



BDC DHARMA HIKE by Rev Koyo Kubose



- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. HONORARY STREET SIGN | 7. SIERRA SANCTUARY |
| 2. ALTAR ROCK | 8. VEGETABLE GARDEN |
| 3. DHARMA ROCK PLAQUE | 9. LABYRINTH |
| 4. ORCHARD | 10. HUMMINGBIRDS & OFFICE |
| 5. "HIDDEN" DHARMA SEAT | 11. S.P.O.T |
| 6. POWER "B.A.P." PINE | (SPECIAL PLACE OF TRANQUILITY) |

The Bright Dawn Center (BDC) has a new map that shows points of interest along a short path that goes around the main house. This map combines a Google Earth satellite shot with photo-shopping images. This 8 1/2 X 11 map was creatively designed by our good Dharma friend, DJ Morris. He laminated several of these maps to be used as a guide when the LM10 class toured our property during their Induction weekend. You are also invited to

use this guide when visiting BDC. Please come and see the sights! Here is a description of the eleven places of interest listed on the map:
1. The Honorary Street Sign reads: "In Honor of the Rev. Gyomay and Minnie Kubose Way." It is an identical duplicate of a City of Chicago street sign in front of the Buddhist Temple of Chicago, located at 1151 W. Leland Avenue, between Broadway and Racine Avenues.

2. The Altar Rock is about 30' high and 50' wide. Outdoor services and events can be held in front of this Altar Rock. A Dharma Wheel banner can be hung down the face of the Altar Rock.

Hike continues on page 6

Inside

2018 BDC Inductees	p. 2
Poem; Old Master...	p. 4
Just Live!	p. 4
Animal Puppet Antics	p. 5

2018 LAY MINISTER INDUCTEES

Virginia Geiyo Parkum



When I first heard the Buddha's teachings almost 20 years ago, I was at a very low place. They turned my life right side up. I took refuge. A magical mystery tour of traditions and locations followed while working on research about Buddhist activities in prison ministry.

A new Dharma friend, Ruth Tabrah, handed me a little book, *Everyday Suchness*. She said it told the Dharma in such a wonderful way. Honestly, I started to read it, but I was so deep into studying with my home teacher, a very psychological approach, that I couldn't get into the book. It went onto the book shelf. I studied and became ordained but didn't pursue the counselling track. It wasn't my calling.

Three years ago, things were pretty low again. The Dharma didn't promise life would be a rose garden, but I was somehow getting stuck in the thorns. Late one morning, I was sorting through the new mail, and there was the latest issue of *Oneness*. Some things Reverend Koyo and Dharma Dan said really lit up positive vibes.

The name Kubose rang the memory bell. I put the newsletter down, rummaged through the overcrowded book shelves, and found *Everyday Suchness*. I read it. I ordered all the Kubose books. I read them. Wow moments. I saw the notice about the ordination program and was so excited, even though I'd sworn, at the end of long academic years, never to take another exam again. I asked Dharma friend Reverend Al Bloom about the program, as I noticed Koyo Sensei had spent time in Hawai'i. He said Koyo Sensei was a fine person and the program was just right for me. What wonderful recommendations from two beloved friends! Thank you, Al and Ruth, you were both so right!

The Bright Dawn program has given me back my smile. A while ago, members in a Tough Love support group I was in told me, after some hard stuff happened at home, that I had lost my smile. They were right. I could see it in the mirror and sangha photos. Even

with the spark of the Dharma, I had a constant hum of fear and sadness in the background, and my face showed it. Gyomay Sensei's teachings and Koyo Sensei's joyous way of presenting and developing them and his own thoughts re-lit something that I imagined had gone out, period. It was like a spiritual rebirth.

I love my new Dharma name, Geiyo, Artistic Sun. Yes, I'm an artist, but Koyo and Gyomay talked about being an artist of your life. Wow!

Koyo Sensei wrote of hearing the teachings, really receiving them and radiating them, that this is the gift we receive and it is also the highest tribute we can give. I hope that my life in some way will honor this. Al Bloom said that a poem by Shinran always spoke to him, *Ondokusan, Repaying the Buddha's* (and all of those who have contributed to one's life) *Compassionate Virtue*:

Though my body be ground to dust,

*I must requite the compassion of the Tathagata
(Buddha).*

Though my bones be completely crushed

*I must also repay the benevolence of my teachers
(everyone).*

Truthfully, I always had thought that sounded sort of gross. Now I see it couldn't be put better.

Thank you, Buddha and Bright Dawn. Thank you and WOW!

