

Hello and welcome to the month of April...Every April, we observe our annual Hanamatsuri service celebrating the birth of the historical Shakyamuni Buddha. Once again, I would like to thank Kiyo's Florist for donating hundreds of colorful carnations as they have done for at least the last 20+ years! I would also like to thank our 8th Grade Dharma School class for decorating our beautiful Hanamido, "Flower Pavilion."

From the time I was very young, Hanamatsuri was my favorite service. I recall, as a small child, the Hanamido seemed like a flower garden that had just sprouted up in the front of our Hondo. And I remember how mischievous I felt when I was able to "dunk" the baby Buddha, pouring sweet tea over his head again and again.

But as I've often shared, the historical Shakyamuni Buddha continues to be remembered for one reason: He awakened to reality. The title "Buddha" literally means, "one who is awake." And, as my Metta-Padma students know well, "Shakya" is the name of his family, and "muni" literally means "wise person." So "Shakyamuni Buddha" indicates that he was the "wise person from the Shakya family that awakened to reality." And the Dharma is what we call that undeniable reality the Buddha shared after his awakening.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

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SANGHA

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

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RB'S CORNER
 (CONTINUED)

This year for Hanamatsuri, we have a very special guest speaker. Bhante Seelawemala is a Sri Lankan Buddhist monk and has been a dear friend of mine for decades. We met around 1976 when he first came from Sri Lanka. I was assigned to the Los Angeles Betsuin at that time. We knew back then that there was a growing interest in the Buddha-Dharma. This interest has planted the seeds for sanghas to take root in many communities throughout the world. In 1990, Bhante founded a Buddhist Vihara in Vancouver, Canada. In 1996, he founded the American Buddhist Seminary in West Sacramento.

When Bhante's Master passed away in May 1982, Bhante became abbot of the Ancient Cave Temple. His temple has 2,000 years of history and covers over 100 acres of land. This temple is one of the most important in Sri Lanka and he visits as often as possible.

Bhante was actually in Sri Lanka when, in December 2004, a tsunami devastated countries through Indonesia. Bhante led a relief effort where 100% of all donations would go to help those in need... and our Betsuin helped to raise funds to support his relief efforts.

Bhante has literally dedicated his life to reaching across the boundaries of language and culture to share the Dharma. It takes one who truly sees that although there may seem to be many sanghas, there is but one shared Dharma. He is one that continues to inspire us to seek a greater sense of community; to see that all around us, we have a growing Dharma family.

Please come our April Hanamatsuri service and welcome back to our Sacramento Betsuin my dear Dharma friend, Bhante Seelawemala.

**PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE**
 GORDON NITTA

April 2015: After several years of delayed permit approvals from the State Board, our HVACs have finally been installed. As stated in previous articles, this is the first time we have ever had air conditioning in the Kaikan. The other five HVACs over the main building were also replaced. They were 35 years old and costing us more in money and aggravation from breakdowns than we could bear.

Thank you to sangha members Marty Sakata and James Amioka of KW Construction for taking on the project that became more of a test in patience with permitting approvals than anticipated. We also thank those who donated money toward the HVAC projects. Your generosity will go a long way toward the comfort of all sangha members and visitors to the temple.

This month will be the start of another major project in the upkeep of the temple's property. Under the leadership of our project coordinator, Ted Yoshimura, the old trellis system will be taken down and replaced with a covered system. Your patience while the demolition and replacement is taking place will be appreciated.

The Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) 2015 National Conference was held in San Diego this year. The usual formalities of proposals being presented and voted on took place, although this year the meeting schedule format was changed. The host San Diego and Vista temples, along with guidance from BCA, added a program they called Dharma.com to the daily meeting schedule. Eight of the younger ministers were asked to give a 15-minute Dharma talk each. Four spoke at the end of the first meeting, day one, and the remaining four spoke at the end of the second meeting, day two. All eight were very different engaging Dharma talks.

One of the highs of the conference weekend was watching and listening to the youngest group at the conference, the Youth Advocacy members, young adults from the Youth Ministers Program, College Young Buddhist Association (CYBA) and Young Buddhist Association (YBA). The Youth Advocacy Committee (YAC) held Youth Leadership Training (YLT) in conjunction with the national conference. They also participated as a panel of YAC members asked questions by anyone who wanted to attend the conference scheduled session. Much of the questions pertained to how temples get participation by young adults and what has influenced them in remaining active in the BCA and temples. For the most part, it was the adult interaction that has kept them active. Ministers, adult mentors and/or parents all have contributed to their activity within the BCA umbrella.



