



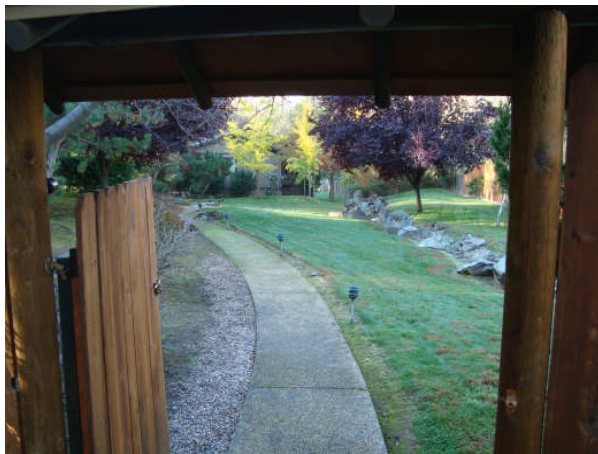
明澄庵会

MYO CHO AN KAI NEWSLETTER

No. 31

JANUARY 2010

2009 SOTANKI AT MYOCHOAN



Enter the garden through the gate and then make your way to the teahouse and garden.

Sotanki Chakai was held at Myochoan on November 14, 2009. This Chakai honors Rikyu's grandson, Genpaku Sotan, who advanced the Wabi style of tea.

Sori (Noriko) Nagato hosted usucha in the Honseki room with Shokyaku (first guest) Linda Mathews who came all the way from Santa Barbara to be with us. Soshin (Katie) Nitta was hanto.



Then Patricia Payne hosted usucha in the Ryurei room with Shoko Takegoshi as hanto. Afterward, Soshin Nitta showed guests the Diame room.

2009 SOTANKI AT MYOCHOAN (Continued)

After the tea ceremonies, Ward Sensei hosted students and guests for a beautifully prepared seasonal meal at her home.



Ward Sensei with students and guests at Sotanki.

WARD SENSEI RECEIVES CERTIFICATE IN KYOTO

Ward Sensei was presented with Sie Kyoju by Grand Master Zabosai Oiemoto in Kyoto last month. Sie Kyoju is a high teaching certificate in Urasenke. While she was there she visited with former Myochoan students in Tokyo. Myoko Kishi made all the arrangements for a very nice visit.



Takako Takagi, Ward Sensei, Atsuko Yoshida, Myoko Kishi, and Yumiko Sekine at Ukai Toriyama restaurant

Ward Sensei conducts a lesson with Myoko



MYOCHOAN KAI CELEBRATES JOYAGAMA



Shoko prepares tea for Ward Sensei and Roger



Patricia prepares tea for Liz and Chuck

Joyagama, the final tea gathering of the year, is a time to share tea with friends and enjoy memories of the past year. It is a time to welcome the New Year as we bid farewell to the old. Ward Sensei hosted Joyagama on December 30, 2009 for the members of Myochoan Kai and their families. The students practice all year and then share what they have learned by choosing the room and procedure that they want to do.



Soshin cleans the natsume.



Patricia serves tea to Gloria and Trix

Shoko Takegoshi hosted koicha in Honseki with Ward Sensei as Shokyaku (first guest) and Soshin (Katie) Nitta as hanto. Then Patricia Payne hosted usucha in Honseki, with Elizabeth Parker as Shokyaku (first guest) . Next, Nobuko Clark hosted usucha in Honseki with Soshin Nitta as Shokyaku (first guest) . The last tea was usucha hosted by Soshin Nitta in The Ryurei room with Nobuko Clark as Shokyaku (first guest) and Patricia Payne hanto.

MYOCHOAN KAI CELEBRATES JOYAGAMA (continued)

Nobuko prepares tea for Soshin and Patricia



Ward Sensei with students and guests



Ward Sensei with students in her new kitchen, preparing the traditional Toshikoshi Shoba (end of the year meal that connects the past year with the upcoming year)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tea Demonstration at Del Oro High School

The First United Methodist Church of Penryn, California, of which Ward Sensei and her husband are members, will hold their 53rd Annual Bazaar at Del Oro High School in Loomis, California on 6 March 2010. Ward Sensei and her students will be offering Tea Ceremony demonstrations several times during the day.

Rikyu-ki

Rikyu-ki, will be held in March, 2010. The specific date will be announced soon. For more information, contact Ward Sensei.

Mugen-ki

Mugen-ki is held in July. We also have a pot luck summer tea gathering that is sometimes held in conjunction with Mugen-ki.

Sotan-ki

Sotan-ki will be held in November 2010.

Ward Sensei will be holding the following classes with time, date, and frequency dependent on interest and participation by members.

1. Zen lecture by Roger Rapp
2. How to be a guest
3. How to prepare the tearoom for chakai (members only)
4. Cooking for the chakai
5. Tea ceremony (students)

Lectures will be held every two or three months. Teaching will be three days a week. Please contact Ward Sensei with your interest and when you would be available.

MYO CHO AN KAI MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations are in order for Katie (Soshin Nitta) on her scholastic record. She is in law school and last semester ranked number three out of two hundred students.

We are happy to report that Roger Rapp will be spending more time in California this year and long time member Steve Vilter and his wife will be returning to California in early summer.

MYO CHO AN KAI MEMBER NEWS (Continued)



Nina and Steve Vilter horseback riding in New Zealand

BECOME A MEMBER OF MYO CHO AN KAI

Myo Cho An Kai is Ward Sensei's organization, dedicated to practicing and promoting awareness of Urasenke Chado. Members have the opportunity to take lessons in Chado from Sensei Ward and to participate in tea gatherings and other activities throughout the year. Members also receive the Myo Cho An Kai newsletter. To become a member, please contact Ward Sensei (916-663-3436). ■

CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER

We welcome your contributions to the Myo Cho An Kai newsletter. Please contact Ward Sensei if you would like to write an article for the newsletter or have other items of interest to our readers. The newsletter is edited by Chuck Jamison. ■