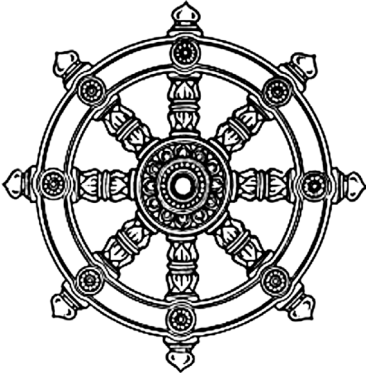


**Resident  
Minister**  
Rev. Matt Hamasaki



In April, we celebrate Hanamatsuri (literally Flower Festival), which commemorates the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, who would eventually become the Buddha. Legend tells of the auspicious birth in Lumbini's Garden when all the flowers burst into bloom and sweet tea rained from the sky. Thus, our tradition is to have a statue of the baby Buddha in the Hanamido (literally Flower Hall) which is decorated in flowers. It is the one time a year that we pull this special statue out of storage and have a unique and ornate offering. Recently, I have developed a newfound appreciation for this statue.

The truth of impermanence means we are losing more and more of the Nisei generation as they, as a whole, grow older. There is a small silver lining here, though, as we begin to uncover more about their lives, especially their early lives, after they pass away. And one aspect which, although we do speak about it frequently, was often not mentioned in life, is the time in the internment camps. So, learning more about this difficult but influential time for our predecessors opens insight into their sacrifices and also their ingenuity.

Practicing Buddhism was all but forbidden in camp. They didn't want Japanese to be spoken for fear of spy messages being spread and of course there was no altar area available. This did not stop the services from happening and they did with what they had. At one camp, a man snuck into the kitchen and carved a baby Buddha out of a carrot and other internees combined the sugar they were rationed to make sweet coffee

(Continued on page 2)

**Buddhist Church of Sacramento**  
2401 Riverside Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95818

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# SANGHA

**Sacramento Buddhist Church**  
**Volume 61 Number 4 - April 2024**

**Sacramento  
Betsuin**  
2401 Riverside Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95818  
  
(916) 446-0121  
(916) 446-1866 FAX  
  
betsuinoffice@gmail.com

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## Resident Minister

(Continued)

## President's Message

Karen Adachi



Reverend Yuki Sugahara  
(916) 834-7350  
yukisugahara10012022@buddhistchurch.org



Reverend Matt Hamasaki  
(916) 926-2221  
revmatt@buddhistchurch.org

### SANGHA submissions

Submissions for the SANGHA are **due** on the **15th** of each month. Late articles will be published in the following month's issue.

When submitting, please send email to: **SBCsangha@gmail.com** with a cc to: **betsuinoffice@gmail.com** and inform the church office at (916) 446-0121. Please include the author's name.

**Artwork, including photographs, needs to be sent as separate files from the text.** Thank you.

### Sangha Helpers

Meriko Hoshida  
Yvonne Ishimoto  
Lori Itow  
Shirley Kato  
Janet Kawamura  
Jane Komure  
Peggy Mori  
Lynn Sunahara  
Fusako Takahashi  
Virginia Uchida  
Elaine Yoshikawa

to pour over it. In another camp, for lack of flowers, they dyed toilet paper red with beet juice and folded them into flowers.

To me, more than how fancy the set-up may be, the care and effort put into these altars would make the Buddha smile. It reflects their dedication and how much they treasure the Buddhist teachings — that no matter what situation they get put in, they revere and take refuge in the Buddha-Dharma. It is a lesson for me and for all of us to recognize how fortunate we are currently and to reexamine our own devotion to the teachings.

Last month, I wrote about the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) National Council meeting that was organized by the Northern California temples and hosted by our temple. Over 200 delegates, ministers and guests from all over the BCA, Canada and Hawaii descended upon our temple from Friday, February 23 through Sunday, February 25. Since that weekend, we have received many congratulatory messages and words of appreciation for hosting this event. Participants have commented on how organized the event was, how smoothly everything ran, how hospitable the hosting temples were, how wonderful the food was, and how great it was for everyone to be together again. It was so nice to see people reconnecting after three years of virtual National Council meetings, and others meeting for the first time after seeing each other on a computer screen the last three years.

Highlights of the weekend included a special appearance by the Grateful Crane Ensemble, who performed a musical written specifically about the BCA's 125-year history. The show ended with over 200 people attending the Saturday night banquet Obon dancing to Tanko Bushi.

On Sunday morning, the BCA Eitaikyo Service included a special ceremonial chant led by Bishop Marvin Harada and Reverend Yuki, and a meaningful message from newly retired minister Reverend Ron Miyamura from the Midwest Buddhist Temple in Chicago. At this service, our Betsuin Choir debuted the gatha "Amida's Light." The lyrics to "Amida's Light" were written by our own Gayle Kono, who was the winner of the BCA's Gatha Lyrics Writing Contest Adult Division in 2023. Professional composer Shinji Eshima wrote music to Gayle's lyrics and our Betsuin Choir learned the song and performed it at the Eitaikyo service. Composer Eshima attended the service to hear "Amida's Light" for the first time. In a thank you note to the Betsuin, he commented on how he was so moved by the entire Eitaikyo service and thanked the choir for the beautiful presentation of "Amida's Light."

Thank you again to the members of our Board of Trustees, Adult Buddhist Association (ABA), Sacramento Buddhist Women's Association (SBWA), Boy Scout Troop 50B, Girl Scout Troop 569, the Betsuin Choir, our church staff, the members of the Northern California temples, and the BCA National Council Meeting steering committee for all their hard work that resulted in a successful National Council Meeting! We will now be able to rest up for another six years or so before we need to do this all over again!

### Opportunity Drawing

Congratulations to Audrey S. from Sacramento for being the winner of our first month's Opportunity Drawing on Sunday, February 25. Although we were unable to meet our goal of selling 300 tickets, we are able to award the full prize money amounts of \$500 per monthly drawing and \$1,000 for the final drawing in June thanks to the generosity of Board of Trustees members Sharon Ito Warren and Stuart Ito, who made up the shortfall in the prize money with their generous donations.

