



THE SANGHA STREAM

October 2023

MINISTER ARTICLE

As a Buddhist it is troubling to hear about all the conflicts that are happening in the world. Many lives are being lost due to fighting and, in some cases, innocent civilians become part of the lives that are lost. When anger and hatred become so intense the concern for the well-being of humanity seems to be of little importance. Such conflicts place people in states of fear, fearful for their lives and fearful of what the future will be like. Buddhism is about understanding the consequences of our actions. Our actions do not only affect our happiness or unhappiness but also those of others. If we have truly embraced following the Buddhist Path then reducing the suffering that we and others experience will be foremost in our minds.

I would like to share with you a story from the Jataka Tales that brings to our awareness how working in harmony with others is beneficial. It also brings to our awareness how easily conflict and anger can arise and how those who are not directly involved can be affected.

This is the story of “The Quarrelsome Quails”:

Listen to those painful cries which pierce each day of the silent forest. They are the cries of six thousand quails. Poor little birds! Each day a man comes from the village and casts a net over them as they land on the ground. After throwing the net, he pulls it together, catching hundreds of quails which he takes to the village to sell.

Now one day the King Quail said: “Cry no more, my little ones. If you can follow what I am about to say you will never be caught. When the net is thrown over you, put your heads through the holes, and all together fly up, lifting the net through the air. If then you land on the top of a thorny hill the prickles will hold the net above the ground and you can escape from under it before the villager reaches the hill. Do as I say, and you will all be saved. But if one day quarrels arise, and you should begin to fight with each other, then on that day you will be caught and you will never see the woods again.”



MINISTER ARTICLE

The quails did as their King advised, and when the net was thrown over them, they flew up to a hill with it and escaped. And the villager returned each day without a penny, and his wife was very, very angry.

Do not worry, he said one evening to his wife. Those quails will fight together one of these days and then they will be easily caught. And it happened one day that a quail stepped on the head of another. I will give you what you deserve cried the injured quail in anger, lunging at the other, and knocking his wing. You are not welcome here anymore, he yelled.

King Quail, seeing the quarrel, said to the others: "We should not stay here. These two angry birds will surely come to a bad end." And he flew off with those who followed his advice.

And as the two quarrelsome quails went on fighting, the villager's net landed on their heads. Many others were caught with them and taken to the village to be sold and killed. But the wise King Quail, and those who followed his advice, were never caught.

Through the teachings of the Dharma and the simple message from the story of "The Quarrelsome Quails" and our own experiences we can see how deep the Three Poisons of greed, anger, and delusion is part of our being. Perhaps this is why it is difficult to accept the unalterable law that "hatred can never put an end to hatred; love alone can."

If it is difficult to accept the actions of others without getting frustrated or angered then perhaps, we could try to imagine that everyone is enlightened but us. They are all our teachers, doing things to help us learn patience, understanding, and kindness.

Namo-Amida-Butsu

Robert Gubenco Sensei



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NOVEMBER 2023 MEMORIAL (SHOTSUKI) SERVICE LIST

Robert Coulson
Atsuko Hagihara

Bryan Kerry

Alan Mitsugi
Betty Sawada



TEMPLE SERVICE REMINDERS

NOVEMBER SERVICES

- Sunday, November 05, 2023 - Shotsuki/Monthly Memorial Service at 10:00 am
- Tuesday, November 14th - Meditation and Naikan Reflection from 7:00 to 8:00 pm
- Sunday, November 19th – Sunday Family Service and Dharma Time at 10:00 am
- Tuesday, November 28th - Meditation and Naikan Reflection from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

GIVE THE GIFT OF JOY

Please feel free to drop off your generous donations on or under the gift tree at the front of the hondo. For anyone wishing to make a monetary donation or donate with a gift certificate, talk to Susan or email calgarytemplesangha@gmail.com to coordinate.

Give the Gift of Joy over the Holidays

"Make a difference one toy at a time."

The temple will be collecting new, unwrapped gift donations for children ages 0-17 with a suggested gift in the \$25-\$40 price range. We will be collecting until Sunday, Dec 10.

"Warm Pieces for Peace"

Socks, mitts, scarves, toques, and more - clothing to keep warm is greatly needed over the winter months. The temple will be collecting the new 'warm' pieces and taking them to the Calgary Drop-In Centre on Dec 17.





COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Sunday, November 5th, 2023

Sunday, December 17th, 2023

Supporting the interdependence of life, we'll be providing lunch service at the Calgary Drop-In (DI) Centre on these dates.

We leave after the Sunday service around 11:15am and walk over to the DI together or meet there at 11:30am.

Ten volunteers are required, and the minimum age is 16 years old.

- For Nov 5, go to <https://bit.ly/community-05Nov23>
- For Dec 17, go to <https://bit.ly/community-17Dec23>

This is a great way to support our community – please consider volunteering!

CALGARY
DROP-IN
CENTRE

CASINO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: JANUARY 3 AND 4, 2024 AT ACE CASINO AIRPORT

We have received confirmation from the AGLC that our scheduled casino dates are Wednesday, January 3 and Thursday January 4, 2024 at the Ace Casino Airport.