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

**OFFICE
MANAGER**

Cindy Kitade

**OFFICE
PROJECT
COORDINATOR**

Jennifer Nitta

**BETSUIN
OFFICE**

446-0121

**SANGHA
HELPERS**

Misao Abe
Mary Amemiya
Sumiye Hamamoto
Yuki Hashisaka
Ruth Hayashi
Irene Hoshiko
Sanaye Imajo
Miyuki Inenaga
Mae Kaneko
Alice Kataoka
Yoshiko Morizawa
Mitzie Muramoto
Mutsuko Noguchi
Helen Sakaishi
Fusako Takahashi
Faye Uyemura

The March SBWA Board meeting was held on Wednesday, March 4, with President Fusako Takahashi presiding.

DONATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to the following ladies and families for their generous donations to the SBWA:

Women of Jodo Shinshu	Dana Fund Donation	\$338
Aichi Kenjin Kai	Ukettes	\$150
Takashi Tsujita Family	In Memory of Irene Tsujita	\$100
Utako Kimura	Bonenkai Donation	\$50
Gayle Kono	In Memory of Sakaye Nishikawa	\$50
Ikuko Sakazaki	Orei	\$50
Ken & Midori Ito	In Memory of Irene Tsujita	\$25
Hideko Sakazaki	In Memory of Don Ishii	\$25
Hideko Sakazaki	In Memory of Yoshiko Kawahara	\$25
Hideko Sakazaki	In Memory of Irene Tsujita	\$25
James & Hiroko Tsuda	In Memory of Irene Tsujita	\$25
Edna Onodera	In Appreciation	\$20
Mary Orite	In Memory of Kikuyo Kodakari	\$20
Ikuko Sakazaki	In Memory of Kikuyo Kodakari	\$20
Gerry S. Tsukiji	In Memory of Irene Tsujita	\$20

BELATED THANK YOUS

A belated thank you to the following who helped the Sports Committee by helping make the kasane mochi on December 13, 2014: Lynn Kurahara, Wayne Kurahara, Sandy Kataoka Fong, Alice Kataoka, Jean Ota, Terri Kagiya, Teiko Matsuo, Midori Ito, Heidi Sakazaki, Sueko Yamashita and Fusako Takahashi. Also, we appreciated Reiko Kurahara and her kitchen helpers for the delicious lunch that day.

SPRING FOOD FESTIVAL

Thank you for coming out to help out with the Spring Food Festival. It was a lot of work and a lot of fun, and with all of the ladies and men helping, we finished early on both Saturday and Sunday and we sold almost everything on Sunday! Great job!

- Thank you to Virginia Uchida for organizing everything before leaving for her family wedding and turning over the leadership to Fusako Takahashi and Midori Ito.
- Thank you to Lynn and Wayne Kurahara and Elaine and John Yoshikawa for co-chairing the chicken, spam musubi and cabbage salad food items; Jan Muraki for chairing the sushi egg cooking; Amy Ishimoto for chairing the sushi egg cutting; Nancy Hashimoto, Toshiye Kobata, Katsuko Hirota, Grace Ishimoto, Fusako Takahashi and Helen Sakaishi for doing the dashi and the flavoring of the sushi gu and the age; Fusako Takahashi, Midori Ito, Irene Takeda, Sandy Nishimura-Yee and their crew for packing and distributing the to-go and on-site sales on Sunday; Misa Oshiro for taking care of the cash sales on Sunday; and Keiko Jean and Stephen Kashiwada for chairing the udon (dashi on Saturday and noodle cooking on Sunday).
- Thank you to Mike Nagai and his crew for washing the rice and to Marty Sakata and his crew for cooking the rice.
- Thank you, Yosh Nakamoto and his crew for flavoring the rice with vinegar.
- Special thanks to Gordon Nitta, our temple president, for assisting in the kitchen, and Edmund Yee and his crew for keeping track of the quantities prepared and implementing the transition from preparation to bagging set-up.