Michael Manyo Patterson



When Sensei said to me, "maybe you need to write your bio, Michael", I decided that I had better get going. I have struggled with this assignment worse than any Dharma Glimpse or talk that we have done yet.

I am married to a great wife (Karen) and we have a 34 year old Daughter (Jessica). #1 Grandson (Kingston), and our sweet little Dachshund (Roxy). Karen's folks live with us.

Like many spiritual seekers my journey started a long time ago. From the physical to the metaphysical to pure illusion. Even being very young I questioned

2018 LAY MINISTER INDUCTEES -Cont'd

the religion/philosophy of my youth. There were many sign post and turning points along the way, even back to pre-teen years. I confess that I was even influenced by "pop culture" and pieced things together by trial and error.

A few years ago I was invited to a small Unitarian congregation and heard Morris Sekiyo Sensei speak about the Dharma. It wasn't long before I took Refuge. I wanted to learn all that I could so I started practicing with two Tibetan groups of Spiritual Friends, one in Jacksonville, Florida and one in Gainesville. There are some very special Lamas and members that showed me Loving Kindness. I try to maintain a balance with my practice and my family.

One Sunday while eating lunch with Morris Sekiyo Sensei, we discussed the Lay Ministry program. It wasn't long before I started with the LM 10 class. So here we are on Induction day.

I am grateful for all of the Loving Kindness and patience that I have been shown by Buddhist of all beliefs. I sincerely thank all of my Spiritual Friends along the way. I very much thank my good Wife, Family, and Extended Family. I dedicate my little efforts and any good that I have done or may do in the future for the benefit of all beings.

Alex Kakuyo Thompson



I'm a former Marine who's been practicing Buddhism since 2013. I work as a Business Analyst, and I enjoy reading, cycling, and playing with my cat, Ensō during my free time.

My time studying with Bright Dawn has been truly inspirational. When I first found the teachings of Rev. Gyomay and Rev. Koyo I was in a strange place in terms of my practice. I enjoyed learning about the Dharma, but I was having trouble applying it to my daily life.

Working through the course material, and reading books like Bright Dawn and The Center Within was hugely helpful in this respect because I got to read first-hand accounts of the Dharma that can be lived in every moment of our everyday existence. More than

that, it was helpful to read books from a wide variety of other traditions. I now feel comfortable speaking about the Dharma from an academic, philosophical, or religious context, and I didn't have that before. In summation, the only regret I have about doing the Bright Dawn lay ministry program is that I didn't do it sooner!

Jennifer Fuyo Weaver



I was introduced to Buddhism by my father who would meditate in his special room in front of a gray-stoned Buddha. Sometimes, I would peek in and try to interrupt him for attention and when he was done he would talk to me about who the statue is and why he needed to meditate. There were times when I would go to the room and hold, carry, and just talk with the statue as if it was one of my cabbage patch dolls. I always felt at ease in that room with the Buddha statue.

As an adult, the first time I made a conscious decision to get into Buddhism as a practice was when my husband started to get deployed again. We had four kids and just welcomed our fifth as he deployed a month after she was born. I found myself dealing with so many things that I knew I needed something to keep me grounded. I started going to a Kadampa center and it helped me and my kids through that time.

Pretty soon after my husband returned we had to move to Japan and we ended up moving to a small Island off of the mainland for four years. During that time, I could not find any temples that did Buddhist services in English.

I ended up just looking things up online and reading books. It became less about going to a temple and more about me knowing what I needed to make my life feel whole. I was looking through some of my metaphysical groups and ended up conversing with Tamu Hoyo Ngina Sensei. We talked about balancing who we are and our interests and then I learned about Bright Dawn from her.

2018 Inductees continues on page 4

I looked them up and knew I wanted to be a part of it. It was my chance to be able to put more of a concerted commitment towards learning about the Dharma myself and how we can fit into each others lives. Finishing the lay ministry program I can say I was able to achieve that. I now have the ability to express who I am in the now. I gained a much needed perspective into the causes of some of my issues, learned some great tools that have proven to be so helpful in my everyday life, and was introduced to some of the varying degrees and philosophies of Buddhism. I loved that none of this was only accomplished through the books in the curriculum, but through our discussions with Rev. Koyo Sensei, our guest Senseis and Sans in our lay minister group. I always thought I would have to choose one of the specific philosophies of Buddhism and only do that to be able to truly say I am a Buddhist. That is no longer a reoccurring thought of mine. I am so thankful for Bright Dawn and their inclusiveness. I have different practices from other philosophies and traditions and I'm ok with that and so is Bright Dawn. So I am really excited to get to be a part of the Bright Dawn family and officially get to call it my home as I continue my work with the Dharma. Thank you to Rev. Koyo Sensei, Adrienne Sensei, and all the Senseis and Sans.