The funds we received from previous casinos have been vital to our temple. It is by far the largest fund-raising activity on our calendar and allows us to continue to offer services, Sangha engagement activities and pay our monthly bills. They help us keep "the lights on".

All volunteer jobs are simple and straightforward and there is expert assistance available at all times. Volunteers are provided with dinner and snacks.

The Ace Casino Airport is a brand new casino and should be less busy mid-week, so volunteers should expect that there will be a lot of "down" time. Although the night shift is a little long, it is good chance to meet and talk with other volunteers.

Please consider taking time out of your busy schedule to help us out with this. A volunteer sign-up genius has gone out but if you have any questions or would like to volunteer, you can send me an email and I will add you to my list.

(New) Casino Volunteer Co-ordinator,
Doug Hironaka
(doughironaka@gmail.com)





JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT (IKEBANA) CLASSES

October 22 , November 5 and 19 December 3

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Classes will be held on Sunday afternoons at The Calgary Buddhist Temple from 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm.

The 5 classes are a series and the cost is \$225 total including flower material and instruction for Temple members or \$250 for non-members. No refunds for missed classes.

Students must supply their own containers (please ask Rika for a suitable size and shape), scissors and kenzan (frog).

Contact Rika if you need help selecting your items but these are not supplied as part of the lesson.



Rika Saruwatari trained under Ms. Takako Yokoyama, and became a certified Shihan (teacher) in 2012.

Rika's contact info: rikaandshiro@gmail.com or call 403-701-0390

FUROSHIKI WORKSHOP – WRAP SUSTAINABLY

Sunday, November 26th, 2023 at 1pm

Back by popular demand, and with Christmas just around the corner, the Calgary Buddhist Temple Sangha Engagement is pleased to host this workshop on **Sunday, Nov 26/23** at the Temple and taught by a local business rep from Nanao Kimono (www.nanaokimono.com). Nanao Kimono is a Japanese lifestyle shop in Kensington full of an assortment of treasures brought from Japan, including towels, tableware, tea and soaps.



Cost of the workshop is \$30 per person which includes a durable furoshiki. Maximum registration is 10 people so don't delay! To register and pay in advance to attend this workshop, please use the QR code go to: <https://bit.ly/furoshiki-nov>

Furoshiki is where art meets sustainability – using decorative fabrics to wrap gifts, packages, and for other purposes, the furoshiki offers an earth-friendly alternative. It has been used for hundreds of years for a great many uses. The Word “Furo” translates to “bath”, and “shiki” means “to spread out”. Originally, they were used to wrap up sacred and important items at temples or shrines, then later were adopted for carrying personal items to and from the public bathhouse. More recently, Furoshiki became very popular as a simple handbag, grocery bag, and especially, as a reusable gift wrapping!



PAST WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

CHOW MEIN AND RIB TAKEOUT DINNER

We had a busy fall with various fundraising events culminating in our Chow Mein Dinner and Bakesale on October 21.

Thank you everyone for supporting the Temple through ticket purchase, baking, volunteering and organizing. It felt hectic at times but the rewards of a job well-done and seeing and working along-side members and friends makes it worthwhile every time!

We will take a break and enjoy the upcoming holiday season but please keep in mind that we will have similar events including the garage sale and **Everything Japanese sale in 2024**. We will gratefully accept any items you no longer want late in spring.

Enjoy your break from Signup Genius notices and see you next year!

With gratitude,

Mickey, on behalf of the Fundraising Committee





LIBRARY NEWS

Thanks to WONDERFUL volunteers Kim, Leslie and Susan we accomplished a lot on October library day – Oct 15 - and we have our library almost organized.

The library will be open Sunday November 19th after the service. Come downstairs and browse the books while you enjoy a tea.

We are again asking for 3 volunteers to stay for an hour on November 19th to help us finish organizing our library. Thanks

Belle and Masaye



SEPTEMBER DONATIONS

Temple Donations

Anonymous
Auld, Belle
Caldwell, Doug & Cheryl
Cruickshank, Doug
Delisle, Yuri
in memory of Toshi Takahashi
Dooge, Frank
Goudie, Jane
in memory of Jerry Takeda and Toshiko Takeda

Hironaka, Doug
Masuda, Jean
McCormack, Dan
Nishi, Ken & Mary
Ota, Fumi
Pittman, Craig and Cathy
Robb, Barrie & Jackie
Sano, Tracee and Robert Alexander

Seman, Michael
Sugimoto, Laura
in memory of Kanoe Sugimoto
Sugimoto, Takako
in memory of Kanoe Sugimoto
Tajiri, June
Takeda, Laurie
Taranik, Bryan
Yoneda, Dana
in memory of Kanoe Sugimoto

Canada Helps Donations

Ghann, Jameela
Giggs, Melanie
Haddon, Samantha
Howard, Leslie

Martin, James
McCullagh, Bob
Miyanishi, Kiyoko
Robson, Tomiko

Stewart, Matthew
Sugimoto, Laura
Sugimoto, Sumire
Wright, Charlene