

SANSHU

SACRAMENTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
VOLUME 47 NUMBER 3 - MARCH 2010

RB'S CORNER
REV. BOB OSHITA

Hello and welcome to the month of March.... Two weeks ago on Valentine's Day, we also celebrated the beginning of the lunar New Year, the Year of the Tiger. I've always found it interesting that virtually all of us know the Asian New Year sign of our birth and also the Western Zodiac sign for the month of our birth. It is certainly interesting to read our horoscopes (both east and west) describing our characteristics. But when we begin to believe that these signs can predict our destinies or divine what sign will match up best with what other signs, then we begin to allow superstitious beliefs to influence our lives and how we respond to others.

Astrology, both east and west, has had centuries to develop intricate and interesting stories to explain the mysterious workings of the universe. And these beliefs have impacted greatly on the cultures of humanity. For instance, in the Japanese culture, we often celebrate an event called "Kanreki" when someone turns 60 (although it should actually be 61).

This tradition comes from the 12 lunar signs from Rat to Rooster. But it is more intricate than this. Each 12-year cycle is under one of five different "elemental" signs: Tree, Fire, Earth, Metal and Water. For instance, according to the lunar calendar, I was born in the Year of the Rat, under the "element" of Earth. This year, we are celebrating the Year of the Tiger, the third year in the "element" cycle of Metal.

When we complete the five "elemental" cycles of 12 signs, we have completed 60 years and we return to the beginning and start over again. A loose translation of "Kanreki" means "To return to the beginning." That is why a person celebrating their Kanreki often wears a red hat and bib to signify being born anew, starting the cycle over again.

This is all good fun and a great reason to celebrate a milestone birthday. But in Buddhism, especially Jodo Shinshu, there is absolutely NO superstitious belief whatsoever. None. That is why the Amida statue representing enlightenment has the right hand raised, with palm facing out; this is the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

SACRAMENTO BETSUIN

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RB'S CORNER
 (CONTINUED)

traditional hand gesture (called a mudra) that says, "HAVE NO FEAR!" Do not fear and respond to superstitions or beliefs of any kind.

From the time of the historical Shakyamuni Buddha, Buddhism has always been encouraging us to live "Seeing things truly as they are." As we begin this lunar Year of the Tiger and enjoy the traditional stories and the cultural festivities, it is good to remember that most essentially... we must never allow any belief to cloud our ability to truly see things as they are. This has always been an essential encouragement of our Dharma Tradition.

Wishing everyone a Healthy and Happy Year of the Tiger....
 RB

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
 RICHARD KAI

The recent membership fee increase has been a hardship for most, yet our Sangha members responded without questioning the financial analysis and judgment of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee. Our office staff of Tak Ito and Meri Fong report little, if any "monku" about the increase, though we did receive a few suggestions to help understand the reasons for the change. The Board discussed the items presented, and our response is as follows:

1. **Financial Disclosure and Transparency:** It was suggested that the Board provide the Sangha with a report of the temple's finances on a periodic basis. We agree with this suggestion. The Board's Finance Committee will make available a consolidated income and expense statement at least quarterly for viewing by our members in the office. We explored an option to post the temple's financial position in the SANGHA newsletter to provide the widest distribution to our members. This idea became less viable as we explored the impact of posting the temple's finances on the Internet along with other news items.
2. **Suggestion Box:** We will promote the use of the existing suggestion box for members to leave questions or comments for the Board of Trustees and leaders of affiliated and sponsored organizations. The current suggestion box is located in the office.
3. **Membership Increase:** A comment was made asking why the Board raised the membership fees by nearly 30 percent in one year rather than spreading the increase over several years (e.g. 10 percent per year for three years). The Board and the Finance Committee considered several lesser increase options to offset three consecutive years of budget deficits. The final decision regarding the amount of the increase was guided by a principle value of avoiding repeat requests for fee increases.

Please feel free to ask any one of the 30 trustees and elders for information regarding Board matters affecting the temple's operations. The Board is looking for Sangha members to become a trustee of the Board. Ten positions are vacated every year; your ideas and views have greater visibility and potential impact as a member of the Board.

The Board welcomes Kathy Yamamoto to fill the first year of a three-year term of office to fill the lone vacant position. Kathy and her husband, Eiji, have two sons, Brett and Ryan, both of whom served as Dharma School teaching assistants. Kathy is a graduate of California State University, Sacramento with a major in math, and is currently working for the California Department of General Services. The Yamamoto family are long-term active Betsuin members. Please help me welcome Kathy to the Board of Trustees.

A growing development is about to become a reality during the month of March. Rinban Oshita was caught by surprise by an e-mail message he received a few months ago. Receiving a message wasn't the surprise, but rather its origin. Rinban was contacted by one Mitsunori Odagiri, who is the nephew of a current Gomonshu, Kohshin Otani. Odagiri-san is moving to the region to pursue a Ph.D. in environmental engineering at the University of California at Davis. He and his wife, Noriko, are planning to arrive in Davis on March 9; his first of five years of academic study begins on March 25. My deepest thanks go out to Dr. Ken Furukawa and Joyce Sahara, two Davis residents, for spending their off hours scouring the area for suitable living arrangements for our distinguished guests.



**SACRAMENTO
BUDDHIST
WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**
SANDY
NISHIMURA-YEE



The SBWA Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 3. President Lynn Kurahara called the meeting to order. Reverend Bob updated the board on Reverend Sakamoto's assignment. Reverend Sakamoto has been assigned to the Los Angeles Betsuin. We wish Reverend Kusunoki, who was assigned to the Lodi Buddhist Church, and Reverend Sakamoto our best.