### Reiko Kurahara

On Friday, March 1, hundreds of temple members, family members, relatives and friends paid tribute to our beloved Reiko Kurahara, who passed away on January 28, 2024. Reiko was honored with a special church-sponsored service and was presented with an Ingo (honorary Buddhist title) in appreciation of decades of unselfish service to our temple.

Reiko was such a pillar and strong supporter of our Betsuin for almost her entire life. Over the years, thousands of people have enjoyed Reiko's good cooking and hospitality. She was the face of our annual cultural bazaar, chairing the tempura booth for over 50 years and later chairing the outdoor pastry booth. Besides running the booth, Reiko made sure all the bazaar volunteers were well-fed and appreciated.

Reiko was one who all Dharma School kids and parents looked forward to seeing every Sunday after church, with special surprise treats for everyone. She was behind the scenes at EVERY church event, making sure that everyone was well-fed. At our 2021 Bazaar-at-Home telethon, we featured Reiko in one of our segments, with appreciation for all that she has done for the church.

On behalf of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento, I would like to express our deepest sympathy to Reiko's family — son Maynard and his wife Cindy, and grandsons Garrett, Royce and Cody. Thank you for sharing Reiko with us all these years. We really miss her!

### Spring Ohigan Service

At our Spring Ohigan service on Sunday, March 17, we were very fortunate to have as our special guest speaker, Reverend Ai Hironaka of the Lahaina Hongwanji Mission in

**President's Message**  
(Continued)

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125th Anniversary	Sharon Ito
Tanoshimi Kai	Brian Hatano
Boy Scouts	Payton Ichiho
Girl Scouts	Leslie Kaneko
Dharma School	Ken Furukawa
Sakura Gakuen	Masako Thomas

**125th Anniversary Update**

Sharon Ito  
125th Anniversary Steering Committee



**125 YEARS**  
- EST. 1899 -

Maui. Reverend Hironaka shared his emotional and tragic experiences from the horrific Maui fires that took place last August.

Due to the generous donations from the Minister Assistants fund, ABA, SBWA, and the Legacy Endowment Fund Board, we were able to bring the entire Hironaka family to Sacramento. Reverend Hironaka, his wife Megumi, and his children, Kokoro, Hoken, Ayumu and Minori, were able to visit the Livermore outlets, Sacramento and San Francisco, before they returned home.

A nice reception was held after the Ohigan service, with food provided by Marty Sakata, Gordon Nitta and crew, and members of the Board of Trustees, ABA, and the SBWA. Thank you to all who contributed or helped with this reception. A special thank you is also owed to Fusako Takahashi, who made an elaborate Japanese breakfast for the family prior to the service, and the SBWA members who helped set up the beautiful dining area for the family.

Attendees to the service generously chipped in to give a substantial monetary gift to the Hironaka family to help them purchase any needed personal items. Rumor has it that they had to purchase another suitcase to take all their shopping spree items home! Thank you to all who came out to the service and thank you to Reverend Yuki for taking care of the family for their entire visit.

Stay tuned for the May issue of the SANGHA for an update on our Sakura Matsuri Food & Shopping Faire held on Saturday, March 23, 2024. Have a Happy Hanamatsuri!

**T**hank you to our SBWA members who generously donated to our Women of Jodo Shinshu Memorial Service Dana Fund. Per SBWA policy, Dana Funds are to be distributed to a church youth organization. This year, the SBWA Board of Trustees voted to split the fund equally among the seven youth organizations at the temple: Dharma School, Jr. YBA, Troop 50, Troop 50G, the Matsuyama/Sacramento Scout Exchange Program, Girl Scout Troop 569, and Cub Scout Pack 50.

Welcome to new SBWA members Marie Taketa, Diane Muraki, Keith Adachi, and Roberto McCoy! If you are not a member of SBWA, please consider joining us! Throughout the year we plan field trips, classes, and get-togethers for our members and opportunities to participate in monthly community service projects.

On February 28, 30 SBWA members and friends tried our luck on the slots and had an enjoyable lunch together at Sky River Casino. Our "group wager" did not win us the big jackpot on this trip, but maybe we will win it the next time! Thank you to Stacy Matsunami for coordinating this fun get-together.

On March 10, SBWA members visited the California Museum's exhibit "Uprooted: An American Story." This important permanent exhibit focuses on the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II and how they responded to their forced removal and incarceration. In the museum's courtyard, we viewed the impressive Constitution Wall that features sculpted words from the Constitution, including "rights," "without discrimination" and "redress." Thank you to our guide and museum docent Eileen Otsuji, who shared with us information about the many documents and artifacts on display and the camp stories told by the internees and their families.

SBWA members are currently knitting or crocheting scarves that will be distributed later this year to residents of approximately 13 care homes and facilities. Thank you to Jane Komure for coordinating the collection of the scarves, and to Lynn Kurahara for organizing our visits.

SBWA continues to provide after-service treats on the fourth Sunday of each month. If you wish to join us in preparing the refreshments, please email [SBWA2020@gmail.com](mailto:SBWA2020@gmail.com).

**Reverend Yuki on the 3 C's**

**I**n a recent Dharma talk, Reverend Yuki brought up the tagline of our 125th Anniversary celebration — "Compassion. Culture. Community." — and how the words were a part of his life from the day he was born.

Reverend Yuki is the son of a Buddhist minister and comes from a long line of Buddhist ministers. Every day he and his sister led the family's chanting before their meals. "Chanting is to appreciate Amida Buddha's great compassion. We are saying thank you to the Buddha," he explained.

Growing up, Reverend Yuki would place his report card in the obutsudan, the family altar, and with gratitude, say, "Namo Amida Butsu."

He also shared that when he misbehaved, his folks reminded him that "Amida Buddha will be sad if you do that."

And so this was the Jodo Shinshu community that shaped him.

Reverend Yuki went on to explain how culture cultivates our minds, and how he cultivated his mind with Buddha at the center.

"This teaching became the discipline of my daily actions," he said.

"Compassion. Culture. Community." — more than a tagline but a way of life.