An Old Master of Radiant Spirit Walks the Bright Dawn Path

*He knows by heart
the plants and boulders
along the way,
yet never fails
to see something new.*

*Dogs and students
run here and there.*

*Jizo rattles his staff!
A pine splits a rock!
A sanctuary rises from ancient granite!*

*Peacocks and hummingbirds his neighbors,
sun dried moss his stone seat.*

Ginny Geiyo

JUST LIVE!

by Rev. Koyo Kubose

As part of the Induction Ceremony, each inductee offered incense using Rev. Gyomay Kubose's ojuzu beads, while wearing his teacher Rev. Haya Akegarasu's okesa neck stole. Handling these "sacred" religious objects was a moving experience for me too, as I felt a deep connection to the living presence of our past teachers.

After the Induction weekend, I thought about my father's life and decided to write an article for our Oneness newsletter based on material from the video Life of Oneness, which gives an introduction to Rev. Gyomay Kubose's spirituality. By the way, this twelve-minute video can be accessed on our brightdawn.org website. First click on "History of our Founders" and then "Rev. Gyomay Kubose."

As I formulated what I wanted to say in my article, I thought I'd view the video again. What I discovered is the reconstructive ability of my memory. According to my memory, I thought the narrator in the video had said something like, "Rev. Kubose's main koan is 'Just Live!'" As it turned out, the word "koan" was not used; instead, the word used was "riddle." This is understandable since "koan" is a rather esoteric Buddhist term. What the narrator said was, "Buddhist teachers are famous for their riddles. Rev. Kubose's riddle is 'Live Life.'" My memory had turned "Live Life" into "Just Live!"

In the video, I mention how my stay in Japan enabled me to understand better my father's life. He is like a huge, silent bell, whose sound when struck depends upon the object used to hit the bell. If a small stick is used, the resulting sound is a shallow "ping." Whereas if a large log is used, the result is a deep, loud, long-lasting sound.

One purpose of the video was to point to what is meant by "Oneness." The narrator stated that "... Oneness is not an idea; it is something to be lived." The video ends with a comment on the phrase "Live Life" and alludes to how Rev. Kubose was able to overcome an early tragic family situation and also the hardships of WWII internment.

The Life of Oneness video concludes with "... forget self pity; there's no argument; there's no discussion; there's only life... living... shining..."



ANIMAL PUPPET ANTICS

by Dharma Dan



BDC's animal hand-puppet collection is housed among the inside rafters of the SPOT. The SPOT is a small 10' X 12' meditation room. Each LM class gathers in the SPOT on the Sunday morning just before their Induction Ceremony that is held in the Sanctuary.

From my perch on a ledge below the roof rafters, I observe as Rev. Koyo gives words of advice to the graduating class. Included in his remarks is a description of some of the animal hand puppets. I consider all of these guys my Dharma Buddies. Each of them has helped Rev. Koyo give Dharma talks to children during his 35-year ministerial career.



There is not enough space to mention all of what Rev. Koyo shared with this year's LM10 class. One favorite example is the story behind a Mr. Beaver hand-puppet. Back in the day, Rev. Koyo used to go for a sunrise walk on a path next to Lake Michigan in Evanston, which is a suburb just north of Chicago. Northwestern University has a lagoon next to the lake and a small bridge goes over the entrance to the lagoon. Next to this bridge is a pile of sticks pushed against the shore, and is the home of a beaver. Nearby trees give evidence that a beaver is living there. Whenever Rev. Koyo crossed the bridge, he would glance at the beaver house, hoping to see a live beaver. No such luck... then one morning he saw a beaver leave his house. The beaver was swimming just below the

surface of the water and then went deeper out of sight. After a few seconds he swam back to his house. Then four or five golden nuggets floated to the surface of the water. Rev. Koyo immediately knew he had been given a good life teaching, "Don't poop where you live!" All animals instinctively know this.

What about you humans? You should consider mean, angry speech the equivalent of poop. It is usually your own family members that you yell at, when you lose patience over trivial things during everyday activities. Please follow the example of Mr. Beaver and don't poop in your own house where you live.