**CORRESPONDENCE/DONATIONS/
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Dorothy Kadokawa In Memory of Joe Kadokawa \$50
 Mari Lynn Shimamoto Thank You for Tomi Shimamoto
 May Ikemoto Thank You for Tamie Muraoka
 Debbie Yokota (Sports Program) .. Thank You for Helping with Mochi Tsuki
 Eiko Furuta Thank You for Kenji Furuta
 George Imai Family In Memory of George Imai
 BCA Thank You from the BCA campaign
 Dr. Peter Yip Thank You

CONFERENCE AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- On April 17, the Northern California Buddhist Women's Association (NCBWA) Conference will be held at the Stockton Buddhist Church. The conference is sponsored by Lodi and Walnut Grove.
- March 14 is the ABA/SBWA Spring Food Festival. Preparation will begin at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 13. Final preparation is on Sunday, March 14, beginning at 2 a.m. Clean-up is on Monday, March 15, at 9 a.m. Please wear your headgear. Gloves will be provided. As always, coffee, tea and doughnuts will be provided on Saturday and Sunday. There will be a delicious lunch on Saturday. Male help is greatly appreciated for all days.
- The Tamale Fundraiser Trip is in the planning stage. Tentative dates are May 11-13. Mary Inouye is negotiating with the Miyako Hotel and All-West for the bus. The trip plans are to go to Universal Studios, Huntington Library, Pasadena Buddhist Church and Marukai in Gardena. The bus and partial entrance fee to Universal Studios will be paid with Tamale Funds. Hopefully, the funds will cover most of the cost of the bus and partial admission for Universal Studios. Attendees will be asked to pay remaining admission to Universal Studios, which is \$32, and \$3 to cover the bus driver's tip and water and paper goods. All other costs, such as the hotel, meals and any purchases are the responsibility of the attendee. If you are interested or need more information, please contact Mary at 451-9771.
- Craft-making sessions will be on the third Friday of each month right after Tanoshimi-kai .

The next board meeting will be on Wednesday, March 3.

**MAINTENANCE
REPORT**
ED IMAI

Over the past month, the following members performed maintenance on the Betsuin's facilities. The Betsuin is sincerely appreciative to the following members for volunteering their time, expertise and hard efforts:

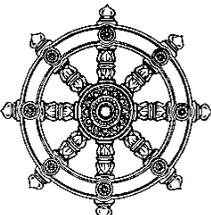
- Gary Traganza rewired audio line from hondo (main chapel) organ to front speaker and purchased and installed cable protectors. Replaced four discolored toilet seats in the main women's restroom.
- Don Honda for purchase and changing of ice maker water line filter and changing high-ceiling lights in hondo with special assistance from his sister (electrician).
- After numerous meetings, approved project for retrofit of ceiling lights in kaikan (gymnasium).



Rev. Bob Oshita
428-9833

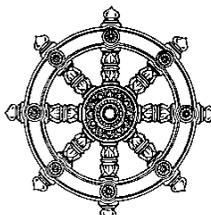


Rev. Peter Inokoji-Kim



Welcome New Members

Christen Brown
Tina Szeto-Nguyen
Rodney & Tracy Okabe Yamamura
Irene Yokoyama



MINISTERS' ASSISTANTS

REV. CAROL CASTLE

Earlier this week, I came across a container of shoga (pickled ginger) in my refrigerator and was reminded of a story my sister-in-law Patti told me about the first time she heard the phrase *sho ga nai*. In Japanese, *sho ga nai* is a common phrase that means “It cannot be helped... nothing can be done.” Folks often say it when something happens that’s out of our control. Some say that it’s like saying, “Such is life” or “It is what it is.”

Shoga nai on the other hand is a little different. *Shoga nai* is something you’re more likely to hear at the sushi bar when there’s no more ginger left! *Shoga* is “ginger” and “*nai*” means “no” — *shoga nai*... no ginger! Patti told me that the first time she heard someone say *sho ga nai* (it cannot be helped), she heard *shoga nai* (no ginger)! Huh? No ginger? What?

Sho ga nai is a common everyday kind of phrase and yet, it can also be very meaningful. Although we may say it when an everyday setback occurs... like when it starts raining right after you wash your car... there is also a greater depth and meaning to the phrase. Out of curiosity, I googled *sho ga nai* just to see what I could find on the Internet and I was surprised to find pages of links... articles, blogs, discussion boards... all touching on the concept of *sho ga nai*. I was also surprised at the number of posts that were critical of the concept — many of which included words such as weakness, hopelessness, apathy and fatalism. In a way, I guess I can see how it’s possible to misinterpret *sho ga nai* when it’s translated as “It cannot be helped... Nothing can be done.” After all, taken at face value, if nothing can be done, then why should I care? But just like a lot of words and phrases that lose a little something in translation, I think what’s missing in this case is what my dad calls the *aji* or flavor... the essence behind *sho ga nai*. In my mind, *sho ga nai* contains equal parts wisdom and strength with bits of forgiveness, understanding, acceptance and perseverance thrown into the mix. It’s a way of saying, “What’s happened has happened and we can’t change it, so rather than lingering on what could have been... or what should have been... let’s push on.”

Recently, I read an article written by a caregiver with the Alzheimer’s Association in Hilo, Hawaii. In it, she talks about a man who, being aware of his dementia, quietly said of his condition, “*Sho ga nai*.” When she asked him to explain, he said simply “It can’t be helped... nothing can be done.” While her own cultural experience made her want to tell him to fight the disease and “don’t take this lying down,” in time she realized that *sho ga nai* was not about giving up at all. For this man, it was about quietly accepting the reality of his situation and enduring his path with strength and dignity.

For so many, *sho ga nai* is exactly that... accepting reality and enduring hardship with strength and dignity. This is true particularly in the case of our Issei and Nisei pioneers, who struggled and endured incredible hardships and injustices, and yet successfully built new lives for their families. For my generation — Sansei and beyond — there is so much to be learned from the way they persevered and overcame adversity. We owe them such a debt of gratitude — for making the lives that we lead today possible. And yet, how can we ever thank them? I suppose one of the best ways to express our gratitude is to — “pay it forward.” Let us share their story... learn from their experience... and teach our children” so they too can benefit from the wisdom and strength of *sho ga nai*.

In Gassho.