**125th Anniversary Update**  
(Continued)

**We're celebrating our temple's 125th Anniversary with caps, cars, coins, and more!**

**Anniversary Apparel:** At the Sakura Matsuri Food & Shopping Faire on Saturday, March 23, the first anniversary-branded merchandise went on sale. You can still order your ballcaps, ¼ zip pullovers, and vinyl stickers online at [buddhistchurch.org](http://buddhistchurch.org).

**Coin Series:** The latest commemorative wood coin is now available and features the sakura (cherry blossom) icon. Please pick up your free commemorative wood coin, the second in a collector's series, at the office.

**Wheel of Dharma:** The monthly publication from the Buddhist Churches of America will feature an article by Brian Hatano on the anniversary and our temple's history, which spans three centuries.

**Sacramento Bonsai Club:** The 78th Annual Show returns to the Buddhist Church of Sacramento on Saturday, May 4, from 11 a.m.–4 p.m. A longtime community partner, the Sacramento Bonsai Club will pay tribute to the 125th anniversary.

**Cars & Coffee:** Bobby Tanaka and Russell Oto are organizing the 125th Anniversary Cars & Coffee on Saturday, May 11, from 8 a.m.–11 a.m. Join us in the temple's main parking lot for this free event featuring good company, pastries and coffee, and lots of cars.

# CARS & COFFEE



Saturday, May 11, 2024  
8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

All cars and visitors are welcome!  
Free coffee and pastries



**WHERE**

Buddhist Church of Sacramento  
Main Parking Lot  
2401 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818

**MORE DETAILS**

(916) 446-0121  
[www.buddhistchurch.org](http://www.buddhistchurch.org)

**Adult Buddhist Association**  
Jean Kashiwada

**T**hank you ABA members who helped with the bentos for the Sakura Matsuri Food & Shopping Faire. ABA and the SBWA worked together to prepare the delicious bentos, which turned out great! Thank you to Richard Kashiwada, for heading up the cooking of the chicken, and his wife, Janet, for helping me with the marinade. Thank you to my husband, Stephen, for his help with the marinade and calculating how much of the ingredients I needed to purchase. I did so many trial runs cooking the chicken beforehand that my family and others were able to sample it weeks before the event. It got the "thumbs up" from my granddaughter, Kaylee. Thank you, Gordon Nitta and Marty Sakata, for advice on ordering the ingredients. Thank you to ABA and SBWA members who volunteered to bake cookies for the bentos and to Gordon Nitta's sister, Gloria Smith, for the oranges from her tree. It did take a "temple village" to help me out!

Upcoming this month will be our shredding event on April 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Remember, no cardboard or non-paper materials. You can drive up, have your documents unloaded and be on your way. Also, if you'd like, you can park your car and watch your documents being loaded into the shredding truck.

Also this month will be our ABA Oldies Dance on April 20. Unfortunately, the dance is sold out. Those of you who purchased tickets, we will see you at 7 p.m. on April 20. Remember, you can request songs from the DJ if you want to do ballroom dancing music, line dancing, etc. He does have quite an assortment of music. Also, if you attend the dance, please bring non-perishable food that ABA can donate to the Sacramento State University Student Food Pantry.

Please come out to the 125th Anniversary activities that our church has planned this year. The activities are bringing many of our longtime members back to the temple and bringing in new members. Hope to see you on Sundays, too!

**ABA Free Shredding Event**



**Adult Buddhist Association  
Free Shredding Event  
Saturday, April 6, 2024  
9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

**Buddhist Church of Sacramento Parking Lot  
2401 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818**

**Donations Welcome**

**You won't even need to get out of your car; we will unload it for you!**

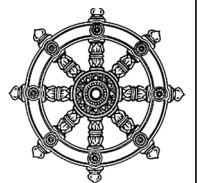
**Accepted: Paper with paper clips or staples  
Not Accepted: Cardboard or other non-paper material**

**If any questions, contact John or Elaine Yoshikawa,  
spyron@aol.com; (916) 320-2111; (916) 317-8413.**

**New Members**



*Welcome New Members*



*Nathan Guess-Pratt & Willis Pratt-Guess  
Gail Keikoan*

**2024 Family Memorial Service Schedule**

**T**raditionally, family memorial services are held for loved ones on designated anniversaries. These are precious occasions to honor the treasured memories of our beloved ones and to realize how fortunate we are to be embraced by Amida Buddha's light of wisdom and life of compassion.

Year of Death	2024 Memorial	Year of Death	2024 Memorial
2023 .....	1 year	2000 .....	25 year
2022 .....	3 year	1992 .....	33 year
2018 .....	7 year	1975 .....	50 year
2012 .....	13 year	1925 .....	100 year
2008 .....	17 year		



*Condolences to  
the Family of*



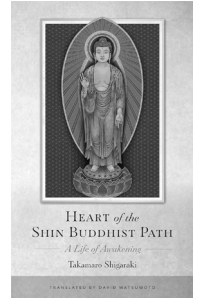
*Betty Matsuura ..... June 26, 1931-February 28, 2024*

## New Book Club Session Coming in April!

Join Reverend Matt for conversation and shared insights to learn more about the dharma!

- Four (4) 1-hour meetings: Wednesdays, April 17, 24 and May 1, 8
- Time: 6 p.m.–7 p.m.
- This session's book will be **Heart of the Shin Buddhist Path: A Life of Awakening**. The book is available in the Betsuin office for \$14. You also can find it on Amazon (paperback or Kindle):  
<https://a.co/d/fz6zFTH>

To register for Book Club, please email Reverend Matt directly at [RevMatt@buddhistchurch.org](mailto:RevMatt@buddhistchurch.org). He will provide you with the reading assignment so that you can come prepared for a lively discussion at the very first meeting!



## Sakura Gakuen

Masako Thomas  
Adult Class Dean



Some of you are planning a trip to Japan this year. We are planning a short summer class for travelers like you. You will learn basic conversation, along with travel tips, including airport process. The rules for customs and duty-free shopping have changed many times since COVID is over.

