

SANGHA

SACRAMENTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
VOLUME 50 NUMBER 1 - JANUARY 2013

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

GORDON L. NITTA

It has been my honor to serve this past year as your president of the Board of Trustees. I have to say I was a bit apprehensive about following Dr Kelvin Mark's term. He had such an amazing year — from working on the tsunami relief to working with a new Bazaar chairman, Sherman Iida, to initiating the new position Reverend Patti has taken, assistant minister of programs development, and everything in between those events.

This apprehension was erased by the team work of President-Elect Robbie Midzuno, the dedicated Executive Board members, the 40-plus dedicated Board of Trustees members, the ministers, minister assistants and our church office staff, who worked with me on the many projects and problems this year.

The hardest part of conducting Board meetings is the juggling of funds to keep things running and setting a path for the future.

Our Bazaar is our single largest fundraiser, but as successful as it has been, the profits from the Bazaar don't even cover the operating expenses of the church for a year.

The repairs and replacement of building and equipment are funded solely through your membership dues and donations.

I want to thank you the Sangha, the ministers, the Board members and our office staff for their support and dedication this past year. We will continue to make the necessary improvements so we will continue to be "The Best Temple in the BCA."

Thank all of you in advance for your support through volunteering, membership dues and donations.

It is my honor to serve a second term as president.

To a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

SACRAMENTO BETSUIN

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

INSIDE

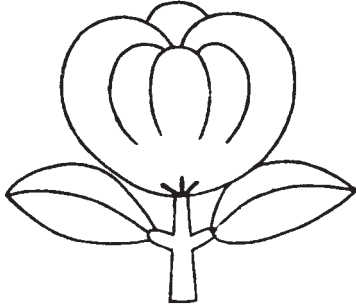
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WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**
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KASHIWADA



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Mae Kaneko
Machiko Kimura
Yoshiko Morisawa
Mitzie Muramoto
Mutsuko Noguchi
Teruko Ono
Mary Tsukiji
Faye Uyemura

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday. Here are some of the highlights of the December SBWA Board meeting, which was held on Wednesday, December 5, with President Midori Ito presiding.

DONATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Esther Sakata	In Memory of T. Yamashita	\$100
Fusako Takahashi	In Appreciation	\$100
Mae Kaneko		\$25
Heidi Sakazaki	Hoonko Donation	\$25

2012 BONENKAI DONATIONS

Misao Abe	\$30	Shirley Kato	\$25	Shuny Sagara	\$35
Cliff Adams	\$20	Utako Kimura	\$15	Chizuko Sakaishi	\$20
Ruby Akiyoshi	\$50	Toshie Kobata	\$20	Heidi Sakazaki	\$100
Ruby Akiyoshi	\$40	Frances Kondo	\$20	Ikuko Sakazaki	\$20
Mary Amemiya	\$20	Alma Koyasako	\$20	Helen Sekikawa	\$20
Mary K. Fong	\$20	Lynn Kurahara	\$50	Ruth Seo	\$20
Ichiko Fujishima	\$50	Reiko Kurahara	\$20	Kikue Kay Shirai	\$25
Carole Fukumoto	\$25	Anna Louie	\$20	Evelyn S. Suzuki	\$30
Sadako Furuike	\$25	Terry Makishima	\$25	Yaeko Tademaru	\$20
Sumiye Hamamoto	\$25	Pat Matsumoto	\$25	Fusako Takahashi	\$10
Yuki Hashisaka	\$25	June Matsuo	\$20	Fusako Takahashi	\$100
Grace Hatano	\$25	Teiko Matsuo	\$20	Barbara Takai	\$25
Ruth Hayashi	\$50	Ann Mori	\$20	Rose Takata	\$15
Willie Hayashida	\$20	Sumi Morita	\$30	Beverly Tanaka	\$20
Irene Hoshiko	\$20	Janice Muraki	\$25	Haruko Tanaka	\$20
Hisae Ichikawa	\$20	Mitzie Muramoto	\$25	Helen Tanaka	\$25
Marti Ikehara	\$20	Diane Muranaka	\$25	Kiyoko Tanaka	\$25
Blossom Ikemoto	\$20	T. Lorraine Nagae	\$20	Shigeko M. Tanaka	\$20
Kikuye Imura	\$10	Rachel Nagai	\$30	Tomi Tanaka	\$100
Misao Inaba	\$25	Kiyoko Nakamoto	\$40	Yuki Tomita	\$30
Mary S. Inouye	\$25	Grace Nakao	\$20	Brian Tsuda	\$20
Gladys Irokawa	\$25	Bette Nakatomi	\$12	Hiroko Tsuda	\$20
Minnie Y. Iseri	\$20	Arlyne Namba	\$25	Gerry Tsukiji	\$50
Meriko Ishigaki	\$20	Pauline Nishina	\$20	Mary Tsukiji	\$25
Amy Ishimoto	\$25	Gordon & Jennifer Nitta	\$20	Kazuko Uyeminami	\$20
Midori Ito	\$50	Eleanor Nobuye	\$35	Terry Uyeminami	\$10
Nancy Ito	\$20	Helen Noguchi	\$20	Fuyuko Uyemura	\$30
Norma Ito	\$20	Mutsuko Noguchi	\$25	Etsuko Wakayama	\$10
Takako Ito	\$20	Tomiyo Nojiri	\$20	Ruby Waki	\$20
Masami Iwasa	\$100	Yukie Okasaki	\$20	Emi Watanabe	\$25
Terry Kagiya	\$20	Katherine Onuki	\$12	Pansy Y. Wong	\$50
Kimi Kaneko	\$20	Mary Orite	\$20	Alice C. Yagi	\$25
Amiko Kashiwagi	\$40	Haruye Osaki	\$20	Miyoko Yamada	\$20
Amiko Kashiwagi	\$25	Jean Ota	\$25	Satsuki Yamamoto	\$20
Alice Kataoka	\$50	Mollie Oto	\$50	Sueko Yamashita	\$30
Kaye Kato	\$20	Tsugino Oto	\$30	Elaine Yoshikawa	\$25

