

SANGHA

SACRAMENTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
VOLUME 50 NUMBER 2 - FEBRUARY 2013

RB'S CORNER
REV. PATTI OSHITA

SACRAMENTO BETSUIN

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At the request of Bishop Umezu, this was an article that was recently submitted in the **WHEEL OF DHARMA**. It was Bishop Umezu's hope that this article would share with all of the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) some of what we are trying to do to bring even more energy to the Sacramento Betsuin and to our Northern District.

In April 2012, I was honored to be brought on board by the Sacramento Betsuin as the Assistant Minister in charge of Programs Development. The Betsuin created a third ministerial position specific to developing new programs.

This first year has been both interesting and experimental, as we are trying to find new ways to bring our Sangha members together. Although our Hondo is full on Sundays; and we have an active Sports and Scouting programs with hundreds of children participating, a part of the new vision of our Betsuin Board is to develop programs to bring members of all ages together, as well as implement programs that respond to many unspoken needs within our Sangha and community. We have been trying to find innovative ways to share the Dharma and to inspire our members to find even more value in our Temple. Too easily success can lead to complacency and when we become complacent, we begin to take for granted all that we have.

Since April, we have had a number of wonderful special Dharma lectures from Reverend Sunnan Kubose, Reverend Kosho Yukawa, Reverend Koshin Ogui and Reverend Marvin Harada. We sponsored a "hands-on" workshop entitled "Buddhism and Japanese Calligraphy" with Reverend Akio Miyaji. Additionally, we provided workshops focusing on the areas of grief and mourning with Dr. Satsuki Ina and a caregiving session called "Support for Caregivers" with Frances Kakugawa. Both of these sessions were

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

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AB'S CORNER (CONTINUED)

OFFICE MANAGERS

Tak Ito
Cindy Kitade

BETSUIN OFFICE

446-0121

SANGHA HELPERS

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

extremely well attended and the participants were able to leave with helpful information to share with their families.

In the summer, we had a movie night and discussion. We viewed the movie "The Marathon Monks on Mt. Hiei." It was a documentary on how some monks of the Tendai tradition train for seven years to attempt an amazing challenge. During a 100-day stretch, they would walk 52.5 miles daily in handmade straw running shoes. We watched the monk's death-defying fast, his vegetarian training diet and other feats of endurance, such as the mummifying fire ceremony. It is a tradition that goes back for over a thousand years; and those able to survive are considered "Living Buddhas."

We have also had some totally fun events to bring our Sangha together. We had a "Chili Cookoff" with eight individuals/groups participating to earn the recognition for making the best chili. The three judges chose our Adult Buddhist Association (ABA) to win first place. ABA generously donated the prize money back to the Betsuin Legacy Endowment and said they were satisfied to have earned the bragging rights to the best-tasting chili at the Betsuin. We also had a People's Choice Award that went to our Betsuin Girl Scout 569's Cadettes 6 troop. This may have been an indication that many Girl Scouts came out to support their sister chefs!

From the beginning of September, the Betsuin has been overseeing the Placer Buddhist Temple. In November, we held a Chicken Throwdown between the Placer Buddhist Temple and the Sacramento Betsuin. This was a fun challenge to decide which Temple made the best bazaar teriyaki chicken. As well as being an event to bring our temples closer together, it also served as a fundraiser for the Placer Ume Taiko Group and the Betsuin Legacy Endowment.

And most recently, we sponsored a "Buddhists Got Talent" Betsuin Talent Show. This was a fun evening with participants, young and young-at-heart, singing, dancing, and playing instruments (piano, guitar, trumpets and even a harp). Our Betsuin choir and ukulele group (Na Aikane) both shared some of their songs with us. It was a memorable and entertaining evening of fun and laughter. We had people asking that night, "When will we be doing this again?"

One important and timely project I am currently working on is a Senior Scam presentation for our Senior Lunch Program members. With the economic downturn, even more, there are scams trying to take advantage of our senior members. This will be a first step in educating our community about these insidious scams. We are also planning a "Biggest Loser" program to challenge our members (and ministers) to lose weight. This should be both fun and physically beneficial for all of us; and the money generated from this activity will go to help support the Betsuin.