We had so many compliments on the delicious food. Under each chairperson, we had GREAT workers who made sure this event was such a success. The list of workers would be too long for this article, so to all of you who helped out — give yourselves a pat on the back for a job well done.

We also would like to extend our gratitude to the following organizations who helped us set-up on Friday evening, Saturday evening, and the vacuuming and carpet put-away on Sunday: the Girl Scouts, the Sports Association and the Dharma School, all coordinated by Cindy Kitade.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

- **Nursing Home Visits:** Lynn Kurahara oversees the SBWA visitations to the various nursing homes in the Sacramento area. Please inform Lynn or President Fusako Takahashi if you know of any new residents in the nursing homes so that the SBWA ladies can plan visitations to them. The SBWA also thanks Jean Ota (SBWA Board member) for knitting more than 50 booties, which will be given to the nursing home residents that we visit. Thank you, Jean!
- **Music Circus:** Virginia Uchida has reserved a block of 50 tickets for the June 11 performance of *My Fair Lady*. She will have more information on the cost of each ticket and dinner in the near future.

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

**MINISTER
ASSISTANTS**
MICHIKO YUKAWA

Craft Booth: The next class will be on Friday, April 17, at 1:30 p.m. on stamping tile coasters. Sue Louie and Kathy Tanaka-Henry will be teaching the class.

THANK YOU FOR BEING ACTIVE SBWA MEMBERS!

The next SBWA meeting will be on Wednesday, April 1, starting with a service at 6 p.m., followed by our monthly meeting.

Spring has arrived! Outside my window, pink-blossomed cherry trees line our street and small, hurrying birds seem to have chased the clouds away, leaving a clear pastel-blue sky. We lift our faces upward during our "daily" walks and feel a spring in our feet. More of our neighbors are outdoors, walking their pet dogs, jogging, running. Even our mailman drives by with a friendly "honk, honk" and a quick wave.

In my early teen years, my family moved from San Francisco, California to Salt Lake City, Utah. The weather in San Francisco is very mild the entire year... no extremes of climate. Our only complaint was the frequent fog that rolled in from the ocean almost daily the year round. Salt Lake City climate was a completely different story. Hot summers with beautiful sunsets turned to brisk and windy autumn with colorful leaves that needed to be raked into piles (and then scattered)! Winter brought icicles hanging from the eaves and snow that we "crunched" through to get to school. Then in spring, tulips and hyacinths popped up where my father had planted bulbs in our backyard. It was a totally wonderful new experience to enjoy four distinct seasons since my siblings and I were still young and carefree.

As an adult, I returned to California, and experienced a new way of appreciating the different seasons. In Sacramento, Mr. Kimura, who owned a farm on Garden Highway, would invite us on late summer evenings to pick and taste Crenshaw melons right off his vines. Having always been a city girl, I had never tasted melons so amazingly sweet and drippingly juicy! In San Jose, during early fall, Mrs. Oki taught us how to pull her firm-yet-tender daikon out of the ground without cracking it or losing all the leaves. In late fall, the Satos taught us how to "massage" the bitter persimmons they had hung from the eaves to transform them into sweet, soft dried fruit. On road trips to Los Angeles, we often stopped to rest and visit the Ikemiyas or Kimuras of Central California. Invariably, they would give us boxes of ripe peaches or nectarines from their orchards to take to our brothers' families.

Zenmonshu (our Gomonsu Emeritus) Koshin Ohtani, in his book, "The Buddha's Call to Awaken," asks, "Do you have an obutsudan (Buddha's shrine) in your house? Have you ever made offerings to the shrine?" Smugly, I think to myself, "Yes, we have an obutsudan, and yes, of course, we have made offerings." We place obuppan (rice offering) in the obutsudan whenever I cook a fresh pot of rice. When we receive food or gifts, we acknowledge the gifts with gassho before the obutsudan.

The Zenmonshu continues, "If there is a place where you can place your hands together in *gassho*, then there is a place in your everyday life where you can think... you are setting the attitude with which you will meet the world, and there is great meaning to internalizing the Buddhist sense of values." These words of the Zenmonshu caused me to stop; smugness turned to wondering: are my offerings merely automatic gestures without deep thought, without a true sense of gratitude for all that I receive?