Mark your calendar for 2024 fall semester registration that will start in late May. The semester will start in the middle of August.

Details will be posted on the Sakura Gakuen website by the end of April.

Contact Mrs. Thomas at [thomas@sakuragakuen.org](mailto:thomas@sakuragakuen.org).

Please contact Tomomi Flesuras Sensei for information about the in-person Saturday Youth Program at the Sacramento Buddhist Church: [tomomi.sakuragakuen@gmail.com](mailto:tomomi.sakuragakuen@gmail.com).

## April 2024 Schedule

### Sunday Services, 9:30 a.m.

- 4/7/2024 – Family Dharma Service & Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service  
Dharma Message by Sensei Keith Kato
- 4/14/2024 – Hanamatsuri Service; followed by Dharma School Open House  
Special Guest Speaker: Rev. Mark Unno, Professor, University of Oregon
- 4/21/2024 – Family Dharma Service  
Dharma Message by Rev. Matt Hamasaki
- 4/28/2024 – Family Dharma Service  
Dharma Message by Rev. Matt Hamasaki

### Special Services, Classes

- Monday, 4/1/2024, 10 a.m.–11 a.m. – Chanting Service (Refreshments after) – Rev. Yuki
- Wednesday, 4/3/2024, 10 a.m.–11:30 a.m. – Special Dharma Service in Japanese and English (Refreshments afterward) – Rev. Yuki  
For Seniors and anyone else who would like to join us!
- Wednesday, 4/10/2024, 10 a.m.–12 noon – Japanese Dharma no Kai (Japanese Dharma Class) – Rev. Yuki
- Wednesday, 4/17/2024, 10 a.m.–11:30 a.m. – Special Dharma Service in English (Refreshments afterward) – Rev. Matt  
For Seniors and anyone else who would like to join us!
- Friday, 4/26/2024, 7 p.m. – Sacramento Buddhist School (Adult Study Class) – Rev. Yuki

### Shodoukai Shigin

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Shigin is poem-chanting and studies about Japanese culture. Students must be able to write (copy from the whiteboard) and read Japanese. Sound like fun? Please join us for this free, weekly 1-hour class.

- 4/4/2024
- 4/11/2024
- 4/18/2024
- 4/25/2024

### Tanoshimi Kai

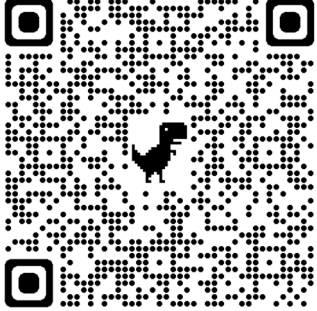
Fridays, 10 a.m. – Check-in time; Lunch at 11 a.m.

- 4/5/2024
- 4/12/2024
- 4/19/2024
- 4/26/2024

### Special Events

- Saturday, 4/6/2024, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. – FREE Shredding Event, sponsored by ABA
- Sunday, 4/14/2024, 10:15 a.m.–11 a.m. – Dharma School Open House
- Wednesday, 4/17/2024, 6 p.m.–7 p.m. – Book Club Returns!  
(subsequent meetings on 4/24, 5/1 & 5/8)
- Saturday, 4/20/2024, 7 p.m.–11 p.m. – ABA Oldies-But-Goodies Spring Dance

### Shotsuki Hoyo - Monthly Memorial Service Schedule



On the first Sunday of every month, we observe a special memorial service known as Shotsuki Hoyo. This service is dedicated as a time to remember and express gratitude for our family members and friends who have passed away during the month of the year in which the service is held. Now combined with our Family Dharma Service, Shotsuki Hoyo will be held on the following Sundays:

- April 7, 2024
- May 5, 2024
- June 2, 2024
- July 7, 2024
- August 4, 2024
- September 8, 2024
- October 6, 2024
- November 3, 2024
- December 8, 2024
- January 5, 2025

#### 3 ways to submit the name of a loved one to be read during the service:

- (Preferred) Scan the QR Code and complete the form.
- Send an email to [BetsuinOffice@gmail.com](mailto:BetsuinOffice@gmail.com). Include your name and the name of your loved one.
- Call the Betsuin Office, (916) 446-0121. Leave your name and phone number along with the name of your loved one.



If you have a Homyo card for your loved one(s), you are welcome to bring it to service to be placed on the Onaijin.

Although not required and not expected, we are grateful for any Shotsuki Hoyo donations. If you would like to send a check, please send it to "Buddhist Church of Sacramento" at 2401 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818. Please include "Shotsuki" and the name of your loved one in the memo so we can acknowledge your contribution properly. Thank you!

### Thursday Night Health & Wellness



Join us for these friendly, informative sessions. Ask questions and learn about steps you can take to ensure a healthy and happy life for yourself and those around you!

Please sign up at [BetsuinPrograms@buddhistchurch.org](mailto:BetsuinPrograms@buddhistchurch.org)  
Buddhist Church of Sacramento, 2401 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818-2233

### Health Happy Pets: The Importance of Physical and Mental Health for the Well-Being of Your Pets

Thursday, April 18, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.



Dr. Jamie Nakatani  
DVM, MPVM

### Yoga with Bob Matsueda

The Yoga for Health class is designed for any age or physical condition. Join us every Wednesday evening, 7 p.m.–8:15 p.m. Classes are conducted via Zoom by Bob Matsueda, certified yoga instructor.

New students, please contact [BetsuinPrograms@buddhistchurch.org](mailto:BetsuinPrograms@buddhistchurch.org) for more information.



**Riverside Tanoshimi Kai**  
Brian Hatano



**R**iverside Tanoshimi Kai (RTK) at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento offers a great opportunity to enjoy the company of acquaintances and make new friends. Every week, we play bingo for \$1 per card for the entire session. Winners are awarded \$2 for regular games, \$5 for the blackout game.

Choosing a “lucky” card can be a science. I’m not sure of their logic, but some of our members sift through almost the entire stock of cards before settling on “the one.” The process takes several minutes.