OFFICE MANAGERS

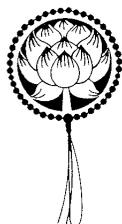
Meri Fong
Tak Ito

BETSUIN OFFICE

446-0121

SANGHA HELPERS

Misao Abe
Mary Amemiya
Shiyoko Futaba
Ruth Hayashi
Irene Hoshiko
Sanaye Imajo
Miyoko Iwata
Mae Kaneko
Alice Kataoka
Machiko Kimura
Yoshiko Morisawa
Mitzie Muramoto
Mutsuko Noguchi
Mary Tsukiji



Condolences to the Families of:



- George Imai May 21, 1925 – January 7, 2010*
- Fumie Okamoto February 15, 1924-- January 12, 2010*
- Joe Kadokawa July 8, 1924 – January 19, 2010*
- Yuriko Omoto July 4, 1927 – January 19, 2010*
- Betty Sadayo Yamagami..... July 29, 1915 – January 25, 2010*
- Betty Eiko Ozawa July 20, 1927-- January 26, 2010*



Jimmy Tsutomu Mirikitani, Interned at Tule Lake, California, Painting of Tule Lake, Paper, paint. Collection of Hiroshi Sakai Estate and Family. © Photo by Terry Heffernan. Photo courtesy Smithsonian American Art Museum.

**BETSUIN
MEMBERS
LOAN
ARTWORK TO
SMITHSONIAN
GAMAN
EXHIBITION**

For years Roseville residents and Sacramento Betsuin members Pauline and her mother, Lilly Sakai wondered who the artist was who painted the artwork that Hiroshi, Lilly's husband, purchased while at Tule Lake Internment Camp at the end of World War II. Hiroshi would tell his wife, "Don't sell or get rid of this painting. It was painted by a famous artist." This was said with a glint in his eye and a chuckle accompanied by a smile.

The mystery was solved in 2007 when an independent film, *The Cats of Mirikitani*, came to town and was shown at the Crest Theatre in Sacramento. Like the movie *The Blind Side*, it shows how powerfully the act of human kindness can positively influence another's life. In this movie, the tortured memories of World War II internment years of an 80-year-old homeless New York City street artist, Jimmy Mirikitani, are reconciled. The signature on our painting was that of Jimmy Tsutomu Mirikitani. The Sakais met Jimmy and filmmaker Linda Hattendorf at the Crest Theatre and were enthusiastically greeted. This would be the only known painting of Jimmy's from the Tule Lake internment years (1942-1946).

In 2008, Pauline and Lilly followed the same path as Jimmy Mirikitani, from the movie, on a pilgrimage to the Tule Lake site. During the 7+ hour bus tour, each family was encouraged to tell their story of why they were on the pilgrimage. Pauline told the bus passengers how her father, Hiroshi, had resided in Tule Lake during the war years, labeled a "no-no" and wanted to better understand about those unspoken years. There was also the newly found tie to Tule Lake because of the painting. Coincidentally, a fellow passenger on the bus, Karin Nelson, was a friend of Delphine Hirasuna, who was in the planning stages to show a collection of artwork based on her 2005 book, *The Art of Gaman*, at the Smithsonian.

During the pilgrimage, Karin and Delphine approached Pauline and Lilly to loan their painting to the Smithsonian exhibition. As loaners, Pauline and Lilly were invited to a pre-opening VIP reception. They attended the reception and show opening in memory of Hiroshi (dad and husband), who as a farmer bought only one painting during his lifetime, the one that Jimmy Mirikitani painted of the Tule Lake camp. If he is looking down at us now, he probably has that glint in his eye and chuckle that we fondly remember.

The exhibition, *The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese American Internment Camps, 1942-1946*, will be open to the public March 5, 2010 – January 30, 2011. *The Art of Gaman* showcases arts and crafts made by Japanese Americans in U.S. internment camps during World War II. These objects — tools, teapots, furniture, toys and games, musical instruments, pendants and pins, purses and ornamental displays — are physical manifestations of the art of *gaman*, a Japanese word that means to bear the seemingly unbearable with dignity and patience.

More information about the exhibit is available at <http://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/archive/2010/gaman/>

More information about *The Cats of Mirikitani* and Jimmy Tsutomu Mirikitani is available at www.thecatsofmirikitani.com.

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Editor (Japanese) Katsuko
Hirota

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Nishimura-Yee

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Castle

Endowment Ruth Seo
Maintenance Ed Imai
Sports Cmte Alan Wu
Dharma School Ken Furukawa
Boy Scouts Nick Tabuchi
Cub Scouts Marty Sakata
Girl Scouts Sheryl Kajioaka

**LEGACY
ENDOWMENT
FUND**
RUTH SEO

おかげさま

**NISEI
COLLEGE
DEGREE
PROJECT**

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

When sending articles by e-mail, please send e-mail to: **vibrocount@lanset.com** with a cc to: **betuinoffice@gmail.com** and inform the church office at 446-0121. Please include the author's name. Thank you.

The Legacy Endowment Fund Board is pleased to announce the screening of *You Don't Know Jack: The Jack Soo Story* on April 10 in the Betsuin kaikan. There will be two shows: at 2 p.m. and at 6 p.m. Admission is \$15 donation and can be ordered through the Betsuin office, from Endowment Fund Board members, or following Sunday services in the church courtyard. See the ad in this issue of the SANGHA.

Jeff Adachi, the film producer, will conduct a question/answer forum after each show, followed by an "Onigiri Otoki" hosted by Jeff's parents, Gladys and Sam Adachi. Kelvin Mark, chairman of the event, shared that "the term encompasses exactly what the Adachis had in mind for their sponsorship of the social hour... food offerings in honor of the Buddha and for the enjoyment and appreciation by the Sangha."

Jeff Adachi, a native of Sacramento, attended the Betsuin in his youth, and is currently serving as the San Francisco Public Defender. In 2006, he wrote, directed and co-produced *The Slanted Screen: Asian Men in Film and Television*, which won numerous awards.

The new, one-hour documentary, *You Don't Know Jack*, premiered at the San Francisco International Film Festival in March 2009. The film tells the fascinating story of pioneering entertainer Jack Soo, who grew up in Oakland and became the first Asian American to star in the lead role of a television series, *Valentine's Day* (1963), and later in the comedy show *Barney Miller* (1975-78). He played roles in the Broadway play and film versions of *Flower Drum Song* following his early years as a nightclub singer and comedian. The film explores why Soo, a former internee who was actually born Goro Suzuki, was forced to change his name in order to perform in clubs in the Midwest. Because of experiences throughout his career, Soo refused to play roles that demeaned Asian Americans and often spoke out against negative ethnic portrayals.