Over the years, Rev. Koyo has been given all kinds of animal hand-puppets, from Kermit the "It's Hard To Be Green" frog; Oscar the Grouch who always wants cookies, to Power Rangers; turtles; and a flying roach from Hawaii, There's Disney's Mickey Mouse and a Mickey Mouse Club hat, with Dharma Wheels taped over his two round ears! Great teaching requires great listening. Not to leave Warner Brothers out, there's Bugs Bunny, with his long ears. There's also a full-sized Dallas Cowboys football helmet with Dharma Wheels pasted over the Cowboys insignia. Let's go Dharma team!

Rev. Koyo finished up his remarks with a new ritual that he used last year for the first time. He described how a football team would huddle together on the sidelines before a game. After some rah, rah words, they would put their hands toward the center and one of them would say something like, "Bears, on three!" They would bounce their hands up and down three times and yell, "Bears!" as everyone threw their arms straight up.

After explaining all this, Rev. Koyo stuck his hand forward and as everyone put their hands on top of his, he said, "Dharma on three." They all bounced their hands up and down three times and yelled, "Dharma!" Then it was off to the Induction Ceremony.

Oneness Newsletter Summer 2018

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and a guest Lay Minister

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The purpose of the Bright Dawn Center is to offer a non-sectarian, non-dualistic approach, the Way of Oneness, to deepen individual spirituality in everyday life for people of all backgrounds

- 3. In a 20' X 30' area next to the Altar Rock is a planned future Memorial Garden. Mounted on a near-by boulder is a 2' X 3' bronze plaque of a major BDC reading titled "The Dharma Is My Rock."
- 4. In our "Oneness Orchard" the following trees are planted: plum (for umeboshi); two pomegranate (one is a cutting from Don & Joyce's ranch in Fowler); one peach (gotten free from Craig's List); three cherry, three fig, a walnut tree; and several blueberry bushes.
- 5. On the back side of a 5' X 10' boulder is a neat, natural stone seat. Rev Koyo teaches visitors who sit on this "Hidden Dharma Throne"

- how to receive a one-word teaching in just five minutes.
- 6. A pine tree has dramatically broken through a large boulder at its base, majestically towering over 40' high. This pine used to be known as the "Power Pine" but later came to be called the "B-- A-- Pine." Ask Rev Koyo to tell you the story behind this re-naming.
- 7. The Sierra Sanctuary was dedicated in March, 2015. LM Inductions that used to be held at the Altar Rock are now held inside the Sanctuary. Visitors can stay in the Sanctuary, sleeping on air beds, using folding screens for privacy.
- 8. In eleven 4' X 20' raised-beds are grown a wide variety of vegetables:

- artichokes, asparagus, corn, beets, broccoli, carrots, daikon, garlic, gobo, green beans, melons, onions, peas, potatoes, radish, squash, sweet potato, tomato, turnips, yamai imo.
- 9. A fifty-foot diameter labyrinth walking path is a work in progress.
- 10. The back patio is filled with many humming birds feeding at sugar-water feeders..
- 11. A small meditation room is housed in a 10' X 12' structure that is called the SPOT (Special Place of Tranquility). This SPOT contains artifacts from Rev. Gyomay Kubose's office, and also is the home for Rev. Koyo's animal hand-puppet collection, including Dharma Dan.

Acknowledgements with Gratitude **Supporters from Sales and Donations**

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In Memory of

- Don A. Kubose
- Ronald Misaki
- Husband Morris
- Rev. Gyomay and Minnie Kubose
- Don T. Koizumi
- Don Akeru Kubose
- Don A. Kubose
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- Misu Miyata; Don Koizumi
- Hisa Chino
- Past Loved Ones
- Marie Shiromoto
- Stanley Kushida
- Richard Zenyo Brandon
- Our Parents

- In Honor of BDC LM Sangha
- Happy Hanamatsuri
- In appreciation for Oneness

When submitting donations, please list your name exactly as you wish it to appear in the Oneness newsletter. Acknowledgments are current as of May 27, 2018. Donations received after this date will be listed in the next issue. If we have missed an acknowledgment, please let us know by email at: brightdawn@kubose.com.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Not only is making a memorial donation a way to remember and honor a loved one, it is a karmic action that fosters awareness of the two main teachings of interdependency and impermanence. Acknowledging one's "roots" also nurtures a feeling of gratitude, which is the foundation of a spiritual life. A memorial donation does all this and at the same time helps support the mission of a worthy organization of one's choice.

BOOK LIST

Book by Rev. Koyo Kubose

BRIGHT DAWN: Discovering Your Everyday Spirituality. Describes the author's daily morning ritual and how ordinary things and activities can deepen one's spirituality. 152 pages.