Not sure whether it’s from being analytical/meticulous when selecting their card, or they’re just innately charmed, but some people seem to win more than others. No telling if the frequent winners are the ones who rifled through dozens of cards, but there’s no denying any of them their process — even if it is proven that random selection works just as well.

I was reminded of bingo luck as I attended Reiko Kurahara’s memorial service in March. I remembered that at RTK, Reiko would ask me to find a card for her with the explicit instruction that it include “B-15.” (I was honored to be her go-fer.)

I don’t know why she wanted a card with B-15, but she was unwavering; she had to have B-15.

Those of us sitting at her table also felt like winners sharing a meal and socializing with her. She touched so many of us at the Buddhist Church with her kindness, charm and friendship. We all are the lucky ones to have had Reiko in our lives. Each Friday when B-15 gets called, I think of her and smile.

Seniors 60 and older are welcome to join their friends at RTK on Fridays. Check-in time starts at 10 a.m.; lunch is served at 11 a.m., followed by bingo and/or entertainment. No RSVP is necessary.

Attendees are asked (but not required) to donate \$6 to help defray costs. Guests of members who are under 60 years old can enjoy lunch for \$10. Visit every week or whenever you like, without any obligation.

If you need a ride from Maple Tree or Greenhaven Terrace, please contact ACC Rides at (916) 393-9026, ext. 333, or [rides@accsv.org](mailto:rides@accsv.org). Riverside Tanoshimi Kai is happy to pay for your round-trip fare.

**You’re Invited to Tanoshimi-kai**

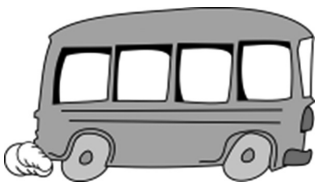
**Weekly Seniors (60+)  
Luncheon every  
Friday at 11 am**



**LUNCH + FUN!**



**Riverside Tanoshimi Kai  
Casino Bus  
Trip**



**Riverside Tanoshimi Kai  
Casino Bus Trip  
Feather Falls Casino**

**\$35/person  
Wednesday, May 29, 2024**

**Taking reservations for  
Feather Falls Casino trip**

**Contact  
Helen Sakaishi  
[hsakaishi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hsakaishi@sbcglobal.net)**

**Reserve seat by April 15 For adults 21 and over**



**2024  
Riverside Tanoshimi Kai  
Bus Trips**



**R**iverside Tanoshimi Kai (RTK) Tours have the following bus trips scheduled for this year:

- May 29, 2024..... Feather Falls Casino
- June 22, 2024..... Japan Town, Soy & Tofu Festival, San Francisco
- July 24, 2024 ..... Nugget Casino, Sparks, NV
- September 24, 2024..... Apple Hill, Red Hawk Casino
- October 5, 2024 ..... Angel Island Pilgrimage (sponsored by Nichi Bei Foundation)
- December 4, 2024..... Hard Rock Casino

We have contracted with Coach USA, formerly All West, for our bus service. The buses will be ADA compliant with a lift for those who choose to use it.

If you have any questions, please contact Helen Sakaishi by email at [hsakaishi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hsakaishi@sbcglobal.net) or call/text (916) 600-9291.



**Courtyard Refreshments**

We appreciate the following groups/members for providing refreshments or assistance for our Sunday morning courtyard refreshments (monetary donations are listed on the Donations page):

Amy Wong (cookies)

**February 25, 2024 - After BCA Eitaikyo Service**

Kim & Marty Sakata  
Gordon Nitta  
SBWA Members  
Various volunteers from the BCA National Council Meeting committee

**March 10, 2024**

ABA – Taco Salad and Nachos  
Jean Kashiwada  
Stephen Kashiwada  
Martha Kushida  
Stacy Matsunami  
Carolyn Murata  
Michael Ota  
Virginia Uchida  
Elaine Yoshikawa  
John Yoshikawa

A special thank you goes to our Courtyard Refreshment chairpersons Gordon Nitta and Marty & Kim Sakata for coordinating the after-service treats each week, and for the ABA and SBWA organizations for providing treats on the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

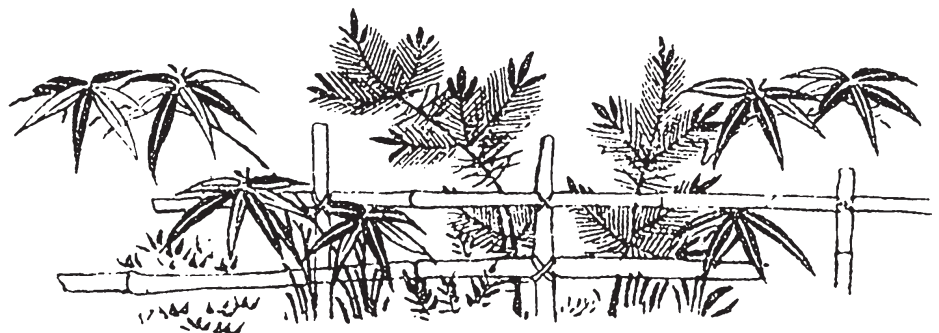
**Dharma School  
Ken Furukawa**



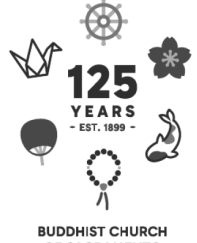
March was a busy time at the Betsuin. The Betsuin Basketball Tournament for Dharma School students with a special message from Rev. Yuki in preparation for the visit of Rev. Hironaka and family from Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii. And of course the Spring Ohigan service with the Hironaka family! We hope you and your family also enjoyed the food from the Sakura Matsuri as well!

**April has the following events:**

- 4/7 is Dharma School service with classes.
- 4/14 is Hanamatsuri and is a special service with attendance sign-in sheet, and it is Open House. Students: make sure to sign in before service begins, or when you arrive. The sheets will be removed at the end of service. Students: this is when you can show your family what you have accomplished in Dharma School!
- 4/21 is Dharma School service with classes.
- 4/27 (Saturday) is the Federation of Dharma School Teachers League Conference in Mountain View.
- 4/28 (Sunday) is Family Service.