By popular demand, we are scheduled to have Dr. Satsuki Ina discussing "Caregiving" in February. We are also planning to have another movie night sometime in the early spring. We will view "The Manzanar Fishing Club" and perhaps have some of our members who were held at the Manzanar camp share their remembrances and experiences. Of course we will continue to have special Dharma lectures and discussions.

This position allows us to think outside of the box to develop new programs and find new ways to bring our Sangha members together. In creating innovative ways to share the Dharma, it is our hope to inspire our members to find even more value in our Temple.

We also have formed a committee to possibly create a Sister Temple Exchange Program with Hawaii, Canada and/or Japan.

In the nine months of being in this position, the programs created have been both enjoyable and meaningful. In trying new things and developing new programs and activities, we hope to increase the interest and add even more vitality to our Betsuin Sangha.

If you have any ideas that might be fun and meaningful, please do not hesitate to talk with me. May 2013 be another great year here at the Betsuin!



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



The January SBWA Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 9, with President Midori Ito presiding. President Ito thanked everyone for helping at the annual Sports Committee's mochi tsuki and thanked the SBWA Board members who have consented to serve as appointed officers and on various standing committees. She again encouraged the SBWA board members to become active members.

DONATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Grace Hatano	Fujinkai Line Dance Class	\$250
Sumie Morita	In Memory of Her Husband	\$200
Jane Nakagawa		\$50
Misa Oshiro	Special Appreciation	\$30
Mae Kaneko	Bonenkai Donation	\$25

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2013

Eshinniko, Kakushinniko and the late Lady Yoshiko Ohtani Memorial Service - February 10: Reverend Akinori Imai, past bishop, Higashi Hongwanji Temple, will be our guest speaker. If you would like to purchase an obento lunch, the cost will be \$8.50. Deadline to sign up will be Saturday, February 2. The classrooms will be set up for lunch at noon, followed by the service at 1 p.m. If you sign up and pay for your obento at the church office, please indicate that it is for the SBWA Eshinniko luncheon.

BWA's Craft Booth: Kathy Tanaka Henry will be chairing the craft-making sessions, starting on Friday, February 15, from around 1 p.m. (right after Tanoshimikai) in Classroom 1. We will be knitting ruffled scarves, so please bring knitting needles for the Friday craft class.

Spring Food Festival - March 9 and 10: Plans are in the works for our next "Pre-Sale Only" Spring Food Festival, sponsored by ABA and the BWA. Announcements will be made during Dharma School services and sales tables set up in the courtyard during the month of February. An order form appears in this month's SANGHA under ABA news. Thank you to Virginia Uchida and Midori Ito for co-chairing this activity.

BWA Outings: A visit to the Hakone Gardens of Saratoga has been suggested as a possible outing this year. Please contact President Midori Ito if you have suggestions for other BWA outings.

The next BWA meeting will be on Wednesday, February 6.

**MINISTER
ASSISTANTS**
SENSEI DR. KELVIN
MARK

During the past year and a half of minister's assistant education and with the gracious scholarship support of our Legacy Endowment, I've been so grateful to receive guidance and instruction from members from all of our Northern District temples. The Sangha members of Placer and Marysville have been especially gracious and kind. Most recently, while advising Venture Crew 50 on its five-day urban tour of Southern California, I was treated to services by Sensei Jim Pollard and Reverend John Turner of the Orange County Buddhist Church.

Each encounter with the Dharma reinforces just how wonderful it is to breathe, to breathe life in, and to breathe out, celebrating in the causes and conditions that enable us to live a meaningful life; countless causes and conditions, countless lives, that make *our* lives possible and enable us to live, remembering that the *action, the karma*, is up to us. Such is the way in living a life of Nembutsu.

In our Buddhist tradition, we are taught that there are 84,000 gates. That is to say, there are figuratively 84,000 ways to attain Enlightenment, to become a Buddha. In other words, there are many gates but all lead to the same goal. Which gate should you choose? Which gate is right for you? Again, the *action*, is up to us.

Often in life, we can become preoccupied with a goal rather than enjoying or savoring the journey. Do you ever find yourself viewing life as a goal or as a journey?... As an obstacle course or as an adventure? Do you ever find yourself preoccupied upon an objective or saying to yourself "If only I could... then...." Consider for a moment the goals we set for ourselves, or that are set for us during the brevity of a lifetime: "If only I could get this grade... if only I could make that team... earn this award... attain that rank... go to that school... land this job... make that deal... then...." And so it goes.

