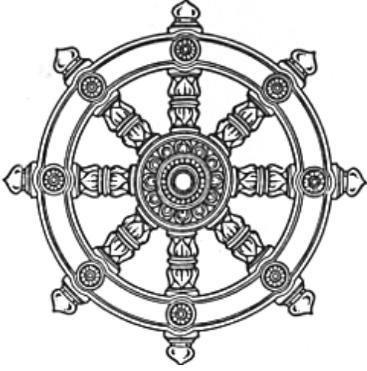


**REV. PATTI'S
CORNER**

REV. PATTI OSHITA



Happy Holidays! Welcome to the month of December! As 2015 comes to a close, Team Betsuin (Reverend Bob, Reverend Tim, Reverend Carol, Sensei Grace, Sensei Koichi, Sensei Kelvin, Sensei Keith and I) would like to thank the Sacramento Betsuin Sangha and Board of Trustees for all of your continuous support of our ministerial team. We are grateful for this opportunity to help and to be a part of this wonderful Sacramento Betsuin. Thank you so very much.

As we enter the month of December, please join us for our Bodhi Day service on Sunday, December 6, 9:30 a.m. with our guest speaker, Reverend Ron Miyamura from the Midwest Temple in Chicago. Reverend Ron was born and raised in Penryn, so please come and listen to one of our former Northern District products.

As you know, we have only a few more weeks of shopping days until Christmas. This is the season of gift giving and receiving... but Reverend Bob (RB) and I have felt for some time now that we really don't need very much to be happy. And... if we think about it, we already have SO MUCH STUFF!

As RB has often said, we who are living in the 21st Century... We have more now than any people who have ever lived. We have more stuff, more labor-
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

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SANGHA

SACRAMENTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
VOLUME 52 NUMBER 12 - DECEMBER 2015

**SACRAMENTO
BETSUIN**

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REV. PATTI'S CORNER

(CONTINUED)

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saving devices... and more gizmos and gadgets to entertain us than any people who have ever lived... ever!

I recently read an article that the most popular gifts a little over 100 years ago were:

1. Candy
2. Nuts
3. Rocking horse
4. Doll
5. Mittens/gloves
6. Toy train

What a difference at year 2015 that kids today are asking for gadgets and trendy toys. Today's leading gift (I hear) is a Star Wars toy called the Furbacca, which is a Furby that makes Wookiee sounds like Chewbacca, hums Star Wars theme songs, and plays virtual activities for \$79.99.

There is a question we often receive this time of year: "How do Buddhists celebrate Christmas?" Our answer continues to be: We enjoy it THOROUGHLY!

Christmas is the Christian holy day marking the birth of Christ, and as Buddhists, we encourage joining in on the celebration. It is our way, not just to respect the traditions of others, but to admire the goodness in people everywhere.

The Buddha's teachings are called the Dharma. Dharma is often translated as "teaching," but in the greatest meaning of this word, Dharma means "universal truth." Dharma is not Buddhist truth or Christian truth... but TRUTH UNDENIABLE. We are not concerned from where TRUTH is revealed; TRUTH IS TRUTH, whether it is in the Buddhist Sutras, Jewish Torah, the Islamic Koran, the Christian Bible... or the Hindu Vedas.

We acknowledge, respect and admire truth... and the goodness of people everywhere, in every culture and tradition. So we always encourage our temple members to please enjoy the Christmas season thoroughly! After all, it's pretty hard to avoid!

When December comes, in this country, Christmas becomes a national event. It is a social celebration, an American cultural holiday that seems to soak into every nook and cranny of our daily lives.

It is a wonderful time of year. It is a time of families and friends coming together; a time of gift giving and receiving; a time of sharing and loving. It is a time to especially remember and appreciate the people whose lives give meaning to our own.

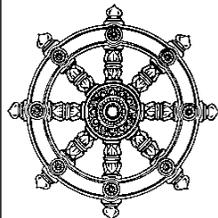
I've heard of a few devoted Buddhists rationalizing that the "tree" in their home is symbolic of the "Bodhi tree" under which the historical Buddha meditated. And the lights on the tree symbolize, you know — enlightenment.

My recommendation: Don't avoid it, don't disguise it... just enjoy the spirit of the season and celebrate most completely. As I mentioned earlier, it is our way, not just to respect the traditions of others, but to admire and be inspired by the goodness of people everywhere.

As I mentioned earlier, it is the Buddhist way, not just to respect the traditions of others, but to admire and be inspired by the goodness and kindness of people everywhere.

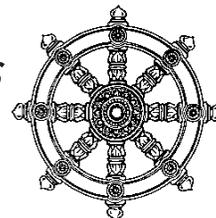
And especially during this winter holiday season... understanding deeply the undeniable realities of impermanence and interdependence... let us be inspired to live our lives with gratitude and kindness — what we call in Jodo Shinshu, a Life of Nembutsu.