**14th Annual  
SBC Golf  
Tournament**



**Buddhist Church of Sacramento**  
**14th Annual Golf Tournament**  
**Wednesday, July 17, 2024**  
**Teal Bend Golf Course**

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF SACRAMENTO

**Dear Members and Friends of the Sacramento Buddhist Church,**

You are cordially invited to participate in the 14th Annual Sacramento Buddhist Church (SBC) Golf Tournament at the Teal Bend Golf Course on Thursday, July 17, 2024. This event will be one of several annual events featured in the 125th Year of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento. Be sure to submit your entry form as soon as possible as tee times are limited for this event.

**14th Annual  
SBC Golf  
Tournament  
(Continued)**

The SBC Golf Tournament has been a successful and popular fundraiser for the temple, and we look forward to another enjoyable event this year. The net proceeds raised by this event are earmarked for capital improvement projects. Your previous support enabled the Golf Tournament Committee to pay in full or part of the costs of Capital Improvement Projects such as: remodeling of the resident minister’s house, adding security gates and perimeter fencing for the temple’s parking lot, and replacement of the building’s HVAC system.

The tournament will include a round of golf and a shared cart, tee prizes, morning pastries and coffee, on-course beverages, and a post-tournament lunch. A portion of the entry fee will include a monetary donation to the Sacramento Buddhist Church. Tournament participants may also purchase bonus packs for \$25 each, which consist of 20 tournament opportunity drawing tickets, two mulligans, and two miracle putts.

# Sponsorship and Donation Form



BUDDHIST CHURCH OF SACRAMENTO

*Compassion. Culture. Community.*

### SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

**\$1,000 – Gold Sponsorship:**

Includes Tee Box Sign recognition, four complimentary tournament entry fees, golf cart, lunch, refreshments, and tee prizes.

**\$500 – Silver Sponsorship:**

Includes Tee Box Sign recognition, two complimentary tournament entry fees, golf cart, lunch, refreshments, and tee prizes.

**\$250 – Bronze Sponsorship:**

Includes Tee Box Sign recognition, one complimentary tournament entry fee, golf cart, lunch, refreshments, and tee prizes.

**\$125 – In Memory Of, Individual and/or Group Sponsorship** includes Tee Box Sign recognition.

### SUGGESTED MONETARY AND/OR IN-KIND DONATIONS

**Check-In Tee Prizes**

Donation of golf tees, balls, ball markers, divot repair, etc. to give to each golfer.

**Snack/Dinner Items**

Miscellaneous refreshments, snacks, or food items.

**Tournament Raffle Prizes**

Unused golf clubs, head covers, golf apparel, dry goods, food items, restaurant gift certificates, etc.

**Cash**

Used to offset the cost of check-in tee prizes, luncheon raffle prizes or other related expenses.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**Deadline:** June 10, 2024

**Fed Tax ID:** 94-1243674

**Sponsorship:** I/We would like to be a sponsor in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Please indicate:  Gold Sponsor       Silver Sponsor       Bronze Sponsor

In Memory Of, Individual and/or Group: Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Raffle Prize/Donation:** I/We would like to make a donation of \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor/Donor Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:** SBC Golf Tournament, 899 Shore Breeze Drive, Sacramento, CA 95831  
Church Phone: 916-446-0121

**14th Annual SBC Golf Tournament**  
(Continued)

In addition to supporting this fundraiser by participating in the tournament, there are also tee box sponsorship opportunities at different levels (gold, silver, bronze, or individual, "In Memory Of," and group sponsorships). Monetary donations to help defray the cost of tournament expenses or in-kind donations of Opportunity Drawing prizes, tee pack contents, or refreshments/snacks will also be greatly appreciated.

The forms and tournament information are also available at the SBC's website at [www.buddhistchurch.org](http://www.buddhistchurch.org). Please contact the SBC tournament committee by email at [betsuingolf@gmail.com](mailto:betsuingolf@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**14th Annual Golf Tournament**  
**Sacramento Buddhist Church**

**Wednesday, July 17, 2024**

Teal Bend Golf Course

7200 Garden Highway, Sacramento

Check-in at 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM Shotgun Start



BUDDHIST CHURCH OF SACRAMENTO

*Compassion. Culture. Community.*

- The field is limited to 144 players (two players per cart).
- You may sign up as a single, twosome, threesome, or foursome.
- The tournament format is a four-person Blind Draw Shamble.
- Team prizes will be awarded to four places and individual closest-to-the-pin on Par 3 holes.
- Entry fee is based on sponsorship level or \$140 per player. It covers green fees, cart, tee gift, refreshments, and after-round lunch at the church.
- Additional box lunches may be purchased at \$25 each.
- Please direct questions to: [BetsuinGolf@gmail.com](mailto:BetsuinGolf@gmail.com)

**Registration Deadline: June 10, 2024**

**BONUS PACKS**

For \$25, you can purchase 2 mulligans, 2 miracle putts, and 20 raffle tickets on this entry form.

We are not selling bonus packs on the day of the tournament.

Raffle tickets will be drawn digitally.

Golfer(s)	Confirmation to: Email Address or Text Phone #	Index	Sponsor Level*	No. Bonus Pack(s)
1				
Golf Shirt: <input type="checkbox"/> Men's <input type="checkbox"/> Women's	Size: <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL <input type="checkbox"/> XXXL			
2				
Golf Shirt: <input type="checkbox"/> Men's <input type="checkbox"/> Women's	Size: <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL <input type="checkbox"/> XXXL			
3				
Golf Shirt: <input type="checkbox"/> Men's <input type="checkbox"/> Women's	Size: <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL <input type="checkbox"/> XXXL			
4				
Golf Shirt: <input type="checkbox"/> Men's <input type="checkbox"/> Women's	Size: <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL <input type="checkbox"/> XXXL			

**\* Sponsor and Entry Options:**

- G = Gold Level Entry (includes 4 complimentary entry fees) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$1,000 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- S = Silver Level Entry (includes 2 complimentary entry fees) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 500 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- B = Bronze Level Entry (includes 1 complimentary entry fee) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 250 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- SE = Single Entry; Number of Golfers: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 140 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of Additional Bento Box Lunches: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 25 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of Bonus Packs: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 25 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:**

\$

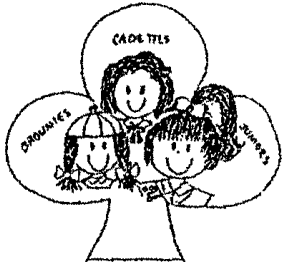
**Please make check(s) payable to:**  
and mail to:

**Sacramento Buddhist Church**  
SBC Golf Tournament  
899 Shore Breeze Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95831

Checks will be cashed after the completion of the tournament.  
Federal Tax ID: 94-1243674

Completed "saved" form may be emailed to: [BetsuinGolf@gmail.com](mailto:BetsuinGolf@gmail.com).