**2012 BONENKAI LUNCHEON:
RAFFLE PRIZE DONATIONS**

Thank you to the following for their generous merchandise and gift card donations to the Bonenkai raffle. Some of them donated more than one raffle prize. Thank you very much!

Gladys Adachi	Mieko Kono	Ruth Seo
Loleen Doi	Lynn Kurahara	May Shimada
Naomi Hamamoto	Reiko Kurahara	Mari Lynn Shimamoto
Meriko Hoshida	Don & Marcia Matsuda	Fusako Takahashi
Miyuki Inenaga	Jan Muraki	Barbara Takai
Reverend Peter Inokoji-Kim	Diane Muranaka	Shigeko Tanaka
Lillian Ishii	Jane Nakagawa	Beverly Tanaka
Ellen Ito	Keiko Nishimoto	Donna Tanaka
Midori Ito	Aileen Okimoto	Tomi Tanaka
Tak Ito	Teruko Ono	Kathy Tanaka Henry
Lori Itow	Katherine Onuki	Gerry Tsukiji
Keiko Jean Kashiwada	Reverend Patti Oshita	Elaine Yoshikawa
Alice Kataoka	Rinban Bob Oshita	Sharon Yoshimura
Kaye Kato	Jean Ota	
Shirley Kato	Chizuko Sakaishi	Kiyo's Floral Shop
Utako Kimura	Heidi Sakazaki	Oto's Marketplace
Gayle M. Kono	Helen Sekikawa	

A special THANK YOU to Bonenkai Chairperson Fusako Takahashi, for a job well done! Also serving on her committee were Shirley Kato, Diane Muranaka and Mari Lynn Shimamoto. We all had a good time!

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2013

- **Eshinniko, Kakushinniko and the late Lady Yoshiko Ohtani Memorial Service:** Plans are being made to have a luncheon in conjunction with the February 10 memorial service. Mark your calendars. More details to come in January.
- **BWA Fundraiser:** Mary Inouye has volunteered to plan another fundraiser for the BWA. Money raised will be used toward a fun event for the BWA

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

**MINISTER
ASSISTANTS
KOICHI MIZUSHIMA**

ladies (such as the Music Circus). More details to come after the January meeting.

Next BWA meeting will be on Wednesday, January 9. Let's all become ACTIVE BWA members and support President Midori Ito and her cabinet. By the way, I was reappointed as the BWA Corresponding Secretary for 2013 by the president, so you'll be hearing from me in the SANGHA or by email every month again.