When we think about it, our Buddhist tradition guides us to focus on the process, to be mindful of the journey, of living a meaningful life, of becoming a



Rev. Bob Oshita
428-9833



Rev. Peter Inokoji-Kim
446-4988

MINISTER ASSISTANTS (CONTINUED)

E-WASTE DONORS TO LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND

PLACER CHURCH TO HOLD RUMMAGE SALE RUTH SEO

ABA KICKS OFF THE NEW YEAR WAYNE KURAHARA

SANGHA STAFF

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

CONTRIBUTING REPORTERS

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ABA	Wayne Kurahara
Dharma School	Ken Furukawa
Cub Scouts	Glen Kumamoto
Boy Scouts	Adrian Nguyen
Girl Scouts	Kristi Omoto
Venture Crew	Kenji Bennett
Sports Cmte	Alan Wu

Buddha. The Dharma teaches us to test the truth about living thoughtfully from day to day, casting aside our preoccupations with the past or the future; about focusing on what we can control and letting go of things that are beyond our influence. Such is the ebb and flow of attachment and non-attachment. Such is the process of holding on to and letting go of, and walking the Middle Path. It is something that we will do throughout our lives. When we apply the practices and principles of the Buddha Dharma, we cannot help but add to the myriads of causes and conditions that enable us to live a meaningful life, a life of Nembutsu, that lead us all toward Enlightenment.

Donors for December 2012 to the Legacy Endowment Fund e-Waste fund are: Mike & Sandy Yuki, Adell Takata, George & Mary Amemiya, Stan Ota, Karen Ito, and Joanne Jung.

The Legacy Endowment Fund Board appreciates the donations and encourages any individual or business that would like to schedule a free pick-up at your home or office to call (800) 317-3112 or go to www.eWaste4good.com.

With the beginning of a new year, many of us resolve to reorganize our closets, clean up the garage, downsize, and clear out things we no longer want or use. This year the Sacramento Betsuin Legacy Endowment Fund Board will not be having its rummage sale, BUT you are in luck if you have been saving up your things and need a place to donate them. The **Placer Buddhist Church** is sponsoring a **rummage sale** on Saturday, **April 20**, as a fundraiser for the Placer Taiko group, which has been invited to Japan by former Placer minister Reverend Torimi. The group would greatly appreciate your donations.

Details are being finalized, but the group will even come to Sacramento to pick up your rummage sale items. Please watch for more information in the next SANGHA issue. You may contact Bruce Yamashiro at (916) 412-3213, or Carol Kawamoto at cjkawamoto@yahoo.com, or Jackie Itogawa at (916) 600-4874, if you have questions.

On January 5, 2013, the Adult Buddhist Association (ABA) celebrated its 2012 Year-end Party and kicked off the New Year with a toast to the new ABA Officers for 2013.

The officers include:

President:	Wayne Kurahara
Men's Vice President:	Willie Hayashida
Women's Vice President:	Keiko Jean Kashiwada
Treasurer:	George Kashiwagi
Secretary:	Irene Takeda
Activities:	John Yoshikawa
Membership:	Carolyn Murata
Religious:	Ruth Seo
Telephone Committee:	Aileen Nishio (A-J)
	Martha Kushida (K-N)
	Misa Oshiro (O-Z)

ABA also extends New Year Greetings for 2013 to all Betsuin Members and Friends. We hope that this year will bring you and your family and friends happiness and good health.

ABA also invites you and your family to join our organization for a cost of just \$10 for the entire family for the year. Our organization plans and hosts the Spring Food Festival and other fundraisers to fund Betsuin programs. We offer exercise, dance, ukulele, basketball, hiking and other fun activities for our mid-age adult members and their families. Our organization is open to suggestions for new programs and activities. If you have a particular interest that you would like to share with others, join ABA and we can help you to arrange it. Membership forms are available on the Betsuin Organizations Bulletin Board in the hallway. (A reminder to all current ABA members: Your \$10 dues are due.)

Sincerely With Gassho,
ABA

**PRE-SALE
DEADLINE
FEBRUARY
25**

Pickup Sunday, March
10, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
2401 Riverside Blvd.,
Sacramento, CA 95818

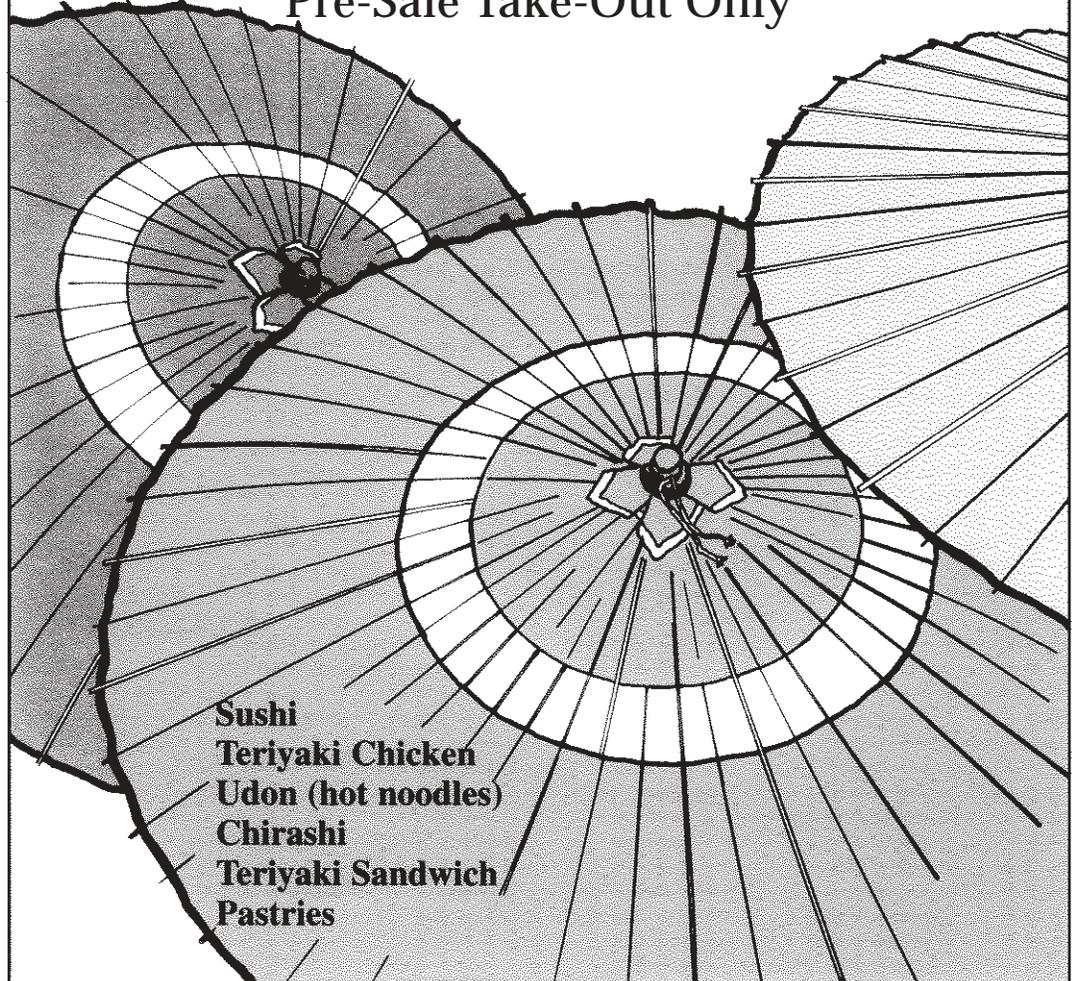
For additional
information and/or pre-
sale forms, contact:
Adult Buddhist Assn
(ABA) or Buddhist
Women's Assn (BWA)
members or
Website:
buddhistchurch.com/event
OR call church office,
446-0121

Buddhist Church of Sacramento

Spring Food Festival

March 10, 2013

Pre-Sale Take-Out Only



Sushi
Teriyaki Chicken
Udon (hot noodles)
Chirashi
Teriyaki Sandwich
Pastries

PASTE UP ORDER FORM

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS KEN FURUKAWA



DONATIONS

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.

Any address changes? It will be appreciated if you can notify the office of any address changes. It will save the church from paying for return postage. Thank you!

Did you drop off a favorite photo of your pet for our Pet Memorial Service back in November? We still have some photos in the office, so if you did, and you would like to have yours back, please stop by to claim it!

LOST AND FOUND

We have an amazing array of items that multiple "someones" are undoubtedly missing: prescription glasses, car keys, an iPod... Could any of them belong to you?! To pick up the keys, you'll need to know the make of the car; for the iPod, you'll need to be able to describe it and also know approximately when it was lost. Please stop in to let us know if you might be the owner of these missing items!

At my last installment, I was sitting in front of my computer, with a cold on a wet and rainy evening. Well, a few things don't seem to have changed. I am in front of the computer again, and I have a cold. But I am not bemoaning it, nor am I celebrating it. It just is... and nothing that I do will change it immediately. I always find it so amazing how I really appreciate simple things only when I have time to sit and think. Maybe that is a side benefit to being forced to slow down. Our daily lives are so busy, so wired, and so interconnected. That last one is one of our basic realizations to appreciate our lives. So many days go by where my realization of interconnectedness seems to revolve around ME and the impact of others (usually negative) upon ME. Now that I am moving slower and thinking through issues as they appear in my inbox, I realize that I am only a small part of all these people and events circulating around me. Rather than pushing me around, they (the people and events) are merely inviting me to be part of this great dance. Maybe my negative responses are merely my realization that I can't participate as fully as I want. Maybe I need to slow down, and appreciate each connection and each opportunity, rather than reach for so many at a time. Well, I will think on this for awhile as the NyQuil works on me.

In the meantime the following are the major Dharma School events in February:
February 3: Scout Sunday
February 10: Nirvana Day/Open House

Parents and teachers remember the food list for each class. A visit from the Fresno Betsuin Dharma School is also planned; more details to follow!

Graduating high school seniors, keep your eyes open for the Betsuin Dharma Award application on www.buddhistchurch.com via the Dharma School link. This is an annual award offering sponsored by the Board of Trustees with support from the Adult Buddhist Association, Sacramento Buddhist Women's Association, Dharma School, Sports Committee, and others. The application with all supporting documents is due by March 31.

The BCA Federation of Dharma School Teachers' League announces that applications are being accepted for the Mr. & Mrs. Fred Nitta Scholarship. The application form and instructions will be available on the www.buddhistchurch.com website via the Dharma School link. This is separate from the Betsuin Dharma Education Award.

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

Misao Abe
Gladys Adachi
Keith Adachi
Amiokas
Mike Dishno
Carol Fukumoto
Girl Scouts
Alice & Goichi Hamamoto
Seiko Hara
Nancy Hashimoto
Irene Hoshiko
Alex Ing
Minnie Iseri
Tak Ito
Mae Kaneko
Alice Kataoka
Kaye Kato
Emiko Kimura
Machiko Kimura
Utako Kimura

Ron Kubo
Glen Kumamoto
Reiko Kurahara
Doris Kuroko
Tim Lee
Dale Louie & Family
Emmie Makishima
Marsha Matsuda
Edith Matsuoka
Steve Miller
Janet & Ed Mizutani
Mitzie Muramoto
Diane Muranaka
Barbara Nakatomi
Eleanor Nobuye
Glenn Noguchi
Brian Okamoto
Jan Okimoto
Ken Okuhara

Ron Ong
Mary Orite
Sam Orite
Rev. Patti Oshita
Oto's Marketplace
Marty Sakata
Steve Sasaki
Sachi Sawada
Ken Siu
Hiroko Takamoto
Helen H. Tanaka
Tomi Tanaka
Tomio Tanaka
Sandy & Jerry Tokunaga
Emi Watanabe
Alan Wu
Ray Yamamoto - Sushi Experience
David Yasuda

**SPORTS
COMMITTEE**

ALAN WU



As we enter the month of February, we cannot help but wonder what happened to the month that just flew by and is now history. January was but a blur. It was a pretty chilly blur at that, with many days of highs barely breaking 50 degrees, and the lows in the low 30s. But don't despair; pretty soon we will be sweatin' bullets in a few months during our Bazaar!

As we enter the month of February, we pause and reflect on what blew by us at the end of the year. What blew by us was our second biggest fund raiser of each year, and would be none other than our Mochi Tsuki. This rendition had us washing and cooking 1,200 pounds of rice, which yielded approximately 1,630 pounds of mochi. We bagged and sold about 740 pounds that weekend, and gave about 890 pounds to Sam Adachi, our best mochi salesman ever. Sam was able to sell all our mochi in about nine days at Oto's Marketplace on Freport. Do you need sake? Do you need a rice cooker? Do you need fresh sashimi? Then go to Oto's Marketplace, your one-stop shopping experience!

Now, back to our regularly scheduled program... Thank you to all our Sports Families for coming out and working your shifts. Thank you to Sam for another year of record sales. As usual, thanks to Reiko's Cru for the drinks and eats for all our hard workers. And as a new recruit for this year and many years to come, a special thank you goes out to Curtis Matsuura for taking over as chief mechanic of the grinding machines. It is a daunting task to keep those 60+ year-old machines running smoothly, as smooth as our mochi. Curtis is taking over this position from Rod Kunisaki, who has been maintaining these machines for over 50 years! (That's what Rod would have you believe). As you may or may not know, Rod was a two non-consecutive term chair of the Sports Committee and when all is said and done, that added up to about 12 years at the helm, so together with his 50 years of mechanic duty, Rod has put in 62 years of service! After all those years, you may still see Rod make one of his rare appearances here at the church, but don't blink or you might miss him. Many thanks to Rod for his many, many, many, many years of service.

As we enter the month of February, we watch as another NCCL (Northern California Church League) season winds down and comes to a close. It seems to end just as quickly as it began. Ten weeks of league games will now make way for the madness of March. The madness of March comes in the form of tournament play. Tournament play comes in the form of three full weekends of basketball tournaments. The first weekend is our very own 42nd Annual Tournament, on March 2-3. The next weekend is the SJUMC (Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church) tournament, and the long weekend of March 22-24 (Friday through Sunday) is the SASF (Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation) tournament. Yes, March is the month of madness. You asked for basketball... you got basketball.

As we enter the month of February, we have to remind you that there are no more extra credit days and that the rolling calendar keeps rolling along, which makes the coming months very important to your attendance percentage. Please stay on track and keep your attendance up, for it affects player eligibility in the next season coming this fall.

**BOY SCOUT
TROOP 50**

ADRIAN NGUYEN

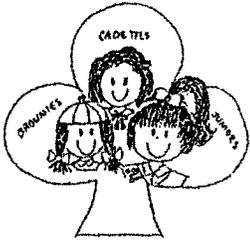


January was the first month of the year as well as the fifth month of the scouting year. In December, the theme was hobbies. The annual overnighter/scavenger hunt happened on December 15. Here the scouts went around Old Sacramento with a list of things they had to do or find. They then went back to the Sacramento Buddhist Church and stayed over for a sleepover. The next day, scouts woke up as early as 4 a.m. to roll sushi for the Sushi Service Project. The last troop meeting of 2012 took place on December 21. The scouts showed off their hobbies or collections and had a gift exchange after.

January's theme was business. The first meeting of 2013, January 4, was a Court of Honor. Here, scouts received awards and rank advancements. Mr. Uno and Mr. Ito also received their Wood Badge awards. On January 18 there was a troop meeting. The next day on January 19, was the troop's annual Crab Feed. The troop had its Family Ski Outing on January 26.

There will be a Scout Sunday Service on February 3. Also, the first troop meeting of February will be held on February 15.

Predatorial Penguins had a patrol meeting on December 26 and are planning an outing with the Kauilia Pack. The Milk Mustache Patrol had a patrol meeting on December 15 and planned an outing to Anthony Chabot from January 11 to January 13. Beast Patrol had a patrol outing on December 7.

GIRL SCOUTS
 KRISTI OMOTO


On December 1, 2012, Boy Scout Troop 50 proudly celebrated its 50th Anniversary. With gratitude for the Boy Scout Troop's invaluable help at the Girl Scouts' own 20th Anniversary earlier in the year, an enthusiastic group of **Girl Scout Troop 569 girls and parents** volunteered their assistance at the event. Working hard at decorating, set-up, registration, food prep/service, and clean-up, the girls and parents worked diligently to make the Boy Scout 50th Anniversary an event to remember. Thank you to all who were able to make this a real celebration!

Thank you to all who purchased Girl Scout cookies from Troop 569. Your support is greatly appreciated. Cookies are due to be delivered mid-February, so keep a lookout for those delectable treats!

Brownie Troop 569-26 is currently working on finishing My Best Self and Girl Scout Way badges. The girls are also looking forward to a trip to Crocker Art Museum in late January where they will achieve their Pottery badge. Most importantly, they are looking forward to cookie sales and setting new goals!

CUB SCOUT
PACK 50
 GLEN KUMAMOTO


Happy New Year. I hope your new year was full of friends, family and great food. Pack 50 is looking forward to another exciting year. This is perhaps my most favorite time of year. The craziness of the holidays is over, spring is right around the corner and we start fresh with a new year.

In January, we have our most popular event... Pinewood Derby! Nothing screams fun like a bunch of cars racing down a track. It's a ton of work for the parents who are involved with putting this event together, but once you see how much fun the kids have, it is well worth the effort. For me, I just hope the wheels don't come off on the car that I help "build" with my son Justin.

Not much more to report on for this month, but I'm sure I'll have much to say after we hold our races! So I just want to wish you a Happy New Year and I'm looking forward to 2013 with all of you!

As always, it's the parents and support of our Betsuin that make Pack 50 the most awesome pack around. Thank you for all that you do!

Pack 50 ROCKS!

VENTURE
CREW 50
DISNEYLAND
OUTING
 KENJI BENNETT


Our South California adventure began with a dream. When our Venture Crew 50 first formed, our advisor, Dr. Kelvin Mark, spoke about the endless possibilities for trips. One opportunity arose when the **Orange County Buddhist Church** offered to let us stay there free of charge. It took us over a year, but we finally organized the excursion. James Yee and Nathan Lowe organized our five-day outing, and our crew departed on January 2. This trip was attended by chaperones Dr. Mark and his wife Dr. Cheryl Lieu, as well as eight crew members.

Our first stop when we arrived was the **Long Beach Aquarium**, where we spent a couple hours looking at the fascinating variety of sea creatures. We were welcomed by our gracious hosts into the church when we arrived that night, and we slept in one of their classrooms for the duration of the trip.

The second day, we woke up early, cooked our own breakfast and made our lunch, then proceeded directly to **Disneyland's** front gates. Though all the lines were long, the variety of rides and attractions made the entire day fun and memorable. The fireworks and Fantasmic at night were especially spectacular.

The next day, we went to **California Adventure**. This time, we were accompanied by several of the teenagers who welcomed us to the church. We had an even more splendid time with them, and there were just as many fun rides to go on.

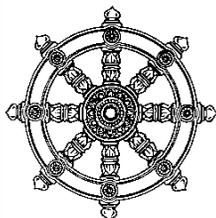
The fourth day of our trip, we visited the **Getty Museum**. The museum itself had eye-catching architecture and an amazing view of the Los Angeles skyline. The art within was just as fantastic. That night, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts at Orange County Buddhist Church hosted a potluck for our crew. There were icebreakers and our crew performed a skit. It was a nice and very welcoming experience.

The final day, we woke up and dressed in our Class A uniforms in order to attend the Orange County Buddhist Church Sunday service, where we had our own row reserved for us by our gracious hosts. It was interesting to compare the service to the ones we have here; it was similar in many aspects, but differed in a few.

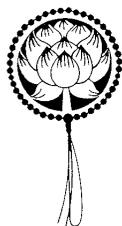
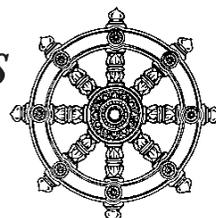
**VENTURE
CREW 50
DISNEYLAND
OUTING
(CONTINUED)**

Afterwards, we bid a heartfelt goodbye to all the people we had formed friendships with over the course of our trip, and took another eight-hour drive to return safely home. Venture Crew 50 greatly appreciates Dr. Mark and the parents who made this incredible outing possible.

Crew 50 welcomes newest Crew members Savannah Gonsales and Brandon Mark. Our next service project is to serve as Toban group, cleaning our temple annex with Cub Scout Pack 50 following Scout Sunday on February 3. In March, we head to Pinnacles National Park for hiking and removal of invasive plant species.



*Welcome New Members
Shoko Takegoshi*



*Condolences to
the Families of:*



- Ruth Noriye Ikeda December 2, 1926 – September 29, 2012*
- Yoshie Kyhos August 28, 1933 – December 14, 2012*
- John Hitoshi Morita October 31, 1926 – December 15, 2012*
- Helen Hatsuyo Tanaka..... March 5, 1919 – December 18, 2012*