**Girl Scout Troop 569**  
Leslie Kaneko



**T**roop 569 celebrated their 32nd Anniversary of scouting at the Betsuin. On March 15, they celebrated by integrating speakers for World Thinking Day and a reception. Former 569 Girl Scouts

Jamie Hattori (Japan), Erin Lew (Mongolia), Olivia Wong (Los Angeles), and Allison Yamamoto (France), returned to present their experiences abroad to our current scouts. They spoke about the lifelong skills they learned from scouting that helped them each strive to experience new life activities that would shape their lives and careers.

Another Girl Scout cookie season has come to an end. The girls learned money management and worked on their communication skills while earning money to use for their community service projects, activities, and award projects. The girls would like to thank their cookie customers for purchasing from them and helping them fundraise. They also would like to thank the parents who helped distribute cookies, work at booths and the people who volunteered their time at Megadrop: Josh Mua, Michelle Taylor, Matthew Atajar, Chris Sambajon, Traci Sauer, Jennifer Gravvat, Hannah Gravvat, Karen Kurasaki, Maya Koike and Heather Koike.



They hiked, sledged, built snowmen and had snowball fights. They ended their day learning about the ration in the Donner Memorial State Park Museum, where they completed a scavenger hunt and earned a junior ranger pin to add to their uniforms.

Daisy 2 started earning their Daisy Petal badges and Trolls It Takes Two fun patch.

Brownies have been learning to hand sew and use a sewing machine. They are making cat toys to donate to the animal shelter.



**Boy Scout Troop 50**  
Payton Ichiho



**F**ebruary was a busy month for Troop 50, with many events. We started the month with a Green Bar meeting where the scouts talked about future events throughout the year. We also had a scout meeting, where the senior scouts in charge, Jadon Lin-Yuke and Aiden Kato, led a discussion about financial management.

Every year, the Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to scouting. On February 4, many of our scouts participated in this annual event, and Senior Patrol Leader Jay Giang was one of the speakers. Thank you to the Sacramento Buddhist Church for recognizing Troop 50.

In February and early March, our two Life Scouts, Conner Yee and Kenny Kim, worked on their Eagle projects. Many scouts and parents came out to both projects to work on refurbishing benches, planting a new landscape with a new water-saving irrigation system, and fixing a fence. Good luck to Conner and Kenny with their Eagle!

On February 25, many of our scouts and family members went to Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. We drove to Tiburon and then took a ferry from Tiburon to Angel Island. Once we were on the island, we hiked to the Angel Island Immigration Station. It was so moving to see where approximately 500,000 immigrants were stationed when they arrived in the United States. We then hiked to the top of the island, where we were able to see a 360-degree view of the Bay Area. It was a great day trip, enjoyed by the scouts and family.

We have many more events in the coming months that we look forward to sharing with the sangha. Thank you for your continued support!

勝者は出ませんでした。次回をお楽しみに。松波ステシーさん、お世話になりました。

3月10日、「Uprooted: An American Story」の展示(CA Museum)を大辻アイリーンさんにガイドをして頂いて見学。

現在、13人のケアホーム入居者のために、有志の方々によってスカーフを編んで頂いています。小牟礼ジェーンさんが編み物、倉原リンさんがケアホーム訪問をそれぞれオーガナイズされています。

婦人会は毎月第4週日曜日のサービス後のスナックを提供しています。お手伝いしたい方は [Sbwa2020@gmail.com](mailto:Sbwa2020@gmail.com) にメールして下さい。

## 理事長のメッセージ

### 足立カレン

2月23日より25日まで北加教区の主催で開催されたBCA-NC会議は200名以上の代表者、開教使やゲストがBCA、カナダ、ハワイから集まりました。

この会議の運行が大変好評を博したようで、嬉しく思います。参加者の皆様が3年振りの対面で交流を楽しまれました。

この会議のハイライトは「Grateful Crane Ensemble」によるBCAの125年の歴史を祝ったミュージカル公演でした。土曜日の晩餐会は盆踊りで炭鋤節を踊り幕を閉じました。

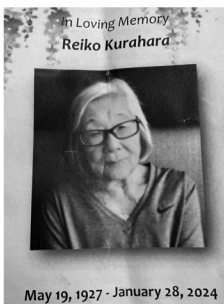
日曜日の朝、永代経サービスが原田総長と菅原輪番のよって営まれ、中西部仏教会を引退されたばかりの宮村ロン師が特別講師でした。別院コワイアが「阿弥陀の光」(河野ゲイル作詞、江島シンジ作曲)を初演。作曲家の江島シンジ氏もサービスに参加された。

このBCA-NC会議のために貢献した別院の理事、ABA、SBWA、ボーイスカウト、ガールスカウト、別院コワイア、別院スタッフ、北加教区の各仏教会、BCANCMコミティメンバーの皆様に深く感謝いたします。6年後に再び北加教区が主催するまで休んで下さい。

### 「Opportunity Drawing」

2月25日の当選者、瀬尾オードリーさん、おめでとう！300枚の券を売り切ることができませんでしたが、別院理事の伊藤シャロンさんと伊藤スチュワートさんが不足分を寄付されましたので各月500ドル、6月の最終賞1000ドルの賞金が授与されます。