Wishing you all a safe and happy holidays!

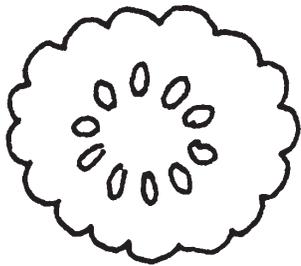


Welcome New Members

Daniel McGee



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



**MINISTER
ASSISTANTS**
MICHIKO YUKAWA

The November SBWA Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, November 4, with President Fusako Takahashi presiding.

DONATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

Takako F. Ito	In Appreciation	\$100
Toshiye Kawamura	In Appreciation for the Potluck Event	\$50
Emi Watanabe	In Appreciation	\$25
Ruth T. Seo	The SBWA Ukettes	\$75
Fusako Takahashi	In Appreciation – FBWA Representatives– Meeting in Seattle, WA	\$50

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

December 6: Bodhi Day Service – Reverend Ron Miyamura from the Midwest Temple, Chicago, will be our guest speaker. Please try to attend the 9:30 and/or the 11:30 services.

December 13: Tsuito Hoyo/Bonenkai Service and Year End Party – The guest speaker for the Tsuito Hoyo Service will be our Rinban Bob Oshita. Our new SBWA Cabinet officers will be sworn in at the service. Please plan on attending the noon service and end-of-the-year party, which follows.

Our very own SBWA Ukulele Group, the Ukettes, and the SBWA Line Dancers will entertain us at the party. The Obento box from Zen Toro will be served. Deadline to sign up for the party was last month (November 30). This is always a fun filled event with raffle prizes. Please join us! **Note to SBWA Board Members** (and SBWA members, if you wish): **Please bring a wrapped raffle prize or two to the church on the morning of December 13.** Last year, almost everyone went home with a raffle prize!

GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO:

The SBWA Board members led by Elaine Yoshikawa with help from Nancy Hashimoto, Helen Sakaishi and Janice Muraki, for preparing the traditional Hoonko Service chirashi sushi for the temple members. They worked Saturday and early Sunday morning to complete this task. Thank you, Elaine, for taking the leadership role on this project AGAIN. Also, thank you to the men who came out to do the heavy lifting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Executive Board for the 2016–2017 term has been elected. Congratulations to all of you!

- President: Virginia Uchida
- President-Elect: Loleen Nakano
- Recording Secretary: Jane Komure
- Treasurers: Mollie Oto, Misako Oshiro and Tomiko Tanaka
- Auditors: Elaine Yoshikawa and Meriko Hoshida

The next SBWA meeting will be on Wednesday, December 2, 5:45 p.m. service and 6 p.m. meeting. **NOTE the time change. This time change will continue through March 2016.**

Remember to pay your 2016 dues.

Mrs. Shinobu Matsuura was a kind, gray-haired lady who fascinated me as a child. She lived alone in a small home in Berkeley, California, near the University of California, after the death of her husband, Reverend Issei Matsuura. Since we lived in San Francisco, our family had opportunities to visit her several times a year for various occasions. Although she lived alone, there always seemed to be people or visitors coming and going. She taught Japanese to local children, as well as young students attending the University, one-on-one or in groups in her home. She hosted professors from Japan who were on short teaching terms or doing research at the University, and who often stayed at her home during that time. She also hosted young students from Japan since housing was very hard to find in Berkeley, especially so conveniently located near the University.

I revered Mrs. Matsuura because, although she seemed quite elderly to my child-eyes, she was a very worldly, up-to-date person who was aware of so much around her. She was able to converse knowledgeably with anyone, from small children to university professors! Her dynamic, yet quiet, humble messages made her a sought-after speaker.

Several times when Mrs. Matsuura returned from a speaking engagement, my father would volunteer to pick her up at the San Francisco Airport to drive her

MINISTER ASSISTANTS (CONTINUED)

home to Berkeley, and occasionally he would ask me if I would like to go along for the ride. I never refused because Mrs. Matsuura always related such interesting stories. But more than the stories, the brief pauses between the stories are what remain in my memory. She would invariably repeat, almost to herself, "Namandabu, Namandabu," and she would sometimes remark aloud, "Arigatai desu neh." (How grateful am I.)

My father grew up deep in the mountains of Japan so he was very familiar with cold winters. Moving to Salt Lake City when I was in high school, the change from mild California weather to the cold winds and snowy climate of Utah winters was a big change for my brothers and me. So it was with a bit of surprise when, upon returning from a week-long conference/meeting in San Francisco, I overheard my father commenting to my mother, "When I saw our snow-covered car sitting in the airport parking lot today, quietly waiting for my return without complaint, I was very happy. It even started up immediately and heated up quickly so my drive home was very comfortable. I could not help but express my gratitude." Still in my somewhat cynical teen years, I remember thinking to myself, "Gratitude? But it's just a car!"