Through the generosity of Jeff and his parents, Gladys and Sam Adachi, the proceeds of this film event will benefit the Legacy Endowment Fund whose mission is to provide support for educational programs, temple planning and improvements, and Eitaikyo. Get your tickets early to ensure a seat for this special event.

Rummage Sale: The Legacy Endowment Fund Board is planning to have another Rummage Sale on June 5, so please start collecting items that you can donate for the sale, and mark your calendar to come to shop for outstanding merchandise at bargain prices.

In 1942, 224 Japanese American students at Sacramento Junior College were forcibly removed from their classes due to Executive Order 9066.

On May 19, 2010, these students will be awarded honorary college degrees at SCC's annual graduation commencement. All internees and/or their surviving relatives are cordially invited and graciously encouraged to participate. Your presence will help future generations to always remember and to never forget the injustices of Executive Order 9066.

Please review the list of names below. Applications are online at: <http://www.scc.losrios.edu/x57149.xml> or by contacting Keith Muraki, murakik@scc.losrios.edu, (916) 558-2437; or Kim Goff, Goffk@scc.losrios.edu, (916) 558-2054.

SCC NISEI LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY LAST NAME

Florence Abe	Sakae Hayashi	Hisako Ishii
Lillian Abe	Frank Hijikata	Marion Ishii
Masami Ajima	Shigeo Hikawa	Chieko Ishikawa
Sayoko Akune	Bernice Himoto	Elaine Ishikawa
Ben Arai	Ruth Hironaka	Grace Ishino
Haruye Arai	Aiko Hirota	Tsuyoshi Itano
Shigeki Arai	Fumiko Hitomi	Hiroko Ito
Suzie Asai	Takeshi Hitomi	Tatsyko Ito
Akira Asano	Emma Hom	Ben Iwakiri
Grace Asoo	Takamoto Honda	Minoru Iwasaki
Michiko Date	Masanori Hongo	Yoshio Iwasaki
Mildred Doi	Kenji Hosokawa	Hideo Kagawa
Henry Fujimoto	Mary Hosokawa	Kiyoko Kagiya
Toshie Fujimoto	Takayuki Hosokawa	Masako Alice Kajiura
Kiyoshi Fukumitsu	Isaac Igarashi	Masaru Kakigi
Lillian Fukunaga	Peter Igarashi	Joe Kamikawa
Hatsuye Furuye	Akira Imagawa	Hiroshi Kanegawa
George Goi	Akio Imai	George Kato
Yoshimi Hata	Frederic Imai	Jiro Kato
Chizuko Hayashi	Masao Inada	Kimiko Kato
Florence Hayashi	George Inouye	Hiroshi Katsumata
Helen Hayashi	Shigeki Ishida	Michiko Katsumata

**NISEI
COLLEGE
DEGREE
PROJECT
(CONTINUED)**

Kaoru Kayahara
Hiroko Keikoan
Toshi Kiino
Akira Kikuchi
Emiko Kimura
Teruyo Kimura
Tamiji Kitagawa
Ardene Kitazumi
Shizuko Koga
Shinji Kosasa
Albert Koshiba
Keiji Kubo
Samuel Kumagai
Tommy Kumagai
Yuriko Kumamoto
Janus Kurahara
Dick Kurihara
Masako Kurihara
George Kuwabara
Paul Kuwabara
Hiroko Maeda
Philip Magasawa
Kiyoshi Mano
Miyoko Mano
Amy Masaki
Toshiye Masaki
Violet Masuhara
Riki Matsufuji
Yoshiro Matsuhara
Paul Matsumura
Joe Matsunami
Kiyoshi Matsuoka
Ted Matsuoka
Helen Mayeda
Pearl Mayeda
Hajime Miura
Sachiko Miura
Teruko Miura
Pauline Miyagawa
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Setsuko Miyasaki
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Hiroshi Murakami
Takeko Murakami
Tom Muraki

Yaeko Muramoto
Clara Muranaka
Mary Nagasawa
Jean Hisako Nagata
Shigeru Nakahira
Hasako Nakamura
Lilly Nakamura
Takashi Nakao
Susumi Nakazato
Teiko Nakazato
Dorothy Yoshiko Namura
Hideo Nishihara
Yoshio Nishihara
Kanji Nishijima
Fumiko Oda
Sumiko Oda
Shigehar Ogawa
Eugene Okada
Inoru Okada
Shigeru Okada
Akira Okamoto
George Okamoto
Hitoshi Okamoto
Kazumi Okamoto
Saburo Okamoto
Masao Okumoto
George Okumura
Akira Omachi
Henry Omachi
Mitsuko Omura
Ray Orite
Sachiko Osaki
Ben Oshika
Thomas Oshika
Toshiko Oshika
Keiji Oshima
Mitsuyuk Oshima
Isama Oshita
Teruko Oshita
Joseph Osuga
Margaret Osuga
William Osuga
Kiyoshi Ota
Masashi Ota
Rei Ota
Toyosabu Ota
Noboru Oto
Shizuko Oto
Carnegie Ouye
George Ozaki
George Sakamoto
George Sakashita
Yoichi Sakauye
George Sakayeda
Mary Sakiyama

Tom Sakiyama
Masaaky Sako
Yoshitos Sakumura
Joseph Sasaki
Shigeru Sasaki
Chiyo Sato
Kiyoo Sato
May Sato
Sho Sato
Hideo Satow
Annie Seto
Joe Seto
Betty Shijo
Yukio Shimoda
Sumiko Shirasago
James Sugimura
Frances Sugiyama
Evelyn Suyehiro
Masako Suyehiro
Pauline Suyehiro
George Suzuki
Yoshiko Suzuki
Paul Takahashi
Patrick Takeda
Haruo Takei
Masashi Tambara
Richard Tamura
Setsuko Tamura
Hanae Tanaka
Masayosh Tanaka
Nobuto Tanakatsub
Andrew Tanuma
Joe Taura
Asaye Tominaga
Den Toriumi
Hidenari Tsuda
Kazuo Tsunemura
Joe Tsutsui
Kenneth Tsutsumi
Masao Uyeda
Hiroshi Watanabe
Terry Watanabe
Fumiko Yabe
Mae Yamada
Aiko Yamamoto
Chiyoko Yamamoto
Jane Yamamoto
Fumiko Yamashita
Keiko Yatsu
Koro Yatsu
George Yonehiro
Ben Yoshikawa
Frank Yoshimi
Toshio Yoshimura
Patty Kazuko Yoshina