Books by Rev. Gyomay Kubose

EVERYDAY SUCHNESS. A classic collection of short articles first published in 1967, hailed as one of the most significant books in Buddhism because of its simple explanations and reference to everyday life. 142 pages.

THE CENTER WITHIN. Continues the approach of "Everyday Suchness." Collection of 58 essays of down-to-earth teachings for a richer, more meaningful life. 134 pages.

AMERICAN BUDDHISM. Covers a brief history of Buddhism in America, problems in terminology and misunderstandings common to Westerners. 29 pages.

ZEN KOANS. Commentary on over 200 classical and modern koans. Insights and life teachings applicable to all Buddhists. 274 pages.

Translations by Rev. Gyomay Kubose

THE FUNDAMENTAL SPIRIT OF BUDDHISM by Haya Akegarasu (Rev. Gyomay Kubose's teacher). Translated by Rev. Kubose. 99 pages.

TAN BUTSU GE. (Translation and commentary). This sutra tells the story of Dharmakara who became Amitabha, the Buddha of Infinite Life and Light. 56 pages.

HEART OF THE GREAT WISDOM SUTRA. (Translation and commentary). This sutra deals with the teachings of non-self and nothingness. 35 pages.

Other Recommended Books

BUDDHIST SYMBOLS. Handy brochure explaining common Buddhist symbols. Quad-fold.

BUDDHISM: Path of Enlightenment. Simple, concise introduction to basic Buddhism. Teachings are superimposed on beautiful full-color photographs of nature scenes such as water ponds, rock gardens, a bamboo grove, etc. 20 pages.

COFFINMAN by Shinmon Aoki. This diary of a mortician invites the reader into the fascinating world of Buddhist spirituality which sees the extraordinary in things ordinary, mundane, and even repugnant. 142 pages.

DISCOVERING BUDDHISM IN EVERYDAY LIFE by Marvin Harada 2011. In commemoration of his 25 years of ministry at the Orange County Buddhist Church, over 40 essays by Rev. Harada were selected from past monthly newsletters. 128 pages.

RIVER OF FIRE, RIVER OF WATER by Taitetsu Unno. Introduces the Pure Land tradition of Shin Buddhism using personal anecdotes, stories, and poetry. With spiritual insight and unparalleled scholarship, this book is an important step forward for Buddhism in America. 244 pages.

THE ART OF TAKING ACTION by Gregg Krech. Draws on Eastern philosophy, Buddhism, Japanese psychology, Zen, and martial arts to offer an approach to ACTION that goes beyond productivity and time management. 216 pages.

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Books by Rev. Gyomay Kubose			
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Center Within.....	\$12.00	_____	_____
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Books by Bright Dawn Center Lay Ministers			
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of Oneness Buddhism
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YES YES Your Everyday Spirituality YES YES

JUN	<p>Theme: Commencement Purpose: Everyone Is Graduating Method: "Moving Your Tassel:" A tassel hangs from a graduation mortarboard cap and is moved from one side to the other after receiving one's graduation certificate. Even without a mortarboard, you can make this tassel-moving gesture from one side of your head to the other. Do this any time you feel you have accomplished something during any activity; for example, after driving safely to some location; after cooking a meal; or after vacuuming the house. This is a mindful way to celebrate what you do; that is, you've "graduated" and become a safe driver, a great chef, or an accomplished house cleaner.</p>
JUL	<p>Theme: Celebrating Independence Holiday Purpose: Appreciating Religious Freedom Method: "Triple Fireworks:" Hold up your closed fist and quickly open your hand, representing exploding fireworks. Do this three times to symbolize three kinds of religious freedom: freedom of religion; freedom from religion; and freedom within a religion. We should appreciate religious diversity, atheism, and also encourage individuals within a given religion to personalize religious teachings and make them relevant in their lives, rather than blindly follow dogmatic teachings.</p>
AUG	<p>Theme: Summer Heat Purpose: Appreciating Modern Technology Method: It is easy to take modern A/C for granted. Wipe the fingers of your hand across your forehead and flick off imaginary sweat; then break into a big, happy smile as you say to yourself, "Thank the Dharma for A/C!" Try to creatively make up gestures to remind yourself of any technological advances that make your life easier.</p>

Mailing List Update: If you are already on our mailing list and wish to remain on the list, no action is necessary. We are happy to continue sending our newsletter to all interested persons. If you know someone who would like to be added or removed from our mailing list, please email us at brightdawn@kubose.com or indicate below and send to: Bright Dawn Center, 28372 Margaret Road, Coarsegold, CA 93614

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