The holiday season is a wonderful time of being with family and thinking about all the things in our lives that we are grateful for. It is a time of giving and compassion. It is a time to think of others before we think of ourselves. But for some people, it is a time of regret and sadness.

Although this time of year should be a time to think about the positive things in our lives, it can also make us think of the things we don't have. For some of us, it may be a time when we are painfully reminded of our damaged relationships between family members or old friends. The older we get, the more stubborn and self righteous we can be.

Some of us may have feuds with loved ones or old friends that have lasted for years... even decades. Maybe there is a good reason for this rift, and then again, maybe you don't even remember the reason at all. Most of these rifts started from some disagreement, and the reason it has not been resolved is each of you believes you are right.

How important is it to be right? In most cases, it seems very important, doesn't it? At your job, you have to make sure you complete your work in the right order in the right way. And when driving, you have to know who has the right of way. In almost every moment of your day it's important to be right about all the decisions you have to make. From the moment we are born, we are taught to be right, and if we are not, then we are wrong. And right is good, and wrong is bad.

But when it comes to human relationships, what is right? We are so caught up in our own ego that we can't bear to be wrong. We fight and argue over whose fault it was, or who did the wrong thing, or who didn't do it the right way. But in the end, if your being right results in a destruction of a relationship, what's the point?

If you were crossing the street in a crosswalk during the day, and saw a semi truck coming at you with no sign of slowing down, would you cross the street anyway because you knew you had the right of way? Of course you wouldn't. Just imagine sitting in a full body cast with the possibility of never being able to walk again, but saying to yourself, "At least I knew I was right." That would be completely ridiculous, wouldn't it?

So why do we insist on holding so tightly to our sense of self righteousness when it comes to relationships, that we are willing to sacrifice everything rather than offer a simple apology or compromise? What makes our ego so overpowering that we can't give in and just let it go? Who cares in the end who was right or wrong about something that will probably be long forgotten? Family is family. And some friendships are as dear as family.

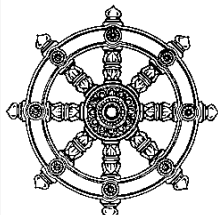
So this holiday season, bite the bullet... take a hit for the team... and make that phone call to that person you haven't spoken to in years. Life is far too short to end a relationship over something that isn't truly important. It just takes one person to make the first move and be the bigger person. Let it go; it really doesn't matter who's right or wrong. Trust me, I'm right about this.

**SANGHA
STAFF**

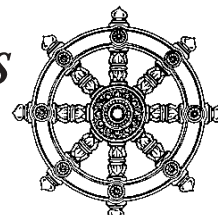
Editor (English) Cliff Adams
Editor (Japanese) Katsuko Hirota

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President's Msg	Gordon L. Nitta
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Minister Assts	Koichi Mizushima Kelvin Mark
Dharma School	Ken Furukawa
Boy Scouts	Adrian Nguyen
Girl Scouts	Ellen Hamatani
Sakura Gakuen	John McDonnell
Sports Cmte	Alan Wu



Welcome New Members



*Teruko Matsumura
Steven Miller
Priscilla Ouchida
Wilson Yu*

MINISTER ASSISTANTS
DR. KELVIN MARK

Hello and welcome, fellow travelers on the Dharma Path, to the first month of the new year, 2013. On behalf of your minister assistants, I'd like to thank you for visiting on New Year's Eve and helping to ring our kansho bell "108" times. The number 108 symbolizes our aspiration to overcome the 108 passions of human kind. Let's do the math: Sight, sound, smell, taste, touch, and consciousness (6); each associated with being pleasant, unpleasant, or neither (3 x 6); each of those feelings are in turn attached to pleasure or detached from pleasure (2 x 18); and each of which are temporally experienced in the past, present, or future (3 x 36); et voila! 108 passions.

And so it is with human kind and with our human nature. How fortunate we are to see, hear, smell, taste, touch, and perceive; each experience driving us to want more... or to want less. The cycle may seem endless because our human wants are never satisfied. Choices, choices, choices.... Causes and conditions. In other words, the cycle of suffering and frustration can become endless as the desire for more can never be fulfilled; a continuous string of choices — city or country, cash or credit, beef or veggies, less filling — tastes great!