### 倉原れい子さん



3月1日、長年別院に貢献した倉原れい子さん(1月28日死去)のメモリアルサービスが別院主催で営まれました。別院から院号が授与されました。

別院の大黒柱として生涯を別院のために尽くしたれいさんはバザーの天ぷらブースを50年続け、その後は屋外のペストリーブースを受け持っていました。ダーマスクールの父兄や子供達はれいさんのトリートを楽しみにしていました。別院のあらゆるイベントで食べ物の接待を受け持っていました。

サクラメント別院一同に代わって、深い感謝の気持ちとお悔やみをご家族の皆様にお伝えしたいと思います。

## 春のお彼岸サービス

3月17日のお彼岸サービスに廣中愛開教使(ハワイのラハイナ本願寺)を特別講師としてお招きしました。廣中師は去年8月、マウイ島ラハイナでの大火事のため、ラハイナ本願寺とご自宅が全焼し、何もかも失われてしまった悲惨な出来事について話されました。

開教使アシスタント基金、ABA、SBWAそしてLegacy Endowment Boardからの寄付により廣中開教使のご家族全員をサクラメントにお招きすることが出来ました。奥様のメグミさん、子供達のココロ、ホーケン、アユム、ミノリ(敬称略)達はリバモアのアウトレット、サクラメントやサンフランシスコを訪問することができたそうです。

お彼岸サービスのあと、心温まるレセプションがあり、坂田マーティと新田ゴードン、別院理事の皆さん、ABAとSBWAが食べ物を提供しました。このレセプションにお手伝いをされた方や食べ物を持参された方々にお礼を申し上げます。サービスの前に、高橋房子さんは素晴らしい和風の朝食を廣中ファミリーのために用意されました。有難うございました。

サービスに参加された皆様からのご寄付は廣中ファミリーにギフトとして贈られました。聞くところによると、帰宅前にお買い物の品物を入れるためにスーツケースを購入されたとのこと。

お彼岸サービスに参加された皆様にお礼を申し上げますとともに、廣中ファミリーがサクラメント滞在中お世話をされた菅原先生に深く感謝いたします。



廣中愛開教使(ラハイナ仏教会)



廣中ファミリーと菅原輪番・浜崎開教使



# サンガ



## ～4月の予定～

4月	7日	9時半	祥月法要
4月	3日	10時	シニアサービス
4月	10日	10時	日本語法話会
4月	17日	10時	シニアサービス

## 煩惱の林に遊びて

### 菅原祐軌輪番

この記事を書いているのが3月の頭ですが、ここ数日、度重なる訃報を耳にします。まず、世界的に人気のある漫画である『ドラゴンボール』の作者である鳥山明氏が3月1日に亡くなりました。鳥山明氏は『ドラゴンボール』のみならず、スクエアエニックスのn人気RPGゲームシリーズ、『ドラゴンクエスト』のキャラクターデザインもされていました。

私が小・中・高と学生時代を過ごしたのはこれらの漫画やゲームの全盛期で、友達と当時『ドラゴンボール』が連載されていた集英社の漫画誌『ジャンプ』を読んだかどうかを毎週話し、

『ドラゴンクエスト』はクリアしたかどうか、などの話をして盛り上がっていたのを覚えています。中でも『ドラゴンボール』の主人公である孫悟空が超（スーパー）サイヤ人という伝説のサイヤ人になった際の日本中の子供達の興奮はすごいものでした。今後、鳥山明氏が作る新しいキャラクターを見ることが出来ないのは非常に寂しい事です。

また鳥山氏の訃報から翌日の3月2日には声優のTARAKOさんが亡くなりました。TARAKOさんが声優をされていた『ちびまる子ちゃん』のアニメが放送開始されたのが1990年、これもまた私が小学生の頃でした。音楽の授業や吹奏楽で主題歌の「おどるポンポコリン」を歌ったり演奏したのを今でも覚えています。これらの2人が亡くなったという事実は一つの時代が終わった事を示しているようであります。



『ドラゴンボール』は一見すると孫悟空が戦いを通してさらに強くなっていく物語に思えますし、『ちびまる子ちゃん』はまる子の失敗や日常の些細な出来事を面白おかしく描いているように思えます。しかし、その根底に流れているのは「人との繋がり」の大切さではないかと思えます。

こないだインターネットで記事を見てみると『ドラゴンボール』の孫悟空の技の話がありました。悟空の技の中に「元気玉」という技があります。これは世界中の皆から少しずつ元気を分けてもらって一つの大きなエネルギーにしていくものです。世界中の人達のエネルギーと共に強敵を倒していく姿はやはり『ドラゴンボール』は「人との繋がり」の物語であったんだ、というような内容だったと思います。

私はこれは浄土真宗でも同じだと思います。私たちの先立っていった家族や友人はこの世から消えて行ったのではなく、私たちをお念仏の道へと導くお働きとなってくださったのです。私たちと家族や友人の繋がりというのはその人がこの世から亡くなったからといって終わっていくのではありません。

『浄土論』という天親菩薩の著作の中には「煩惱の林に遊びて」という言葉がありますが、阿弥陀如来のご本願のお働きによって撰み取られたお念仏の行者は阿弥陀如来のお浄土で仏と成らせていただき、この煩惱の林である娑婆世界へと（姿なき姿で）戻り、他を導いていくのです。「人との繋がり」が阿弥陀如来のお働きにより私たちの命が尽きるその時まで消えることなく、姿形を変えながら私たちを導いてくださるお働きとなってくださるのです。

合掌

## 婦人会ニュース

### 加藤シャーリー

「浄土真宗の女性達」のサービスの際に集めたダーナ基金は婦人会の方針に沿って今年は基金を以下の別院傘下のグループに分配することを決定いたしました。ダーマスクール、ジュニアYBA、ボーイスカウト（50隊、50G隊）、松山スカウト・プログラム、ガールスカウト569隊、カブスカウトパック50。

新会員歓迎：（敬称略）

武田マリー、村木ダイアン、足立キース、ロベルト・マコーイ

2月28日婦人会メンバー30人がスカイリバー・カジノで運試しに出かけました。この日、大きな