しみにしていました。休憩時間も参加者が周りを囲み、質問や話が続いていました。先生の話はご自身の体験談が多く、しかもそれは誰にでも覚えのあることで、先生のメッセージがずっと胸に入ってきました。先生のお言葉で印象的だったのは「縁起の身であるということに領くことが覚りである」というお言葉でした。どんなことが起こってもそれをそのまま受け止めることは時にとても難しいことです。たとえ表面上は穏やかにそれを受け止めているように見せていても、内面では様々な葛藤や迷い、理不尽だという怒りが渦巻いているのが私たちです。親鸞聖人はそうした自己の姿から逃げなかった人である、と先生はおっしゃいました。そしてそれが人間の事実であると

受け止められた方でした。だからこそ、浄土真宗はありのままの私を知らせる教えであり、そのまま満足していることを教える教えであります。その教える教えのはたらきを私たちは「他力」や「本願」としていただいているのです。

仏教は私たちの人生を豊かにしてくれます。けれども海野先生はそのことに本当に目覚めるためには、もっと学びたいという熱意が必要だと言われます。学んでも期待したような結果がすぐには得られないかもしれません。またはすぐにひらめきのように体験できるかもしれません。いずれにしても学んだことが自らの経験を契機として私たちにより深い真宗の受け止めを促してくれるのです。

先生のメッセージの多くはシンプルなものでした。その中の一つは「全ての人に親切にしろ。その人がどんな痛みを抱えているか私たちは知らないからです」というものでした。

リトリートの期間中、参加者に悪天候にも関わらず参加を決めたきっかけを聞いてみましたので、最後に紹介したいと思います。

・テッドさん：毎回来られることが嬉しいのです。いつが最後になってしまうか分かりません。だから来られる限り来続けたいと思っています。

・クラウドディアさん：いつも楽しみにしています。私たちにとっては本当に大切な、なにをおいても最優先すべき行事なのです。

・ターニャさん：実はウェストロサンゼルスのレストランで海野先生ご夫妻にお会いしたことがあるのです。それ以降先生のお話を

YouTubeで聞かせてもらっていました。今回実際にお話を聞けることが参加の理由です。

・ジャックさん：友人に会いたいです。今は日曜日が仕事なので。バークレーのアーヴィさんにも会えるかと楽しみにしていたので、会えなくて残念でした。

・アリスさん：海野先生の講義を聞くためです。

・礼子さん：楽しいからです。自分では思いつかない別の視点に触れることで新しいことを学べます。それに景色もとっても美しいですから。

・ディックさん：海野先生のお話を楽しみに来ました。ご自身の経験を通して語られるメッセージにとっても納得させられました。

・ステイブさん：このリトリートの案内を別院で見たからです。海野先生の話が聞きたかったのだ

(「リトリート」6ページに続く)

お寺ニュース

日本語春のお彼岸法要

日本語春のお彼岸法要は3月法話会、祥月法要を兼ねて3月7日(木)午後7時よりお勤めいたします。

また英語によるお彼岸法要は3月17日(日)午後4時半よりお勤めいたします。フレデリック・ブレニオン師をお招きして法話を聴聞します。英語法要にもご家族で是非お参りください。

4月の祥月法要は4月4日(木)午後7時半よりお勤めいたします。

East San Gabriel Valley
Japanese Community Center, Inc.

West Covina Buddhist Temple
1203 W. Puente Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790
P.O. Box 1616, West Covina, CA 91793

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 38
Covina, CA 91722

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

THE WEST COVINA BUDDHIST TEMPLE

GATEWAY

March 2019 - - Vol. LIV No. 3

March

- 3 8:30 am Board Meeting
- 3 10:00 am Shotsuki Service
- 7 7:00 pm Howakai Japanese Service
- 10 10:00 am Sunday Service
- 12 10:00 am Study Class
- 16 12:00 pm Cherry Blossom Festival
- 17 4:30 pm Spring Ohigan Service
- 23 7:00 pm Oldies Dance
- 24 10:00 am Sunday Service
- 26 10:00 am Study Class
- 31 10:00 am Sunday Service

April

- 4 7:30 pm Howakai Japanese Service
- 7 8:30 am Board Meeting
- 7 10:00 am Shotsuki Service
- 7 1:30 pm LABTF Hanamatsuri
(@Nishi Hongwanji LA Betsuin)
- 9 10:00 am Study Class

2019年3月行事予定

- 3日 午前8時半 理事会
- 3日 午前10時 祥月法要
- 7日 午後7時 法話会
- 10日 午前10時 日曜礼拝
- 17日 午後4時半 春季彼岸法要
- 23日 午後7時 オールディーズダンス
- 24日 午前10時 日曜礼拝
- 31日 午前10時 日曜礼拝

4月行事予定

- 4日 午後7時半 法話会
- 7日 午前8時半 理事会
- 7日 午前10時 祥月法要
- 7日 午後1時半 仏連花祭り

(於西本願寺羅府別院)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Main Article	1	Oldies Dance	8
D.S.News	2	Acknowledgments	10
Temple News	3	Japanese Page	11
SLO Pics	4-5		

如来の本願は、風のように身に添い、
地下水の如くに流れ続ける

平野 修『生きるということ』