Said another way, each decision, no matter how large or small, sets us upon a course that shapes who we are, what we do, and how we feel. Sometimes, our decisions are easy and subconscious, while at other times, our decisions test the limits of both intellect and patience. That much having been said, we end 2012, reflecting upon our past actions and aspiring to "ring out" blind passion and desire. Let us welcome 2013 by living in the gratitude embraced by Amida Buddha's infinite wisdom and immeasurable compassion.

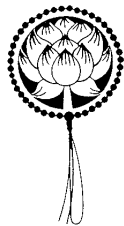
As immediate past Bishop Socho Koshin Ogui often pointed out, "Your life is not only your life but the lives of others' sacrifices, kindness, thoughtfulness, and patience." Hence, we owe a deep debt of gratitude for all who have come before us, and all with whom we live today. Just imagine what character the world might take on were we to earnestly *live* a wish for peace in the world. Imagine what qualities might we reflect were we to resolve to live a better human life by *truly* living a life of gratitude and emulating purity in the spirit of nembutsu.

When we stop to consider that our existence and our lives are due to the interdependence between a constant stream of causes and conditions, *then* we are able to begin each day and conduct ourselves with the correct view. When we see the world clearly and with the correct view, then the correct thought, speech, and actions will surely follow. Then, we are able to set ourselves upon the pathway to true happiness. Rest assured fellow travelers and let the Dharma be our guide.

Donors for November to the Legacy Endowment Fund e-Waste fund are Sets Seo and Ruth Seo. The Legacy Endowment Fund Board appreciates the donations and encourages any individual or business that would like to schedule a free pickup at your home or office to call (800) 317-3112 or go to www.eWaste4good.com.

E-WASTE DONORS TO LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND

おかげさま



Condolences to the Families of:



- Betty Tayeko Aoki..... July 10, 1921 – November 1, 2012*
- Eichi "Archie" Ioka December 3, 1932 – November 27, 2012*
- Kay Kiyoshi Fukushima..... February 5, 1934 – December 6, 2012*
- Dr. Fumio Matsumura February 5, 1934 – December 6, 2012*
- Kaoru Inouye June 15, 1925-- December 6, 2012*
- James Takeuchi, Jr..... August 11, 1948 – December 7, 2012*



TALENT SHOW

On Saturday, December 1, 2012, our Betsuin Legacy Endowment Board sponsored the Betsuin's first-ever "Buddhists Got Talent" show. This inaugural program was another attempt to try something new to inject some positive energy and spirit into our Betsuin. There is no doubt that this evening of performances revealed that our Betsuin has got talent to spare!



We send out a very special thank you to our MC and director for the evening — Sensei Koichi Mizushima. Also we could not have enjoyed the performances without the sound engineering expertise of Cliff Adams. They are proof that our Betsuin not only has talent, but we've got skills! Thanks also to Gary Matsumoto for videotaping this event for posterity. We are grateful to Reiko Kurahara, Sam & Gladys Adachi and Grace Hatano for their help with the delicious refreshments of hot dogs (chili too!) and an assortment of delightful desserts. This was another event made possible by the support and sponsorship of the Legacy Endowment Fund.

Although it was a rainy evening, more than 200 people attended the show. If you missed it, we know you would not want to miss the next one!

A very special thank you to the stars who shone so brightly that night:

- Erin Ohara & Lauryn Okamoto, Vocal & Baton, "Star Spangled Banner"
- Eric Shebert, Piano, "Jackson Street Blues"
- Naomi Piper Pell, Karate demo
- Kayla and Haley Arakaki, Piano duet, "A Whole New World"
- Henry & Koichi Mizushima, Trumpet duet, "Tijuana Taxi"
- Sac Betsuin Choir Unleashed, Skit/vocal - (Myra Okasaki, Daniel Martinez, Jean Kashiwada, Minnie Iseri, Dennis Lau, MaryAnn Miyao, Stephen Kashiwada, Karen Adachi, Naomi Hamamoto, Nancy Hashimoto, Gladys Kawaye, Julie Kawaye, Keiko Makishima, Barbara Nakatomi, Jennifer Reven, Yaeko Tadamaru)
- Peter Shima, Guitar, "Jyounetsu Tairiku"
- Grace Matayoshi, Piano, "Charlie Brown Christmas Medley"
- Na Aikane Ukulele Group, "Keep Your Eyes on the Hands," "La Bamba" - (George Kashiwagi, Sandy Nishimura-Yee, Jane Nakagawa, Mary Ann Nakashima, Amiko Kashiwagi, Brian Tsuda, Cliff Adams, Dennis Lau, Kimi Kaneko, Marti Ikehara, Pauline Nishina, Ruth Seo, Willie Hayashida, Winifred Detwiler)
- Peter Shima & Henry Mizushima, Vocal duet, "Bus Stop"
- Megan Nakao, Harp, "Two Guitars"
- Ellie & Koichi Mizushima, Vocal & Piano, "The One That Got Away"
- Jr. YBA, Skit/Dance, "Friend Like Me," Aladdin - (Keri Castle, Jason Wu, Jennifer Yip, Gillian Ohta, Katelyn Sakasegawa, Kristine Yabumoto, Amanda Borges, Sydney Kajioka, Kaelyn Hosokawa, Stacey Lee, Corey Handa, Ryan Soohoo, Annika Ohta, Kayla Arakaki, Justin Hu, Lyndsie Mark, Wes Okuhara, Kimberly Yabumoto, Haley Arakaki, Aaron Louie, Tanner Sasaki, Nate Siu)
- Boy Scout Troop 50, Dance: "Michael Jackson Medley" - (Ryan Chang, Zachary Chang, Gregory Ito, Chris Ogawa, Wes Okuhara, Justin Shebert, Kyle Adachi)
- Ministers, Minister Assistants and Son, A Capella Vocal - (Sensei Koichi, Reverend Bob, Sensei Kelvin, Sensei Keith, Brian Hatano, Reverend Patti)



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.

**SAKURA
GAKUEN
JAPANESE
LANGUAGE
SCHOOL**
JOHN MCDONNELL

AKEMASHITE OMEDETOU GOZAIMASU.

It has been nearly a month since the language school held its December fundraiser, but the warm satisfaction of a bowl of delicious ramen as well as the fellowship and support of the sangha still lingers. The organizational and culinary skills, dedication, patience and energy of Ken Murakami, Karen and Keith Adachi, Judy Inaba and Bobby Tanaka made the event possible. The school's gratitude to those who came to support the school was apparent in the tired smiles of the workers as they cleaned up the kaikan and kitchen that afternoon. The Sakura Gakuen Board, teaching staff and PTC (Parent Teacher Committee) thank all who joined us on this inaugural fundraiser for the school. The PTC would also like to extend its gratitude for the continued support of the annual mikan (Satsuma mandarin) sale that will fund the scholarship program.

This month starts off with the Saturday students learning about the traditions of *Oshogatsu* or New Year in Japan. Staples of New Year like *nengajo* (New Year's postcards), *otoshidama* (monetary gift), *kakizome* (first calligraphy), and *kagami mochi* (decoration) will be explained while students enjoy fresh mochi. New Year's games, including *fukuwarai* (pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey-like game), and several craft projects, including *kadomatsu* (pine & bamboo gate decoration) and *takoage* (kite flying) are also part of the culture day. This culture day makes for an easy transition back from the holiday break from school, before buckling down to wrap up the fall semester.

The spring semester will begin on Monday, February 4 for the adult classes and on Saturday, February 2 for the youth school. Registration for the adult classes will be held in the Annex Monday evening January 14 at 7:30 p.m. More information about registration for adult classes can be found at <http://sakuragakuen.org/classes/adult-classes/> Registration for the Saturday school will be held February 2 at 9 a.m. Forms and information about the school can be found on the website: <http://sakuragakuen.org>. Church members enrolling in the adult school get a 20% discount on tuition. Members who have children enrolled in the Saturday language program can waive the PTC dues. Parents of prospective new students for the Saturday classes should consult with Dean Wood to assess if starting in spring is appropriate, since by spring the first-year students have mastered at least the hiragana syllabary (writing system). High school language credit may be possible for some school districts and this year vouchers from Visions in Education for home-schooled youth are being accepted by the school.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

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

Have you paid your dues?