The above quotations are found in his chapter entitled, "I Receive, Therefore I Am." As a child, when I would leave even one grain of rice in my bowl, my mother would admonish me, saying, "Mottainai, neh! (how wasteful!) Think of all the poor children of the world who do not have sufficient food to eat." I responded by clearing my plate, but I doubt I was thinking of the poor children. We teach our children to say "Itadakimasu," "Gochiso-sama," "Arigato," but as adults, do we use these words with deep thought, with a true sense of gratitude for *all* that we receive?

In a magazine interview, Sally Ride, the first American woman in space, recalls that the glimpse from the spaceship window of a bright blue Earth in the blackness of space was unforgettable. Then she noticed a very thin royal blue line along the Earth's horizon. Realizing that that thin line was the Earth's atmosphere, she came to understand how truly fragile our existence is. This left a deep impression in her heart and mind and consequently shaped the rest of her life's work.



Rev. Bob Oshita
428-9833



Rev. Patti Oshita
428-9833



Sensei Koichi Mizushima
704-1493
bkmizu@gmail.com

MINISTER ASSISTANTS
 (CONTINUED)

LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD
 TED YOSHIMURA

おかげさま

Zenmonshu is teaching us that *all sentient beings are interconnected*, that my life is supported by a vast “network of animal and plant life.” I take for granted the water I drink, the very air that I breathe. I am beginning to understand that my entire life is that of receiving. “I Receive, Therefore I Am.”

Namo Amida Butsu.

Some Perspectives: What is the difference between Bushism and Buddhism? The words almost sound the same... don't they? In a magazine article, “Bushism” was used to refer to the 2016 presidential election where if Jeb Bush is successful at being elected President of the United States, that will be three presidents (George, George W, and Jeb) from the same family... Of course, we need no explanation for Buddhism. There is no politics here... just impermanence and interdependence working together to help us understand and appreciate ourselves and others.

LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD (LEFB) NEWS

The Youth Advocacy Committee (YAC) reunion was held at the Mountain View Temple this past January. The students continued their training of Shoshinge and the Wasans, workshops on Buddhism, and continued their training of conducting and running services. Three of our temple youth members—Haley Arakaki, Ty Coloma and Lyndsie Mark—had the opportunity to participate. Our LEFB has assisted them by funding their registration fees for this event.

As mentioned in a previous SANGHA article, LEFB now has a Legacy Endowment Request for Funding Form. One of the requirements for funding is a follow-up written evaluation of the funded activity that includes a personal reflection, impact of the experience and should be suitable for possible inclusion in a SANGHA newsletter and/or WHEEL OF DHARMA or other publication.

Our three participants prepared the following evaluation reports:

LYNDSIE MARK

Over the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend, I met up with nine of the 10 members of YAC10 for our YAC reunion at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, along with Reverend Bob and Reverend Patti of Sacramento, Reverend Mukojima of the Mountain View Temple, and Charlene Grinolds, Susan Bottari and Keith Sawada, who helped out at our summer retreat. Although we have kept in contact since our retreat in July, it made us feel so happy to hug and see one another in person. We shared how we had been doing at school, our temples, and our diverse range of extracurricular activities. I felt it was almost as if we had not actually been separated for six months; no time was wasted in resuming the laughter and joking with each other we enjoyed at the retreat.

I am so, so thankful that the reunion is a part of the YAC program. Having been away at Irvine for school, part of the homesickness I have felt has come from not regularly attending church services and being involved in the temple community. Reunion was more than just an opportunity to visit with my YAC buddies again. It was reviving and a little taste of home to see familiar faces, put on my robes, and tend to the onaijin. I had forgotten how empowering ringing Kansho feels, how fun it is to chant together in a group, and how calming and therapeutic oshoko and gassho can be.

As in the YAC summer retreat, I had the opportunity to listen to each of my Dharma buddies give a Dharma message, or Howa, and in turn share with them my message about the changes I have observed in my life since beginning my college experience. Although I felt out of practice with some of the service roles and chanting, everything I learned in YAC training came back to me within the first couple services, and once again felt like second nature. Retreat was truly a reminder of how important church is to me.