**DHARMA
SCHOOL
NEWS
KEN FURUKAWA**



Is Nirvana Day a happy day? That was a question posed today by Reverend Umezu at the Nirvana Day service. As I listened to his sermon and the last instructions of Sakyamuni Buddha to his disciples, I realized the answer is “YES. Nirvana Day is a happy day.” Of course he was a special person, attaining enlightenment and spreading the Dharma, but I may be able to lead a good life following in the footsteps of innumerable people following the Dharma path. If that can be my reward for his work and life, isn’t that something to be happy about?

This newsletter will be delivered as March Madness hits the Betsuin community. At times it is not so clear that there is a synergy between Dharma School and basketball, but there are two major points.

Interdependence is the truth that we owe everything to those before and around us, and essentially nothing comes from our self power. **Teamwork** is important to a team, and there is never a time when a single player can be successful without the rest of the team.

Impermanence is the truth that nothing lasts forever, and this is certainly realized on the court where a great fast break can be answered by an easy lay-up if the team doesn’t recover and play good defense immediately.

So good luck to our many basketball players, and pay attention to the Buddhist lessons all around you! But remember it really comes together with the great teaching of the Betsuin’s Dharma School teachers, ministers and ministers’ assistants.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS
(CONTINUED)

SPORTS COMMITTEE
ALAN WU



DONATIONS

Dharma School "Courtyard" gratefully acknowledges donations from the following:

2nd Grade Class	Don & Kathy Henry	Haru Osaki
Gladys Adachi	George & Sachi Hiromoto	Shuny Sagara
Mary Amemiya	Tak Ito	Audrey Seo
Ann Amioka	JACL	Hiroko Takamoto
Boy Scouts	Sachi Kihara	Tomi Tanaka
Girl Scouts	Utako Kimura	Dr. Henny & Linda Toy
Nancy Hashimoto	Reiko Kurahara	Louie & Emi Watanabe
Ruth Hayashi	Pat Okamoto	Haruo & Sueko Yamashita

Welcome to the March 2010 installment of the SANGHA. This year's sports program is winding down with the conclusion of the NCCL league in February. Many of our teams are now preparing for the 2010 tournament season with our very own 39th Annual Invitational Basketball Tournament Classic happening on March 6 and 7

This year turned out to be a little better year than last year when it comes to parental behavior. So far, we made it through without an incident directly related to our program, but that does not mean everyone else was behaving properly. Unfortunately, there was a situation where a parent felt that the coach of his own child did not coach the team appropriately and decided to let that coach know right then and there during the game by ranting and raving and using inappropriate language — all this while holding another child in his arms. Obviously, he was warned and then subsequently forced to leave the gymnasium. He was forced to leave because for some reason he was unwilling to let it go. Why? Why does this happen? What purpose does this serve? The answer is just another mystery of the universe.

Speaking of a mystery of the universe: What's up with Peyton Manning not shaking hands with Drew Brees after the game? Does sportsmanship go by the wayside when you make millions and millions of dollars? Hmmm, maybe this is where the parents get the idea to turn to the dark side! Sorry, but I digress... sort of, but not really.

If there can be any good coming from this, it is that it was not one of our sports families, but the bad part is that it happened at all. This situation is more sad than bad; it seems as though there is an epidemic of adults losing their perspective of what our church league is really about. Although it has been said before and probably so much that people are tired of hearing it, but apparently the message seems to get lost somewhere:

This is church basketball: no prize money, no trophies, no contracts, no shoe deals, no celebrity status, no cover of *Sports Illustrated* — only the opportunity to learn how to work with others, to be humble in victory and gracious in defeat!

AND it is a pretty safe bet that NO ONE from our church league will ever play in the NBA, so what's the big deal... I mean really... wake up and smell the sweaty socks. (Disclaimer: Playing in the NBA does not give anyone an excuse for improper behavior, believe it or not!)

So anyway, keep the right mind and enjoy the upcoming tournaments for what they truly are... our children playing a game.

See ya after the tournaments.

On January 12, Pack 50 held its annual Pinewood Derby, the most exciting Pack event of the year. This year, nine Dens produced 60 impressive, finely tuned cars, created cool Den banners and showed awesome team spirit by wearing matching bandanas! The 2010 Pinewood Derby champion is Speedy *Scott Y!* The Pack also presented special awards to the stylish cars. The 2010 Pinewood Derby winners are:

First Place:	Scott Y.	Scout's Honor:	Niko R.
Second Place:	Corey T.	Sleekest Design:	Ryan I.
Third Place:	Thomas I.	Best Theme:	Brandon M.
Fourth Place:	Tyler W.	Most Creative:	Ryan L.
Pride of the Pack:	Drew I.	Cubmaster's Favorite:	Corey T.
Best Paint Job:	Austin S.		

Special thanks to the Pinewood Derby Chairman Les Wong, his committee members and Guest Timekeeper Karen Adachi for organizing this event. Awesome job, everyone! The top cars from Pack 50 will be participating in the District Pinewood Derby to be held in the spring. Good luck, Pack 50 racers!

Congratulations to Dr. Kelvin Mark for his successful completion of the Wood

CUB SCOUT PACK 50
MARTY SAKATA



CUB SCOUT PACK 50

(CONTINUED)

Badge training course. His completion was celebrated on January 8 at the Troop 50 Court of Honor. Dr. Mark spent two long weekends camping and training at Camp Lassen with some of the district's best leaders. Pack and Troop 50 are very fortunate to have Dr. Mark as a leader. Former Cubmaster Bobby Tanaka and Troop 50 Scoutmaster, also a Wood Badge graduate, will be one of the counselors at the upcoming Spring Wood Badge training course. Great job, gentlemen!

On February 7, Cub Scouts Pack 50 along with Girl Scouts Troop 569, Boy Scouts Troop 50, 250 and 259 participated in the annual Scout Sunday Service at the Betsuin. This event was quite impressive with the 220-plus Scouts in full uniform. We enjoyed listening to two excellent guest speakers: Mrs. Tom and Rinban Bob. The next time you bump into RB, please ask him about the special "RB Love Merit Badge." Thanks goes out to Dr. Kelvin Mark and his committee for organizing this annual event.

Happy Birthday Cub Scouts! On February 12, Pack 50 held its annual Blue and Gold ceremony and dinner. We celebrated the 80th birthday of Cub Scouts, 100 years of Scouting, and Pack 50's 38th birthday. The night was filled with distinguished guests, great food, entertainment and our first annual "scout and feller cake bake contest." We were also treated to a quick trip down memory lane by Reverend Peter. He shared a couple of his fondest memories as a former Cub Scout while growing up on the East Coast. Special thanks goes to Akemi Wong and her B&G committee for their hard work to make this a successful event. Let's not forget all the boys who participated in the Cake Bake contest! You are all Ace-of-cakes! Congratulations to the winners! Winners will be noted in next month's SANGHA.

Our next event, Boy Scout Night, will be held on March 12. This event offers the Cub Scouts a first-hand look at Boy Scouts. We are fortunate to have Troop 50, 136, 250 and 259 participating again this year. This event starts at 7 p.m. and will be held in the Betsuin kaikan. If you know anyone who is interested in Boy Scouts, this is a great opportunity to see what each troop offers.

Interested in Cub Scouts? Pack 50 will be holding its annual orientation at the Betsuin in April. Information regarding Cub Scouts and Pack 50 is also available in the Betsuin office. Boys entering 1st through 5th grade in the fall of 2010 are eligible to join. Any questions, please contact current Cubmaster Marty Sakata at (916) 392-7073.

BOY SCOUTS

NICK TABUCHI

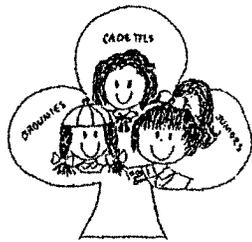


To start off the 2010 year, the first Boy Scout event to take place was the Court of Honor. At the Court of Honor, the scouts were recognized for all their hard work in rank advancements and merit badges. There were a lot of rank advancements achieved and a large amount of merit badges earned by the Scouts.

A major fundraiser put on by the Boy Scouts, parents and Scout Masters is the Troop 50 Crab Feed. The 2010 crab feed took place on January 23. There were various jobs that the boys took on, such as selling drinks and raffle tickets, cleaning dishes, serving food, bussing tables, sorting crab and passing out the raffle prizes. Assistant Senior Patrol Leader Tyler S. said, "Everything, from what I saw, went really smoothly and the clean-up went really fast."

The theme of January 2010 was Winter Sports and Snow Camping. Two meetings took place this month. The first meeting was on January 15. For the first half of the meeting, guest speaker Mr. Bennett came to speak about snow sports such as snowboarding and skiing. He explained the skills, procedures and safety precautions for the winter sports. Mr. Bennett also offered a merit badge for Scouts going on the ski outing on January 30. For the second half of the meeting, Assistant Scout Master (ASM) Mr. Lowe took over to talk about proper attire and accessories for snow activities and camping. On the January 29 meeting, Mr. Bennett and ASM Mr. Lowe did a continuation on the winter sports and snow camping. Mr. Bennett explained more about the merit badge and the ski activity the next day. Mr. Lowe explained the snow camping trip on February 20. He also talked about the steps to building a snow igloo to keep warm in the freezing temperatures and icy conditions.

To conclude the month of January's theme, Assistant Scout Master Mr. Tabuchi organized a Boy Scout family snow trip. There were a large number of participants in this outing, which were 78 Scouts, siblings, parents and friends. There was skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing. The outing took place at Soda Springs Ski Resort. There were ski and snowboard lessons available for the Scouts as a part of the rental package. Mr. Bennett attended this outing as a merit badge instructor, and nine Scouts went for the merit badge. Many Scouts had fun and no injuries occurred.

GIRL SCOUTS
 SHERYL KAJIOKA


December was a very busy month for Seniors 5, aside from working on their Gold and Rose award requirements the girls found time to go shopping, wrap gifts and Adopt-A-Family.

The girls also got together for their annual Christmas party as they went ice skating, had lunch, exchanged secret Santa gifts and they all Bridged to Ambassadors together!

But the most rewarding effort was being able to help out a family in need and make their Christmas a little brighter in these trying times. The girls did a tremendous job and displayed the true meaning of Christmas.

A special thank you goes out to Lauren Shimada, who helped organize the Adopt-A-Family!

Girl Scout Cookies: Cookie money is due this month. Thank you to all the cookie managers and especially to Ray and Donna Valdovino for overseeing our Troop 569 cookie program. We really appreciate all your hard work and dedication!

The **Spring Food Festival** is scheduled for March 14. Our Girl Scout troops will be selling baked goods at their pastry booth. Please show your support by stopping by!

Our **Thinking Day** ceremony is scheduled for March 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the kaikan.



Delivering gifts to the Adopt-A-Family: Leann, Marisa, Erin, Kristina, Lindsey, Marissa, Natalie, Teryn, Karisa, Tara, Lauren, Mrs. Siu.

The Sacramento Buddhist Church Legacy Endowment Fund Board
 presents

An Exclusive Screening of a Documentary Film by Jeff Adachi

You Don't Know Jack: The Jack Soo Story

Saturday, April 10, 2010

2 pm and 6 pm

Onigiri Otoki Reception

Sacramento Buddhist Church
2401 Riverside Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95818

Donation: \$15

Make checks payable to Legacy Endowment Fund by April 1.
 Indicate number of tickets and for which show.



You Don't Know Jack, produced by native Sacramentan Jeff Adachi, tells the story of pioneering entertainer and Oakland native Jack Soo, born Goro Suzuki, who became the first Asian American to be cast in the lead role of a regular television series. More information at www.jacksoo.com. The one-hour documentary premiered at the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival in 2009 and is brought to Sacramento as a fundraising event for the Legacy Endowment Fund of the Sacramento Buddhist Church.

**DONATIONS
FUNERAL**

The Sacramento Betsuin gratefully acknowledges donations received from late Jan. to Feb. 15. Please report any errors or omissions to the Betsuin office. Thank you.

Florence Lutfi	In Memory of Frank Yokoi	\$1,000
Yoshio Nakamura Family	In Memory of Yoshiko Nakamura	\$700
Imai Family	In Memory of George Imai	\$600
Kadokawa Family	In Memory of Joe Kadokawa	\$600
Sasaki Family	In Memory of Tom Sasaki	\$500
Ron Yamagami Family	In Memory of Betty Yamagami	\$300
Rodney & Tracey Yamamura	In Memory of Masako Okabe	\$250
Jane Kakigi Family	In Memory of Harumi H. Kakigi	\$200
Marsha Kawahara	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$100
Gigi & David Ito	In Memory of Shizue Ito	\$50
Hank & Joan Nishikawa	In Memory of Frank Yokoi	\$50
Natsuye Yamaguchi	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$50
Roy & Georgette Imura	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$25
Carl Schoner	In Memory of Yoshiko Nakamura	\$25
Sam & Gladys Adachi	In Memory of Frank Yokoi	\$20
Irene Hoshiko	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$20
James & Jean Kawano	In Memory of Frank Yokoi	\$20
Utako Kimura	In Memory of Fred Kataoka	\$20
Utako Kimura	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$20
Reiko Kurahara	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$20
Robert & Aki Shimada	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$20
Takeo & Helen Utsumi	In Memory of Frank Yokoi	\$20
Gladys & Sam Adachi	In Memory of Tom Sasaki	\$15

MEMORIAL

Doris Kuroko	7th Year for Richard Kuroko and 17th Year for Dave Kuroko	\$400
LaVerne & Helen Sasaki, Maro Sasaki, Rey Sasaki, Joyce Sasaki	25th Year for Kinuko Sasaki, 7th Year for Conrad Sasaki	\$400
Ronald Shintaku	In Memory of Tsugiko M. Shintaku	\$350
Craig Okabe	49th Day for Masako Okabe	\$300
Lily Satow, Shizue Kubochi, Paul Higuchi	50th Year for Grandmother, Chiye Higuchi	\$300
M/M Kent Fujikawa	49th Day for Masao Fujikawa	\$150
Masami Iwasa	In Memory of Hisata Iwasa	\$100
Larry Matsumoto	33rd Year for Yoshio Matsumoto	\$100
M/M Tom Matsumoto	33rd Year for Mother, Y. Matsumoto	\$100
Lois Nishimura	In Memory of Ken Nishimura	\$100
Kay & Fusaye Urakawa	33rd Year for Yoshi Matsumoto	\$100
M/M Tom Yego	7th Year for Richard Kuroko and 17th Year for Dave Kuroko	\$100
Alan & Susan Bray	7th Year for Richard Kuroko and 17th Year for Dave Kuroko	\$50
Don & Linda Honda	7th Year for Ruth Honda	\$50
Harley & Judy Inaba	In Memory of Flu Inaba, Richard Inaba & Toshiko Inaba	\$50
Rusty & Clara Kaihara	In Memory of Richard and Dave Kuroko	\$50
Kaye Kato	In Memory of Kiyoshi "Kiyo" Kato	\$50
Frank Kono	In Memory of Richard and Dave Kuroko	\$50
Russell & Micheyl Kuroko	7th Year for Richard Kuroko and 17th Year for Dave Kuroko	\$50
Tsutomu & Jean Ota	49th Day for Masao Fujikawa	\$50
Bernice Ouye	In Memory of Hisata Iwasa	\$50
Bruce & Sandra Sano	7th Year for Richard Kuroko and 17th Year for Dave Kuroko	\$50
Wayne & Deanne Shin	In Memory of Richard & Dave Kuroko	\$50
Hiroko Hayashi	In Memory of Tomiko Yokoi	\$30
Judy & Reginald Ikebe	In Memory of Tomiko Yokoi	\$30
Tom & Carol Kudow	In Memory of Tomiko Yokoi	\$30
Feb & Amy Yokoi	In Memory of Tomiko Yokoi	\$30
Teruko Goto	49th Day for Kaoru Gotow	\$25
Isamu & Toshie Kobata	In Memory of Jutaro Kobata	\$25
Tomio & Michiko Shimizu	In Memory of Tomiko Yokoi	\$25
Masako Fukuda	In Memory of Tom Sasaki	\$20
Masae Murai	In Memory of Kikue Yamauchi	\$20
Feb & Amy Yokoi	In Memory of Isamu "T-Bone" Yamada	\$20
Teruo Shintaku	In Memory of Mae Shintaku	\$15

SPECIAL

Sacramento Betsuin Dharma School	Scholarship Fund	\$1,000
Cub Scout Pack 50	In Appreciation	\$700
Anonymous	Special Donation	\$500
BCA Expansion Program	In Appreciation of Orientation of Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki & Rev. Hidehito Sakamoto	\$500
Florin Buddhist Church	In Appreciation	\$500
Bill & Jane Ham, Steve & Diane Hong, Bruce & Judy Keikoan, John & Cindy Kwong, Tom & May Woo	In Honor of Ellen Shinfuku's 50th Birthday	\$500
Boy Scout Troop 50	In Appreciation	\$400
Cub Scout Pack 50	Special Donation	\$400
Craig Okabe	Inurnment for Masako Okabe	\$300

DONATIONS
(CONTINUED)

Anonymous	In Appreciation	\$250
Aichi Kenjin Kai	Special Service	\$125
Rumiko & Hunter Arakawa	Special Donation	\$50
Cathie Lieu, Steven Yasuda	Special Donation	\$50
Richard Kai	Special Donation	\$40
Daniel Nishikawa	Special Donation	\$30
Stan & Florence Wong	In Appreciation of Metta Padma Class for Our Son.....	\$25
Ron & Jean Nakano	Special Donation	\$20
Yoshiye Morita	Repair of Ojuzu	\$15