Placer Buddhist Church
3192 Boyington Rd.
Penryn, California 95663
Telephone (916) 652-6139

October 21, 2012

Buddhist Church of Sacramento
2401 Riverside Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95816

Dear Rinban Bob Oshita and President Gordon Nitta,

On behalf of the Placer Buddhist Church Sangha, I extend our sincerest appreciation for the ministerial support you have provided us during the past month. The Dharma talks that your ministers and minister's assistants have shared with us and the genuine interest all of you have displayed in helping our temple during this transition period have resulted in more of our members attending the weekly services. I sense a revitalized interest by our members in the spiritual side of Buddhism and continued interest by new attendees. Please pass on to your Board of Directors and the rest of your Sangha that we at Placer Buddhist Church are deeply grateful for your continued support. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Gary Hongo
President, Placer Buddhist Church

**THANK YOU
FROM
PLACER
BUDDHIST
CHURCH**

DHARMA SCHOOL
KEN FURUKAWA



DONATIONS

Happy New Year! That may be all that I can come up with tonight. I must explain. I have cold, cough, stuffed up, and my brain feels like cotton. This is a rainy, cold night, and tomorrow is a work day. So you might think that I am wishing that next year is better. I was just about to do just that, and I realized that tomorrow really can't be any better than today, nor can next week or next month. After all, who knows if I will actually see that future? I really just need to appreciate NOW.

As I sit here, I am amazed how I am smiling at my own foolishness in wishing for a better moment in time. Can I guarantee that it will come? Why do I think it will be better? And what is so bad right now? Well I guess that feeling better would be nice, but when I do, I don't think I really appreciate it. To be honest, I am usually thinking about working on a project or completing some task for work, so I don't appreciate feeling better. No, I guess that I only really miss feeling good when I am not feeling good. How silly, but that is me! Will I ever learn? Maybe that is my wish for the new year — awareness and appreciation of life and others. It can't hurt, and probably will make me and others feel better. And isn't that where I started? Oh life, it is so wonderful. I look forward to seeing all of you next year!

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

- | | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Boy Scout Troop 50th Anniversary | Minnie Iseri | Sam Orite |
| Reverends Bob, Patti, Peter & Ms. Aileen Gladys Adachi | Marlene Itagaki | Marlene Ono |
| Ann Amioka | Tak Ito | Mollie Oto |
| Fujinkai | Machiko Kimura | Sachi Sawada |
| Ted Fukui (Campbell Soup) | Utako Kimura | Helen Sekikawa |
| Sensei Grace Hatano | Reiko Kurahara | Hiroko Takamoto |
| Esther Hokama | Dr. Timothy Mar | Irene Takeda |
| Sue Ichihō Hokama | Yen Marshall | Virginia Uchida |
| | Yo Morisawa | Emi & Louie Watanabe |
| | Rachel Nagai | Sueko & Haruo Yamashita |
| | Mary Orite | Jacqueline Yokoi |

BOY SCOUT TROOP 50
ADRIAN NGUYEN



December is the fourth month of the scouting year. In November, the theme was engineering. At the November 2 troop meeting, patrols built catapults and raced to see who could launch a ping-pong ball the farthest. The scouts participated in the Roundtable flag ceremony on November 8. On November 10, the scouts went on a hike around San Francisco and went to Angel Island. On November 26, scouts got into patrols and built bridges from limited supplies given to them. The bridges were then tested for strength by putting cinder blocks on them. After the troop meeting, they all pitched in to help clean up the temple for the Temple Cleanup Service Project.

The theme for December was hobbies. On December 1, Troop 50 had a luncheon to celebrate its 50th anniversary. On December 7, scouts went to Sleep Train Arena to watch the game against the Magic and spent the night in the arena. The scouts participated in a scavenger hunt in Sacramento on December 15. They also stayed overnight at the Sacramento Buddhist Church. The next day, December 16, scouts made California rolls for the Sushi Service Project. The first troop meeting of December took place on December 21. January's troop meetings will be on January 4 and January 18.