Recently, with our advancing years, I have begun to think seriously of downsizing the "stuff" in our home, especially after reading a best-seller book on the art of decluttering and tidying up by a young Japanese author. I was surprised to read that she emphasizes "appreciating our belongings." By giving them space to rest between use and treating them with care, our belongings will not only last longer, but continue to look well-treated. Furthermore, she suggests that when we no longer use an item, rather than stuffing it into a crowded box in the back of a dark closet, forgotten and unused, how much better it would be to "express our gratitude to the happiness it has given us" and send it on to a facility where the item may find an opportunity to give happiness to others.

Gratitude. Appreciation. November being the month of Thanksgiving and December, a time for reflection, I find it especially significant to stop and deeply consider and remind myself of all that I have been surrounded by, for whom and for which I can only express my gratitude. To you, the readers of the Sacramento SANGHA and especially to Reverend Bob and Reverend Patti, thank you for your patience, kindness and understanding in allowing me to participate and share my thoughts in the Minister Assistants column of the Sacramento SANGHA. It has been a wonderful experience of learning and deep appreciation which I will always cherish. Okagesama de, Arigato gozaimashita. Namu Amida Butsu.

MAINTENANCE REPORT GARY TRAGANZA

2015 was quite an eventful year for the Maintenance Department. Each month \$2,000 is placed into the "Capital Improvement Fund" to make improvements and maintain equipment. As luck would have it, the last 12 months have taken a rather large bite out of that fund. What follows is a brief description of the major projects undertaken this year and their approximate costs.

Although the Board of Trustees (BOT) approved the funds at the end of 2014, work didn't begin on replacing our aging heater/air conditioners until spring of this year. The six oldest units (32-33 years old) were constantly breaking down and parts were getting harder to find. The approximate cost of replacing them was about \$74,000. And the dedicated heater for the kaikan was just as old and unreliable. We felt it wise to install a combination heater and air conditioner. The two swamp coolers were not doing an adequate job of cooling the kaikan during the hot summer months. The cost: \$85,000. Though this summer was comparatively mild, it still had a lot of hot days. Can anyone deny that it was nice and cool in the kaikan during Bazaar, tai chi, senior exercise classes, basketball, etc.?

Replacing those HVACs was quite expensive, but we will be warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Plus, the new units are far more energy efficient.

Another major expense was replacing the old trellis. I reported earlier in the year about the extensive dry rot in the timbers. During the Bazaar, members were justifiably concerned about getting on top to put the shade canvas in place. After several meetings, the trellis committee, chaired by Ted Yoshimura, presented to the BOT what we felt was the best replacement. Although not as aesthetically pleasing as wood, the new metal structure has many benefits: a roof all the way around, gutters, and it will be maintenance-free for a long, long time. Wood would have cost us about \$60,000 more — and still would not have had a cover. The projected cost was \$140,000. We came in \$500 under

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.

**MAINTENANCE
REPORT**

(CONTINUED)

budget and that's including energy-efficient LED security lighting all the way around the courtyard and parking lot.

Another project, currently underway, is the replacement of the wooden fence on the north side of the parking lot and to the east between us and the apartment complex. Although the seniors, led by Mike Nagai, have been replacing the rotten wood as needed, the Board felt that a metal fence (with spikes) would be safer — especially between us and the apartment. The wooden fence is getting quite old and it's just too easy to climb over. Ted Yoshimura has been getting estimates for that project, which appears to be in the neighborhood of \$15,000. It should be in place relatively soon.

To be sure, the above projects have been expensive, but maintenance costs for the next several years will be considerably less. By that I mean all the major projects will have been taken care of.

Moving on, we'd like to thank the following members for dedicating their time and energy to make our temple more beautiful, more efficient.

Nick Shebert and Richard Ishibashi installed a new stainless sink in the outdoor kitchen. It has two large compartments with a garbage disposal in each. The larger size is to accommodate the large grey tubs that have always been difficult to wash. The project required tearing open the wall to modify the plumbing and add electrical. After Nick and Richard replaced the sheetrock, Nick installed fiberglass-reinforced paneling on the wall — like the main kitchen. Thank you, guys. It looks 100 times better and it's far more practical. Alan Wu and I added better lighting to round out the project. I understand that all who used the new sink really liked it.

Have you noticed the dramatic landscape improvement on the southwest corner of Quinn Alley? Brandon Mark, working toward his Eagle Scout Award, led Crew 50 and Troop 50 on the beautification project. Brandon felt that we should thank the following people for their help: Kelvin Mark, for his help and support; Bobby Tanaka, the project coach; