

SANGHA

SACRAMENTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
VOLUME 49 NUMBER 4 - APRIL 2012

RB'S CORNER
REV. PETER
INOKOJI-KIM

SACRAMENTO BETSUIN

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

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Hello and welcome to the month of April. March was another month full of Betsuin activities. The Sports Program hosted more than 120 teams for the 41st Annual Betsuin Basketball Tournament, and the Sacramento Buddhist Women's Association and Adult Buddhist Association prepared delicious food for another successful Spring Food Festival. Reverend Bob and I would like to thank the hundreds of sangha members, volunteers and leaders who made these events meaningful, and who make our temple such a unique and special place for people of all ages. Community members and members from other sanghas were so impressed by the dedication and support of our members, and continue to share their amazement with Reverend Bob and me. Thank you.

As of March 31, our Bishop, Socho Koshin Ogui, ended his eight-year term of office, and with the end of his term, he and Mayumi will also enjoy a less hectic life of retirement. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Socho Ogui for his vision, support and guidance during these last eight years. With his goal to make Jodo Shinshu Buddhism a major religion in America, Socho Ogui started the Minister Assistant Program (MAP), which enabled Senseis Grace, Koichi, Kelvin, Tim, Carol, Patti and I to learn and grow in the Dharma with all of you. From our deep appreciation in what we learned during our minister assistant training, Sacramento Betsuin minister assistants started the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) Youth Advocacy Committee (YAC) Summer Youth Retreat to share the Dharma with students aged 15-18. Over the last seven years, our Betsuin is proud to have had 12 of our Junior YBA members participate in the YAC retreat, and our youth minister assistants continue to assist in Sunday Dharma School services. Both the MAP and YAC programs have grown to substantial numbers because of Socho Ogui's spiritual and financial support, and we as a Betsuin owe Socho a debt of gratitude for all that he has done for us.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

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AB'S CORNER

(CONTINUED)

April marks the beginning of a new chapter in the BCA. Beginning April 1, our new Bishop and spiritual leader is Reverend Kodo Umezu, the former director of the Center for Buddhist Education (CBE) at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley, CA. He would like us to refer to him as "Reverend Umezu, Bishop."

Reverend Umezu came to the United States as a Kaikyoshi minister in 1973 and served first at the Fresno Buddhist Temple. It was there where he met his wife, Janet. During his time as a minister, he wanted to improve his English and learn more about "life as an American," so he proudly served as a sailor in the U.S. Navy. After his military service, Reverend Umezu was assigned to the Buddhist Church of Oakland, and later served as the executive assistant to Bishop Watanabe.

Bishop Umezu brings to BCA a wealth of knowledge about our Jodo Shinshu tradition. He is a seasoned temple minister and has had experience as a program administrator. Bishop Umezu has a sincere desire to guide BCA into the future. Later this month, our Northern District is hosting the BCA Federation Dharma School Teachers League Conference (FDSTL) at the Thunder Valley Resort. Although it is a "Dharma School Teachers Conference," Sangha members are invited to register and participate. Guest speakers for this conference will be Bishop Umezu, Socho Ogui (Emeritus), and the Venerable Bhante Seelawimala from the American Buddhist Seminary in West Sacramento. On April 27, the opening night of our conference, Bishop Umezu will be available for an informal "meet and greet" session. Please come to Thunder Valley to meet and support our new Bishop as we begin a new chapter of sharing Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America.

In Gassho,
Reverend Peter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

GORDON L. NITTA

The year 2012 will mark milestones for two church-affiliated youth organizations. The two youth organizations are Girl Scout Troop 569 and Boy Scout Troop 50.

Girl Scout Troop 569 will be celebrating its 20th anniversary. A dinner celebration is being planned at Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation. The date is set for Saturday, June 23. The event is open to all Troop 569 Girl Scouts and families, past and present, and their supporters, past and present. Keep your eyes and ears open for more details. **Don't miss out!**

Boy Scout Troop 50 will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. **WOW! Fifty years of Boy Scout Troop 50 history!** Many of you probably have someone in your family who was in Troop 50 way back when. Troop 50 originally existed in the 1920s and 1930s, then was disbanded during World War II. It was later re-established in 1962.

Recently Scoutmaster Bobby Tanaka found a list of the first eight Troop 50 Eagle Scouts from the original troop. They are as follows:

	<i>Eagle Date</i>
James Gozawa	12/21/1931
Thomas Okamoto	12/21/1931
Harold Shigeto Arai	11/11/1933
Joe Sasaki	5/31/1934
Timothy Toshito Arai	5/31/1934
Hero Hiroshi Suyekawa	12/05/1934
Johnny Yaneo Kurahara	11/19/1937
Teruo Hayashi	10/05/1939

If you have any information on any of these original Eagle Scouts or any others from the early days of Troop 50, you can contact Scoutmaster Bobby Tanaka at betanaka@pacbell.net. He would like to include their biographies and any pictures you may have in a display for the 50th anniversary.

Planning for this celebration is still in the early stages.

LOST & FOUND

Have you lost any personal items? Like a leather coat, eyeglasses, house keys, ojuzus, etc.? If so, please stop by the office and ask about the lost-and-found items. We certainly would appreciate it!



**SACRAMENTO
BUDDHIST
WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**
KEIKO JEAN
KASHIWADA



**OFFICE
MANAGERS**

Tak Ito
Cindy Kitade

**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
Teruko Ono
Mary Tsukiji
Faye Uyemura

The March SBWA Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 7, 2012, with President Midori Ito presiding

BCA/BETSUIN UPDATE

Rinban Oshita thanked all of the BWA ladies who helped at the BCA National Meeting with registration, hospitality room refreshments, and for attending the closing service and the banquet commemorating Bishop Ogui's retirement. Rinban Oshita also reported that Reverends Tim and Carol Castle have been assigned part-time at the Marysville Buddhist Temple. Bishop Ogui can be proud of the Minister Assistants Program that he was instrumental in creating.

DONATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to the following for their donations to the BWA:

Kaneko Family	In Memory of Jean Kaneko	\$100
Hideko H. Sakazaki	In Memory of Jean Kaneko	\$50
Eshinniko Donations		\$329
Jane Nishimura	Special Appreciation	\$20
Frances Kondo	Birth of Great-Granddaughter Aliva Kondo Smoliary	\$50
Heidi Sakazaki	Bonenkai Donation	\$100

Note: A correction on Bonenkai donation listing in the February SANGHA. Alice Chieko Yagi made the \$25 donation, not Chiyoko Yagura. The BWA Treasurer apologizes for the incorrect listing.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012

- **San Jose Nikkei Matsuri – April 29.**–Lynn Kurahara is making arrangements with ACC to use their buses to attend this event in San Jose. The cost for the trip is \$25 (made payable to the Sacramento Buddhist Women's Association) and the deadline to sign up is April 22. Envelopes left in the church office should read "SBWA Nikkei Matsuri Trip." The streets in San Jose's Japan town are closed off and booths are set up with vendors selling their arts and crafts. There will also be food vendors and entertainment. The San Jose Japanese-American Museum is also within walking distance. Sign up with Lynn as soon as possible.
- **Wakamatsu Colony outing – May 5.** Alice Kataoka and Hiroko Tsuda are co-chairing a very interesting outing to the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony in Coloma. They have secured the services of Fred Kochi, president of the Wakamatsu Colony Board, who will provide a historical tour of the first Japanese settlers in North America. Historical sites that will be toured include the colonists' home, Graner House, the gravesite of Okei-san, and the James Marshall Gold Discovery State Park. And you may have a chance to pan for gold! The cost of this trip will be \$20, payable to the Sacramento BWA. Envelopes can be left in the church office and should be marked "SBWA Wakamatsu Trip." The deadline to sign up will be April 16. Contact Hiroko at 427-0890 or Alice at 442-2433 if you have any questions. Sign-ups were held at the Food Festival work days and they have room for about 17 more people on the bus.
- **Rummage Sale – June 2.** Lynn Kurahara reminded everyone to gather up items for the Legacy Endowment Fund's rummage sale. You can drop off your donations on May 30, May 31 and June 1. If you would like to work at the rummage sale, please sign up at the church office. A sign-up sheet is in the church office, and volunteers will be assigned to a rummage sale "department" where help is needed to sort, clean and price the donated items.
- **BWA's Craft Booth.** Shirley Kato thanked Jane Nakagawa for making knitted purses/shopping tote bags for the craft booth and Jane Komure for teaching the group how to make ribbon fish at the March 16 session. She expressed thanks to Kathy Tanaka Henry for coordinating the once-a-month craft making get-togethers. The craft group meets on the 3rd Friday of the month at 1 p.m. in Classroom 1. (If Classroom 1 is needed for an otoki, the group will meet in the annex classroom.) The next session will be April 20. Bridget Morisaki will lead the group in decorating candles with Asian designs.
- **Music Circus.** Virginia Uchida has set August 2 as the date for the Music Circus outing. Attendees will enjoy the matinee performance of Music Man. More details to come.
- **Betsuin Scholarship.** Utako Kimura has been representing the BWA on the Betsuin's scholarship committee and she reported that there are about 22 applicants. The Sacramento BWA is pleased to be able to contribute annually to the Betsuin's Educational Award fund.
- **BWA Membership.** Applications to become a member of "the best BWA in BCA" (per Rinban Oshita) are available in the church hallway. Please join the Sacramento Buddhist Women's Association.
- **Northern California District Council and Northern California Buddhist Women's Association Biennial Conference – April 21.** The Buddhist Church of Florin will be hosting this conference. The theme is "Annon: Peace and Tranquility." Keynote speakers are: Reverend Yuki Sugahara (Japanese) and Reverend Yukiko Motoyoshi (English). The conference deadline was March 26; however, if you would like to attend, the late registration fee is \$30.

**SACRAMENTO
BUDDHIST
WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION
(CONTINUED)**

**SPRING FOOD
FESTIVAL
REPORT
VIRGINIA UCHIDA**



Rev. Bob Oshita
428-9833



Rev. Peter Inokoji-Kim
446-4988

**SANGHA
STAFF**

Editor (English) Cliff Adams
Editor (Japanese) Katsuko
Hirota

**CONTRIBUTING
REPORTERS**

President's Msg SBWA	Gordon Nitta Keiko Jean Kashiwada
Food Festival Minister Assts	Virginia Uchida Patti Oshita
Endowment Rummage Sale	Allan Hoshida Sandy Tokunaga
Boy Scouts Cub Scouts	Adam Shintaku Glen Kumamoto
Girl Scouts Sports Cmte	Yvonne Otani Alan Wu
Education Award Maintenance	Ken Furukawa Gary Traganza

Please make your check payable to the Sacramento BWA and call Virginia Uchida at 421-3538 so that she can help register you.

THANK YOUS

- Thank you to the BWA board members who provided appetizers for the Jodo Shinshu Center fund-raising Wine Tasting Social, held on February 24.
- Thank you to Fusako Takahashi and Mari Lynn Shimamoto for chairing the very successful and enjoyable Sushi-Rolling Seminar, held on February 26. Participants learned how to roll sushi and were able to take home rolls of sushi and eat the sushi for lunch. It was a bargain for only \$10. We hope all of the participants will come out and help us every year at the Spring Food Festival and August Bazaar. We need their sushi-rolling skills.
- Thank you everyone for helping out at the Spring Food Festival and for purchasing the food items. The "pre-sale only" event was very successful again this year. The SBWA co-chairs were Kay Sakamoto, Sandy Nishimura-Yee and Virginia Uchida. Rose Nagao and her sisters co-chaired the "bagging" and pick-up of the orders. Please see Virginia's report which follows this article.

The next BWA Board Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 4.

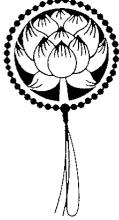
This year's Spring Food Festival was very successful. This annual event, sponsored by the Adult Buddhist Association (ABA) and the Sacramento Buddhist Women's Association (SBWA), benefits both organizations as well as the Boy and Girl Scout programs. We had plenty of people come out on Saturday and Sunday to assist with the preparation of the sushi and udon. A delicious lunch was provided by Reiko Kurahara and her crew along with chow mein and salad from Louie's Catering. Thanks to North American and Sacramento Tofu, we were able to have miso shiru. Many individuals brought in additional food, which was greatly appreciated.

I would like to acknowledge our rice washers: Gerald Muranaka, Ellen Ito, Sueko Yamashita, Hazel Kamada, and Joan Ouchida, Mike and Rachel Nagai. In addition, our rice cookers: Marty Matsuda, Denis Ishisaka, Dale Uyeminami, Craig Nishite, David Yasuda and Marty Sakata, gave up their sleep so that the rice was ready for the sushi workers by 3 a.m. In addition, we appreciate all the assistance by the men who came out to help us in the lifting and carrying of the heavy pots and bins.

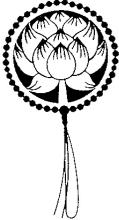
In addition, I want to thank Jean Kashiwada and Karen Adachi for taking the responsibility of co-chairing the tracking of all the food orders by customer and providing the alphabetical spreadsheet of all of their orders to the Food Festival co-chairs and pick-up area committee. Also, we appreciate the produce donated by Gene Morisaki.

The success of this event was the result of all the people who volunteered their time. Please join me in giving a special thank you to the following individuals who have been responsible for different aspects of this event for many years: Frances Kondo, Heidi Sakazaki, Nancy Noguchi, George Kashiwagi, Stephen and Jean Kashiwada, Keith and Karen Adachi, Wayne and Lynn Kurahara, John and Elaine Yoshikawa, and Sandy Nishimura-Yee.

We appreciate all the support we received this year and hope it will continue in the future.



*Condolences to
the Families of:*



Kinu "Kay" Hamamoto February 24, 1920 – February 1, 2012

Bernie Isamu Yamada July 10, 1948 – February 12, 2012

Naoko Najima November 4, 1926-- February 12, 2012

Scott Fujii January 10, 1947 – February 20, 2012

Yoshiko Tomita May 22, 1919 – February 27, 2012

Akiko Nagata September 5, 1910-- February 28, 2012

MINISTER ASSISTANTS
 REV. PATTI OSHITA

Welcome to the month of April! When I think about the month of April, Hanamatsuri always comes to mind. I still remember enjoying the sweet smell of the fresh flowers of the Hanamido and being able to dunk the baby Buddha. That was always the highlight of the service. I know this Hanamatsuri will be no different for me.

Also this month, Northern District will be hosting the Federation Dharma School Teachers League (FDSTL) Conference at Thunder Valley Resort. The conference theme chosen is "The Future of Jodo Shinshu in America: Evolution/Revolution." We chose this theme because when we think about the life of the historical Buddha, he was raised in the Hindu tradition; however, he was not satisfied with life and left the Hindu tradition and his family in search of happiness. He searched for six years and continued to make every sacrifice recommended by the tradition of sages. He fasted and grew weaker with each day to the point that he realized he was no closer to discovering the Truth of Life. He decided to receive nourishment and once his mind was calm and clear, he sat under the Bodhi tree in deep meditation and was awakened on December 8. He awoke to what is today the Buddha Dharma.

Siddhartha left his Hindu tradition and with the natural course of development, the Buddha Dharma was born.

Just like Siddhartha, Shinran Shonin left the Tendai tradition that he was raised in and entered the Temple in Eastern Kyoto at the age of 9. For 20 years, Shinran dedicated himself to the practices of seeking the Dharma as a monk. But realizing that he was no closer to understanding the Dharma, Shinran left Mount Hiei and found his way to Honen and embraced the Nembutsu Path that Honen taught.

Shinran left the traditional Dharma Path of Mount Hiei and pursued the Nembutsu path. . . sharing it with all. The evolution of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism was developed.

The FDSTL conference planning committee has spent hours planning the weekend conference, which will be held from April 27 (Friday) to April 29 (Sunday). During the conference, we will have three panelists — Socho Koshin Ogui (Emeritus), Reverend Kodo Umezu, Bishop, and Bhante Seelawimala from the American Buddhist Seminary, West Sacramento — participate in a discussion about the future of Jodo Shinshu in America.

So if you are interested, please contact the Temple office for more information.

On February 25, I and my wife, many folks from our temple, as well as temple leaders from around the country, attended the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) National Conference Banquet dinner to honor and celebrate the retirement of Socho Ogui. During the course of the evening, I was so impressed with the keynote speaker, a member of the first Youth Advocacy Committee (YAC) retreat held here in Sacramento, as well as so many of our fine young YAC alumni sangha members from throughout the United States who came to honor Socho. If YAC members are the face of the future of BCA, we will all be in good hands.

I first was introduced to Socho Ogui at the BCA National Conference in San Jose in 2005. Since this was my first national conference representing our temple, I attended the sessions and absorbed all of the experiences from a fresh perspective. What impressed me at the time, and in my many subsequent opportunities to meet, talk and exchange ideas/suggestions with Socho Ogui, was his friendliness/openness, his ability to articulate his vision clearly/succinctly and his willingness to lead and make decisions. In my opinion, in his time as our Bishop, he has truly invigorated the sangha in many very positive ways:

- created and implemented the Youth Advocacy Committee and has promoted advanced studies/opportunities for our young sangha members;
- created and implemented the Minister Assistants programs for Tokudo, Kyoshi and Kaikyoshi minister advancement here in America (we are so fortunate to have so many of our own MAs helping out and going through this advancement process);
- further developed Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley as the national and international center for advanced Buddhist learning, education and studies.

Also, some things I keep loosely quoting from some of Socho Ogui's talks:

- "Your life is not just your life. It is through the efforts and sacrifices of so many that allow you to have the life you now have."
- "Do not be afraid of trying new things."

LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND
 ALLAN HOSHIDA

おかげさまで

**LEGACY
ENDOWMENT
FUND**
(CONTINUED)

- “Appreciate the simple things in life, such as being able to move your hands/legs, breathe, walk, talk, see, hear or have good health. It is when we do not have any one of these things that we realize how important they are.”
- “Live life with deep appreciation.”

Thank you, Socho, for giving us food for thought in living our everyday lives in a meaningful way.

On behalf of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento Legacy Endowment Fund Board and all sangha members, I wish Socho Ogui and Mayumi a well-deserved, healthy and prosperous retirement. Your visionary efforts illuminating the future course of BCA will be felt and appreciated for many years and generations to come. Thank you and best wishes from all of us here in Sacramento!

S A C R A M E N T O B U D D H I S T C H U R C H



SALE DATE: Saturday, June 2, 2012, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sacramento Buddhist Church Kaikan
 2401 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA

DONATION DROP OFF DATES: May 30th, 31st, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 June 1st, from 9 a.m. to noon

USABLE ITEMS NEEDED: Clothing, accessories, jewelry, specialty items, shoes, purses, housewares, glassware, toys, games, sports equipment, seasonal items, books, tools, electronics, small appliances in working condition, furniture in good repair, laptops, computers, monitors, cell phones, ink cartridges and smaller TVs.

ITEMS WE CANNOT ACCEPT: Mattresses, large appliances, baby cribs, carseats or baby items with expiration dates.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Sorting, organizing, selling, cashiering, monitoring, traffic control, security, and loads of other skills. **Volunteers that want to have a fun time and find great treasures! Sign up in the Church office!**

INFORMATION: (916) 446-0121

L E G A C Y E N D O W M E N T B E N E F I T

**MAINTENANCE
REPORT**

GARY TRAGANZA

**SPORTS
COMMITTEE**

ALAN WU



Over the last 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.

- Don Honda, Minh La and Gary Traganza added two motion detector security lights on the yagura, one on the main gate and replaced two others that were not working right.
- Gary Ishimoto constructed shelves for each classroom in the annex. Each shelf will hold basic cleaning supplies, a roll of paper towels, a broom and dust pan. It is the hope that everyone will help keep the rooms clean.
- Don Honda changed all the clocks to reflect the change to daylight savings.

W e come now to the fourth month of the year, and we enter the second quarter of 2012. The first quarter is now a thing of the past, now just memories... but what memories they are!

The quarter started out pretty normal. We were in the midst of our basketball season, in the meaty section of our Northern California Church League (NCCL) basketball schedule with games every Saturday and Sunday and where you and your kids shared some unforgettable memories. Memories like walking into the Florin gym and the temperature is so cold inside the gym that you can see your breath. Or how about enjoying the steaming hot udon that was not only delicious but took the chill out and made you warm and fuzzy. If memory serves correctly, many thought that the temperature of the gym and the serving of udon was premeditated; if so, it was a brilliant strategy!

Then February started off with a memorable Super Bowl and finished with some unknown kid from Northern California sitting down toward the end of the New York Knicks bench minding his own business when his number was called and he got the opportunity that many have dreamed about and got to play some real NBA minutes. Soon, after a few games, and after a few buzzer-beating shots, and after a few consecutive wins, the whole nation... no, strike that... the whole world was all a buzz about this Asian-American kid lighting up the NBA and creating many unforgettable memories. If memory serves correctly, no other Asian-American has made such a worldwide splash in the NBA since Wataru "Wat" Misaka, who was the very first Asian-American, and coincidentally, also played for the New York Knicks back in 1947. It was also very memorable a few years ago when Mr. Misaka made a personal appearance at Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation (SASF) with the showing of the documentary film "Transcending: The Wat Misaka Story."

March madness began with our 41st annual basketball tournament, which also produced many memories to last a lifetime—like the last-second shots for the win, or the overtime games; and then out of the blue without any warning or expectation, the John F. Kennedy High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team not only qualified for post-season play, but continued to win and ventured deep into the playoff tournament toward the State Titles. It is for certain that those girls will have great memories of playing and winning at the basketball arena at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, a venue where very few players ever get to play. Likewise, they will take many more memories with them from playing at the Power Balance Pavilion, formerly known as ARCO Arena, for the Section Championship, and did in fact emerge as the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Sac-Joaquin Section Champions that night at a venue in which even fewer players ever get to step foot onto that court. If memory serves correctly, many of these Kennedy players began their basketball careers learning and playing church ball, in our very own NCCL.

Yes indeed, it has been a very memorable first quarter of 2012, and from the words of the immortal Bob Hope, "Thanks for the memory, of candlelight and wine, and castles on the Rhine....," ummm, la dee da dee da... Sorry, that's all I know from memory!

The Board of Trustees and Buddhist Education Committee of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento (BCS) are inviting high school seniors to apply for the BCS Dharma Education Award. This award is available to high school seniors who are children or other dependents of church members. It recognizes long-term membership in the Dharma School and other BCS-sponsored or -affiliated organizations.

The Board of Trustees award of \$500 is based on a competitive process that includes an application, a personal statement, an essay, and a formal interview. This award is to help fund education or training after high school by recognizing students who have participated in the Dharma School program and who can express their appreciation and interpretation of Jodo Shinshu clearly.

**DHARMA
EDUCATION
AWARD**

KEN FURUKAWA

**DHARMA
EDUCATION
AWARD**
(CONTINUED)

While Dharma School participation is central to this award, the student's contributions to BCS-sponsored and -affiliated organizations are highly valued as well, and considered in the application review process. Detailed instructions and the application materials are available on the BCS website www.buddhistchurch.com via the Dharma School link, or at the church office.

The complete application packet must be received by the BCS office and filed in the Dharma School mail slot before close of business on Sunday, April 22, 2012. The complete packet consists of the application sheet, personal statement, essay and letter of recommendation. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

There is no guarantee that all applicants will receive an award. The Dharma Education Award is not a scholarship, nor is it an achievement award, and is no longer associated with the Ronald McDonald House Charities Scholarship. The formal announcement of award recipients and presentation will take place at the end-of-year picnic and service at William Land Park.

Students with questions about the requirements or process, please contact Ken Furukawa at kfuruk@aol.com or call him at (530) 219-6650.

**2012 BUDDHIST CHURCH OF SACRAMENTO
DHARMA EDUCATION AWARD APPLICATION**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Church member parent(s) or guardian(s): _____

I have been attending Dharma School since: _____ Currently attend: _____

I am active in these BCS organizations: _____

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

All of the following must be included in the application packet, and received by the BCS office no later than Sunday, April 22, 2012. If delivered by hand, the packet should be placed in the Dharma School mail slot. Address to Dharma School Superintendent if mailed. Incomplete packets will not be considered.

1. **Completed application cover sheet** (this page).
2. **Personal statement.** Tell the committee what you plan to do after high school, what you aspire to do in life, what drives you to accomplish your goals, and what you have done while attending the Buddhist Church of Sacramento.
3. **Essay.** Please tell us how Jodo Shinshu affects your life.
4. **Letter of Recommendation.** Please have an adult BCS organization leader (such as a minister, Dharma School teacher, troop leader, coach, etc) write a letter recommending you for this award. The letter should outline your participation and achievements in BCS-sponsored organizations or activities, and your impact upon the BCS community.
5. **An interview** will be scheduled in May with members of the Award committee. This 20–30 minute interview should be considered an opportunity to learn how to interview, a necessary skill in the modern working world! Please arrive about 10 minutes early for the interview, and dress appropriately such as might be expected for a business function or conducting service on the Najin as a minister assistant. The interview panel will be a friendly group of people from the Betsuin, and will try to make the experience as pleasant as possible.
6. Decisions on award recipients will be made in late May, and announced at the **end-of-year Dharma School picnic and service** at William Land Park June 10, 2012!
7. Award recipients will be able to pick up the check from the Betsuin office after the picnic service during the month of June. Please bring a **copy of your letter of acceptance** to a college or training program to leave in exchange for the check. Checks may be void after 90 days as per BCS Treasurer.

DHARMA SCHOOL COURTYARD



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

4th Grade Class	Mae Kaneko	Jean Ota
6th Grade Class	Joe & Alice Kataoka	Markcurtis Otani
Gladys Adachi	Molly Kimura	Sachi Sawada
C & H Donuts	Cindy Kitade	Yaeko Tademaru
Scott Fujii Family	Lynn Kurahara	Barbara Takai
Ted Fukui (Campbell Soup)	Reiko Kurahara	Shigeo Tanaka
Girls DI - Vipers	Maharoba via Mitzie	Gerry Tsukiji
Denise Ham	Muramoto	Virginia Uchida
Alice & Goichi Hamamoto	Janet & Ed Mizutani	Louie & Emi Watanabe
Nancy Hashimoto	Yo Morisawa	Chieko Yagi
Yuki Hashisaka	Mitzie Muramoto	Bernie Yamada Family
Harley & Judy Inaba	Eleanor Nobuye	Kathy Yamamoto
Minnie Iseri	Mary Orite	Sueko Yamashita
Grace Ito	Sam Orite	Debra Yokota
Jean Kaneko Family	Haru Osaki	Fusako Yokoyama
Jr. YBA	Rev. Patti Oshita	

BOY SCOUT TROOP 50 ADAM SHINTAKU



The theme for the month of February was scout skills. Our first event of the month was our annual Scout Sunday service rehearsal on February 3. Then February 5 was Scout Sunday, which started at 8:30 in the morning and ended at 12:00 in the afternoon. Before Scout Sunday service, we took our scout pictures and rehearsed again. During the service, the Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts received their awards. The special guest speakers were Ron Silva for the Boy Scouts and Mrs. Kataoka Fong on behalf of the Girl Scouts.

The first troop meeting of the month was February 10. During that meeting, Scout Brenton L. demonstrated the proper way to set up and pack a tent. The second troop meeting this month was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.

Corey Yee earned the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Heroism Award for providing lifesaving first aid to his grandfather. Alex Ma has earned BSA's Medal of Merit for providing critical care and assistance to 27 of our scouts and adult leaders who became ill due to an outbreak of the stomach flu virus at Camp Royaneh last summer. Alex and Corey were both honored with these special awards at the annual Golden Empire Council (GEC) awards dinner held on Saturday, February 11, at California State University, Sacramento.

The ACC crab feed was on February 15, but was cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. The snow camping trip was changed into a day in the snow due to the lack of scouts attending and the lack of snow on February 24 and 25.

MATSUYAMA SCOUT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

TERIYAKI CHICKEN LUNCH PLATE

APRIL 8, 2012 (HANAMATSURI)
PICK UP BETWEEN 11:30 A.M. - 1 P.M.
Sacramento Buddhist Church Courtyard or Alley Way
2401 Riverside Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95818

\$8 PER PLATE OR \$15 FOR 2 PLATES

Checks can be made payable to "Troop 50" and write "Matsuyama" in the memo field.

**EACH PLATE WILL CONTAIN TERIYAKI CHICKEN,
RICE, CABBAGE SALAD, AND FRUIT.**

Lunch plate tickets may be purchased from a Troop 50 or Troop 250 Scout on various Sundays after service, or by contacting:

Julie Koyama-Chang at (916) 966-1158, tpcjkk4317@sbcglobal.net or
Anthony Ortiz at (916) 446-1759, anthony.ortiz@adp.ca.gov

Only a limited number of teriyaki chicken lunch plates will be available for sale on the day of pick-up. All proceeds will go toward the Matsuyama Scout Exchange Program trip to Japan in August 2012.

Thank you for supporting the Matsuyama Scout Exchange Program!

CUB SCOUT PACK 50

GLEN KUMAMOTO



Rain, rain, go away....Well, we actually need the rain, but I have to admit that I am more of a sunshine kind of guy.

Pack 50 could use a bit of sunshine since our Earth Day event is this month! The official worldwide "Earth Day" celebration is on April 22, but our scouts will be heading out to learn a few things about the wonders of our planet, what we can do to help save the environment and learn to appreciate the beauty that surrounds us. I always hear RB's voice in the back of my head... "live for today." I know I could do a much better job at this... but if we can all take that extra minute to recycle that bottle or can, take that extra minute to close your eyes and take a deep breath of fresh air or take that extra minute to plant a flower or take extra time to learn what you can do to take care of the environment. If we all take these extra minutes during "today," then our tomorrow will be so much better for all of us.

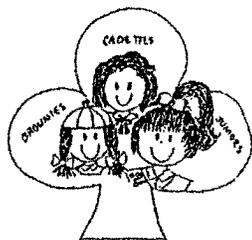
Speaking of Earth... or beyond. Our pack will be shooting for the moon at our annual bottle rocket blast off in April. Who knows if we have any future rocket scientists in our pack, but from the looks of some of the rockets, we definitely have some creative minds at work. I look forward to seeing some rockets fly!

Pack 50 is run by a group of dedicated and awesome volunteers, but we need some help. With some of the veteran parents getting ready to bridge out of Cub Scouts and our existing volunteers stretched very thin, I am calling on some of the new parents to step up and help our pack grow. We need you, the kids need you and I need you. Please consider becoming a leader, advisor, committee chair, etc. It's a great opportunity to work with great people, be a part of an awesome pack and help a group of kids who want nothing more than to have fun and learn new things. Please contact me if you are interested in helping. As always, it's only because of you that Pack 50 is the best around.

Pack 50 ROCKS!

GIRL SCOUTS

YVONNE OTANI
CADETTES 6



Girl Scout Troop 569 would like to thank the members of the Sangha for all of their generosity during this year's cookie sales. Our troop is deeply grateful for the continued support of our wonderful Sangha. The funds earned during cookie sales will help to fund trips, activities and community service projects. **THANK YOU!**

We also would like to thank the Sangha for their support of our bake sale booth at the Spring Food Festival. We appreciate all the donations of the delicious baked goods, and of course, all the people who bought them! People went home with delectable pies, breads, cakes, Rice Krispie treats, various cookies, and brownies. If you missed out on any of the special desserts you were craving, you only have to wait for August when we will again have our bake sale booth at the annual Bazaar.

Daisy 1 completed all of their petal activities this month and are working on their requirements to become Brownies. After an action-packed meeting of songs, talking about patches, crafts, sign language bingo, and meeting with Brownies 1 back in December 2011, Daisy 1 is looking forward to "leading" a meeting with their fellow Daisy 2 troop.

Cadettes 6 is finishing up their first Journey, Amaze, which is about navigating peer relationships. It was an informative and fun adventure that they were able to do together as a group, and they are working on a final project to be able to present it to a younger Junior troop.

Lastly, March is our month for Thinking Day. Cadettes 2 did a great job planning the event with the huge support of Jennifer Nitta. During Thinking Day, the girls studied and learned about these five countries: Yemen, Djibouti, Fiji, Laos and Jamaica. (For those of you who don't know — Djibouti is in Africa!) It was a fabulous evening, guided by the girls, and filled with crafts and food from the different countries, great information presented by the troops, and a stamped "passport" at the end of the time in the country for each girl. What a wonderful way to be global!

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: **betsuinoffice@gmail.com** and inform the church office at 446-0121. Please include the author's name. Thank you.