- Pink Diamond had a patrol meeting on November 3 and 16. They participated in the District Roundtable flag ceremony on November 8 and the Angel Island hike on November 10.
- The Galloping Gazelles had a patrol meeting on October 28, went on a patrol outing on November 2 to November 4 to New Melones Lake, and went on the Angel Island hike on November 10.
- The Kokopelli Patrol partook in the District Roundtable flag ceremony on November 8, the Angel Island hike on November 10, and Sleep Train Arena sleepover on December 7. They had a patrol meeting on November 2 and are having a patrol outing with Predatorial Penguins soon.
- The Milk Mustache Patrol had a patrol meeting on November 2, participated in the District Roundtable ceremony on November 8, and went to the Angel Island hike on November 10. They also helped at Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation (SASF) on November 17 for a patrol service project.
- The Predatorial Penguins helped in the District Roundtable flag ceremony, went on the Angel Island hike, and had a patrol meeting on November 2 and December 7.
- The Beast Patrol went on the Angel Island hike and the District Roundtable flag ceremony.
- The Kauilia Pack participated in the District Roundtable flag ceremony and went to the Angel Island hike.
- Ball Is Life had a patrol meeting on November 2 and went on the Angel Island hike.



Rev. Bob Oshita
428-9833



Rev. Peter Inokoji-Kim
446-4988

Boy Scout Troop 50 Annual Crab Feed



Date: Saturday, January 19, 2013

Time: 4:30 Doors Open
5:30 Dinner

Location: Sacramento Buddhist Church
2401 Riverside Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95818

Tickets: \$40

Featuring:



Crab



Salad



Pasta



Ice Cream

Door Prize ☺ Auction ☺ Raffle ☺ Drawing
50/50 ☺ Last Man Standing ☺

Tickets may be purchased from any Troop 50 Boy Scout or by
contacting: Ken Okuhara at 869-4325 or Karen Adachi at 801-3732.

**CRAB FEED
TICKETS
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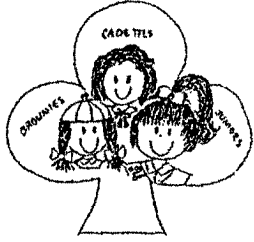
Boy Scout Troop 50 will be holding its annual Crab Feed on Saturday, January 19, 2013 at the Sacramento Buddhist Church. This popular annual event is the troop's major fundraiser of the year. All the proceeds help support all the troop's activities for the year, including campouts, service projects, projects for the church, family outings, and badges/awards for the scouts.

Seating is limited, so purchase your tickets early from any Troop 50 Boy Scout. Tickets (\$40) will also be available for purchase on various Sundays after service.

We thank you for your continuous support of Boy Scout Troop 50!

**GIRL SCOUT
TROOP 569**

ELLEN HAMATANI



**SPORTS
COMMITTEE**

ALAN WU



Happy New Year from Girl Scout Troop 569. Here are the activities from a couple of troops.

Senior 1 girls decided that for their holiday party they would cook dinner for the parents. This event will be taking place in January. The girls will be both planning and cooking the meal. The parents are looking forward to an enjoyable and tasty dinner.

Senior 6 girl scouts Katelyn Bates, Taylor Morris, Natalie Seko, Kristine Yabumoto and fearless co-leader Peggy Seko braved the elements at the California International Marathon on December 2, handing out water to the runners at the Mile 15 aid station. Even though they got soaked and a little wind-blown, they still had fun. What troopers! Their annual holiday potluck had delicious dishes provided by the girls and attendees enjoyed an art show where the girls displayed their visions of "GirlTopia" as part of the GirlTopia Journey.

Cadettes 5 had a great time at their holiday sleepover. The girls discovered some "old-fashioned" holiday desserts, some new ones, and played a ton of games. In the new year, the girls are looking forward to remaking our own magazine as part of our MEDIA Journey. Looking deeply into biases in advertising and articles in popular magazines has certainly been eye-opening, and the girls hope to produce a fun magazine for junior high girls that holds more of the truth than current popular magazines.

Welcome to the first edition of the SANGHA for 2013! If you are reading this, then the Mayan calendar was not as accurate as they wanted us to believe and there is life after the end... actually, if you ask me, I think that Joe Mayan, the guy in charge of the calendar, lost the parchment, hides or stones that had all the days after December 21, 2012 on them and that is why the Mayan calendar ends on 12/21/12.