The weekend included a trip to San Jose Japantown. We enjoyed lunch at one of the many local restaurants and toured the Japanese American Museum. Having only been to San Jose for the occasional basketball tournament, I thoroughly enjoyed learning about the history of the city and its strongly rooted Japanese community.

Programs such as the YAC retreat and reunion have the potential to be extremely meaningful to many youths in the Buddhist community. Understanding the discipline, mindfulness and respect needed to be a minister or a minister's assistant gave me a greater appreciation of the Buddhist tradition and for the opportunity to be a part of it. I have learned so much through the YAC program, about myself and about Buddhism, as a result of the generosity and support of the Board of Trustees and Legacy Endowment of the Sacramento Betsuin.

**LEGACY
ENDOWMENT
FUND BOARD
(CONTINUED)**

Through the support of my temple’s Sangha and Team Betsuin, my understanding of our tradition is strengthened and I hope to share the enthusiasm with others. I am looking forward to the experiences ahead that will allow me to learn more about Buddhism and participate in the perpetuation of its teachings in my community.

HALEY ARAKAKI

The Youth Advocacy Committee organizes a retreat every summer for kids interested in learning more about Buddhism. After the summer retreat, YAC hosted a reunion in which we learned more about Buddhism, and again reconnect with our dharma buddies. The reunion was held on January 16, 2015 to January 18, 2015 at the Mountain View Buddhist Church. We conducted services, participated in workshops, bonded with our YAC buddies, and ate delicious food.

YAC has truly changed my life, not only by advancing my knowledge on Buddhism, but also by helping my communication skills, creating new friendships, and many more life skills. I can’t thank the Youth Advocacy Committee and the Sacramento Betsuin/Legacy Endowment enough for giving me this opportunity.

TY COLOMA

The YAC retreat was a great opportunity for me because I got to meet new people I most likely wouldn’t have met before, and also learned more about Buddhism than I knew. First of all, this retreat developed strong friendships that will last forever. Each one of us made connections with each other in one way or another and we grew around those connections that led into a great mix of personalities all into one. Also, this retreat has taught me how to see life differently. Entering the retreat, I lived life through the many Dharma messages of the ministers, but once I attended this retreat, I started to see life in more than one perspective. The retreat taught and showed me that every moment of every day of our lives is something to be grateful for and we couldn’t ask for anything more. When the retreat started to come to an end, I noticed that the week spent with these people was something to be happy for because without the retreat, I wouldn’t be who I am now.

The YAC kids came through in fine form! Their evaluations reflect the positive effect of the program and their personal growth.

**SAKURA
GAKUEN
AILEEN NIIZAWA
MORRIS**



Our youth class students are well into the spring semester at Sakura Gakuen! We had our 7th Annual Speech Contest on March 14. The students wrote their own speeches, ranging in topics from Pokemon and Godzilla to Japanese cuisine and geography. Their diligence paid off, as families and sensei enjoyed all their efforts.

There are other exciting cultural events coming up this semester. In April, we have a field trip planned to San Francisco’s Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival, which will include a visit to the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park. In May, we will be celebrating Kodomo no Hi (Children’s Day) with Japanese arts and crafts, a taiko performance and even nagashi-somen (floating noodle slide). Tanoshimi desu!

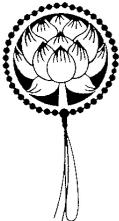
There are currently six adult Monday evening classes. If you are interested in reading, writing and conversing in Japanese, please contact Sakura Gakuen adult class dean, Masako Thomas sensei: thomas@sakuragakuen.org.

We currently have some youth class sensei positions available. If you are interested or know of anyone who would be a wonderful Sakura Gakuen sensei, we are accepting applications. Please call (916) 542-0557 or e-mail Futaba Wood sensei, dean emeritus: dfhwood@comcast.net.

We appreciate the sangha’s continued support. Arigatougozaimasu.



*Condolences to
the Families of:*



Dorothy Yamamoto July 4, 1923 - February 25, 2015

Shigeyuki Tanaka October 22, 1922 - March 14, 2015

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

NEW HALLWAY BULLETIN BOARDS!

Have you noticed that information in the main hallway has been getting more and more organized? And that the photographs of Betsuin activities are updated more frequently? Next time you're here, please take a look around because resources are on display for events:

- At the Betsuin;
- Sponsored by our Visionary Programs;
- Around the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA);
- In the Community.