ENDOWMENT FUND

Tom Fujimoto	Endowment Fund	\$170
George & Amiko Kashiwagi	Happy Birthday to: Jordan Shimosaka, Mari Kashiwagi, Jacie Shimosaka	\$150
Meri & Wayne Fong	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$100
John Kaneko	Endowment Fund	\$70
Minnie Iseri	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$30
Teruko Kagiya	In Memory of Jack Kaneshige	\$25
George & Amiko Kashiwagi	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$25
Joe & Alice Kataoka	In Memory of Masao Fujikawa	\$25
Jim & Tomi Tanaka	In Memory of Tom Sasaki	\$25
Joe & Alice Kataoka	In Memory of Tomi Shimamoto	\$20
Yoshiko Morisawa	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$20
Ted & Pat Otani	In Memory of Frank M. Kawahara	\$10

NOKOTSUDO

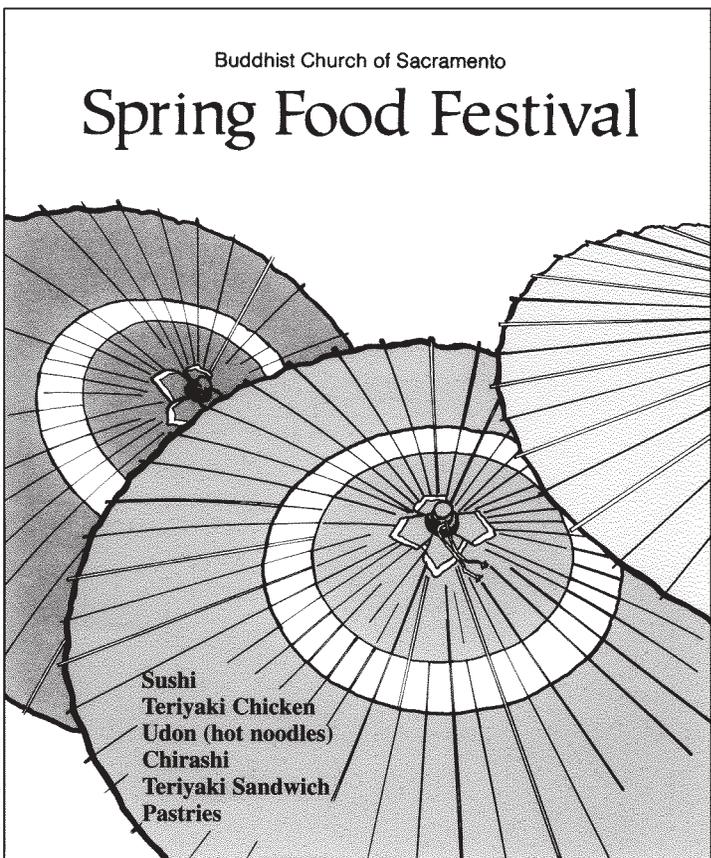
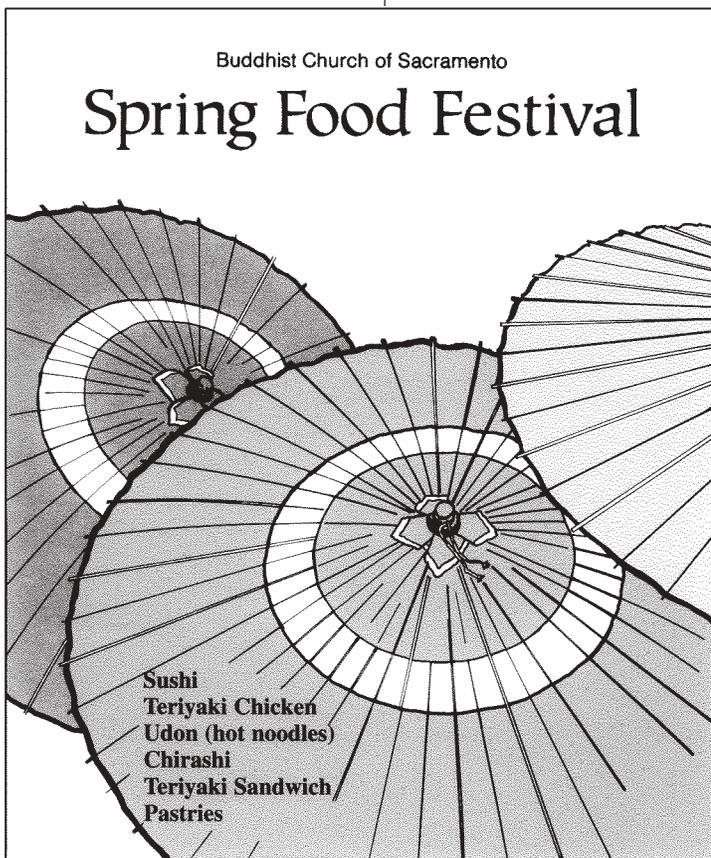
Katsumi Hashimoto	Nokotsudo	\$70
Kay Omoto	Altar Flowers	\$50

CORRECTION

Sally Muranaka, Gerald & Diane Muranaka	3rd Year for Sam Muranaka	\$300
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SHOTSUKI HOYO

Joyce Sasaki	In Memory of Conrad Sasaki	\$100
Rieko Inaba	\$50
Sakae Miyama	In Memory of George Miyama	\$50
Mitsuye Okubo	In Memory of Jack Okubo	30
Ray Onga	\$30
Dorothy Fujimoto	In Memory of George Fujimoto	\$25
Joan Hisamoto	\$25
Yoshio Iwasa	In Memory of Hisata Iwasa	\$25
Bessie Matsuo	In Memory of Asajiro Matsuo	\$25
Sally Yamaichi	In Memory of Yukio Kikumoto	\$25
Hiroshi & Fujie Urakawa	\$20



Sunday, March 14, 2010
10:30 a.m. - until sold out or 3 p.m.
2401 Riverside Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95818