OK, OK — no more calendar talk. We hope you thoroughly enjoyed this year's version of the Holiday Season. This past year, you know, the one that just ended, seemed as though the Holiday Season began in October. It seemed that simultaneously we were preparing for Halloween and Christmas at the same time, you know, simultaneously. But historical records show that these events occur naturally in a sequential order, you know, one at a time, and that there are approximately two months between the two holidays, and to add a monkey to your wrench, there is another holiday stuck in between to boot! A November holiday that some consider to be the most Buddhist of all the national holidays, which is Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is a whole topic maybe for another time and place. Let's get back to the here and now... Oh yeah, holiday colors... Not only were the orange and black colors out in the stores, but they were joined by the red and green colors right next door in aisle 3. I distinctly remember that, because I said to myself: "Myself, it sure is odd seeing both Halloween candy and Christmas candy out on the store shelves at the same time." (Well, I guess it is another time and place now, so let's talk about Thanksgiving.) Then I said to myself again: "Myself again... are you listening?!... I feel sad for Thanksgiving; it just got passed over like milk that has been sitting in the sun on the back porch since noon yesterday, or last year's fruit cake that you use for a door stop." Yep, that's what I said to myself alright. When you stop and think about it, there really are no specific candies nor colors associated with Thanksgiving, except for maybe the earth tones that describe autumn, or the residual hues from Halloween. Thanksgiving is a simple holiday where we spend several days planning and then a whole day preparing a huge meal for friends and family to enjoy that could amount to anywhere from 12 to 25 people or more... that's all it is. But the meaning behind it is the kicker: Gather together with your family and appreciate. Reverend Peter related this to the December holiday and said it best when after a few years of giving Brut and Old Spice as Christmas presents, it was actually the meaning behind the gifts that really really mattered and that is what made okaasan and obaasan cry... not cry in a sad way, but cry happy tears of appreciation.

Every 12 months when we close out the old year, the hustle and bustle reaches a crescendo of epic proportions that typically culminates on New Year's Day when many of us spend several days planning and then a whole day preparing a huge meal for friends and family to enjoy all day long as an occasion to come together and celebrate the new year with food and drink, good company and gratitude.

The new year also brings to an end the mini-recess we had in our basketball league. After a two-week break, all games will resume on the weekend of

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(CONTINUED)

January 5 and 6. ALSO, If you have not written it down on your calendar yet, please take note that ALL the Week 8 games will be played on Saturday, February 2, 2013, and no games will be played on Sunday, February 3, 2013. No games on Sunday, February 3 is in observance of the other national holiday known as Super Bowl Sunday where many of us plan for several days and spend a whole day preparing a huge meal for friends and family to come together and enjoy the holiday.

If you are reading this before 7 p.m. on December 31, then it is not too late to attend the New Year's Eve Service. This service is the third extra credit day for attendance. It is a quick and easy way to build the attendance percentage above that infamous 60% level, and while you are at it, you might as well attend the fourth and final extra credit opportunity on New Year's Day. Once it is gone, it is gone forever... well, until next year, but next year may be too late, so don't delay! The New Year's Day service begins at 9:30 a.m. and will finish with a little New Year celebration with the ministers and the Sangha. The Board of Trustees has spent several days planning and maybe not a whole day preparing some food for our annual New Year celebration at the church.

So, as we turn the last page of 2012 and close that book, we hope you all had a wonderful 2012 year and holiday season to cap it off and look forward to opening a brand new book and seeing you in 2013, and as a wise half-human once said: "Live long and prosper."

MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF CAREGIVING



Dr. Satsuka Ina, Ph.D., marriage and family therapist, will help participants understand and explore caregiving challenges that often are not addressed on February 21, 7:30 p.m. in the classrooms. The session is sponsored by the Betsuin Legacy Endowment Fund.

Dr. Ina will cover questions such as:

- How does my history with the person I'm caring for affect how I am coping with caregiving?
- What are my caregiving strengths and limitations?
- Am I utilizing all the resources available to me?

Exploring these issues can help caregivers assess their situation and create a caregiving approach that can be both realistic and fulfilling.

Any questions, contact Reverend Patti, Revpattibetsuin@gmail.com

Please sign up in the temple office.

**How can I make a difference for generations to come?
Give to the Legacy Endowment Fund**

Complete and return this post card to discover the many benefits that await you, including the potential for substantial tax relief and life time income, when you make a contribution to the Buddhist Church of Sacramento Legacy Endowment Fund.

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Legacy Endowment Fund Board
Buddhist Church of Sacramento
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