... and you can't beat the photos of all the fun things our members and friends are up to these days! If you would like a flyer or photograph posted, please bring it by the office and we'll take care of it!

LOST & FOUND

Precious treasures are starting to pile up in the Betsuin Office. Are you (or someone you know) missing a pair of child's prescription glasses or a pair of women's prescription sunglasses? Have you been missing your special ojuzu? We'd love for these items to find their way back home, so come by to see if something belonging to you has been waiting for you here!

CORRECTION NEEDED FOR DONATION LISTING?

If you should ever notice that a donation you made has not been acknowledged in the SANGHA, please do not hesitate to contact the office. The sooner we know about the possible error, the sooner we can research/resolve the issue.

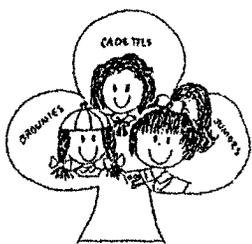
Please remember that donations received by the 15th of each month will be included in the next mailed issue; anything received on the 16th and after will be included in the issue of the SANGHA that will be published an additional month later. For instance, donations received by March 15 will be included in the April SANGHA; donations received after March 15 will be listed in the May SANGHA.

ONLINE BETSUIN CALENDAR

<http://buddhistchurch.com/calendar/calendar.htm>

For those of you who frequent the temple's website, the online calendar has been updated through the end of 2015. Please check out the upcoming events! If your organization needs to schedule an event, please contact the Betsuin office at BetsuinRoomRequest@gmail.com.

GIRL SCOUTS SANDRA KATAOKA FONG



Thank you to everyone who supported Girl Scout Troop 569 by purchasing yummy and delicious Girl Scout Cookies. Our troop sold over 16,000 boxes of cookies! This is one of the key fundraisers for our troops, so your support is appreciated! Haven't eaten all your cookies? Try these recipes for making delicious desserts using Girl Scout Cookies: http://www.girlscouts.org/program/gsc_cookies/cookie_recipes.asp

On Friday March 6, we held our annual Thinking Day celebration where girls participate in activities and projects with global themes to honor their sister Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in other countries, rich and poor. Troop 569 uses Thinking Day to learn more about culture, language and food from countries beyond the United States. This year, using the theme of "Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego," our girls visited the countries of Belize, Cyprus, Morocco, Singapore and Tahiti. Thank you, Ambassadors 3 for being our tour guide.

As part of the Spring Food Festival, Girl Scouts had our annual bake sale on Sunday, March 8. Thank you to everyone who supported our troop by purchasing yummy pastries to go along with your sushi, chicken, udon, salads and sandwiches you order from the food festival.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday, May 8 is our annual Bridging Ceremony. We have nine girls graduating from our program.
- Sunday, May 17 from 1-2:30 p.m. in the classrooms, we are having our parent and girl information session for any girl interested in becoming a girl scout. We are also looking for kindergarten and 1st grade age girls (fall 2015) who are interested in forming new Daisy troops.
- June 26-28 is the summer Nembutsu Camporee at Walden West Saratoga. All registered Girl Scout, Campfire, 4H, Venture Scouts from the 6th through 12th grades are eligible.

SANGHA STAFF

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

CONTRIBUTING REPORTERS

President	Gordon Nitta
SBWA	Keiko Jean Kashiwada
Minister Assts	Michiko Yukawa
Endowment	Ted Yoshimura
Dharma School	Yvonne Otani- Wong
Girl Scouts	Sandra Kataoka Fong
Sports Cmte	Alan Wu

**DHARMA
SCHOOL
NEWS**
YVONNE OTANI-WONG



April's Dharma School update is brought to you with pleasure by the fifth grade class. The fifth grade teachers are Sensei Kelvin Mark, Kim McDonnell, and Elliott and Yvonne Wong. We have one TA, Sydney Hosokawa, who is a tremendous help to the children and the teachers throughout the year.

This year, fifth grade has been reinforcing previously taught concepts, as well as preparing the children for increasingly complicated subject matter in the older grades. We have revisited the two I's: Interdependence and Impermanence. If you have time, stop by the bulletin board to see some artwork that represents this concept. We also discussed the migration of Buddhism across Asia, which will be taught more in-depth with the sixth grade curriculum next year. The bulk of our year was spent with our Light and Life project, also reinforcing the 2 I's, with a project of "stained glass" involving string, foil and coloring pens. The children had a lot of fun making shrink dink Buddhist art as well, and we have had a variety of other activity pages for them to do. We plan to finish the year with further discussion about deepening understanding of the self, a fun quiz game run by Sydney, and a few other art projects to round out the year.

We appreciate all the parents' continued support of their children at Dharma School, and we welcome any suggestions to improve our curriculum or new ideas for other fun class projects.

As you all know, April is our Hanamatsuri month, and we are all looking forward to the much-anticipated Hanamatsuri play this year, which will be about the beloved children's book series, *Pete the Cat*. Cliff Adams, Ann Amioka, Annika Ohta, Matsue Del Bene, cast and crew have been hard at work on the play, and the lower grades have been practicing their musical numbers, which will culminate in a fantastic show on Sunday, April 12. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

DONATIONS

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

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Mary Amemiya | Dr. Cheryl Mark | Mrs. Dorothy Satsuki |
| Betsuin Sports Program | Kim McDonnell | Yamamoto |
| Boy Scout Matsuyama | Koichi Mizushima | Haruo & Sueko Yamashita |
| Exchange Program | Mitzie Muramoto | |
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| Lynn Kurahara | Gary & Karen Yamamoto | David & Teri Yasuda |

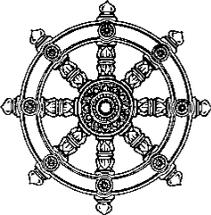
Please be aware that articles for the SANGHA are **due** on the **15th of each month**. Late articles will be published in the following month's issue.

When sending articles by email, please send email 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.

*Congratulations
Newlyweds*

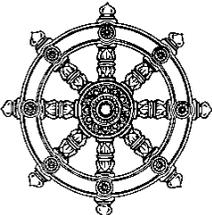


Jayne Masuda & Joseph Lisondra March 14, 2015



Welcome New Members

*Judy Sato
Cheryl Watanabe*



**SPORTS
COMMITTEE**

ALAN WU



Now that it is April, we can take a look at what was March. Everyone, well maybe not everyone... we'll just say most everyone is familiar with March Madness and all of the college basketball tournaments being played around the nation with the mother of all tournaments being the NCAA tournament that will actually start in mid-March and complete in April. But did you know what else happened in March? Here are a just a few examples of events that happened in March that everyone, well maybe not everyone... we'll just say that most everyone is NOT familiar with... and here we go!

Did you know that some of the other events in March included: National Pig Day, Self-Injury Awareness Day, Work Your Proper Hours Day, National Banana Cream Pie Day, National Old Stuff Day, National Anthem Day, I Want You To Be Happy Day, Alexander Graham Bell Day, Hug A GI Day.

And of course how could anyone forget: National Pound Cake Day, World Orphan Week, National Cheese Doodle Day, National Multiple Personality Day, World Spelling Day, National Dentist Day, National Frozen Food Day, Middle Name Pride Day, and National Cereal Day....whew! There was a lot going on besides the Madness of March!

Did you know that all these events happened before our 44th annual basketball tournament?

Did you know that in our 44th annual basketball tournament, this is what happened?....

Our B1 Boys took second place, while our B2 Boys won Consolation, and our C1 Boys played in the Consolation Game. B.O.'s Ballahs played in the Consolation Game in the D Girls Division and our D Girls Saints won the Third Place Game. Our D Boys Hurricanes team won their Fellowship Game and our D Boys Destroyers played in the Third Place Game and got edged out by just 1 point. Our little guys and gals in the E Division had a great time with our Red Dragons and Fireballs chalking up several wins while our Kings, SBC E team, and SBC 3rd/4th team were very gracious and were the perfect hosts and hostesses for our 44th annual basketball tournament in 2015.

Did you know that our Saturday night social held in the Kaikan was a great success with many teams in attendance and enjoying the carnival games, the frozen freezes, BINGO, and the raffle?

Thank you to all our participants and their families for attending our tournament and also thank you to all our sports families for making our 44th Annual Basketball Tournament such a success and a tournament that teams like to come back to year after year.

Did you know that this will conclude this edition until next month? See ya in May.

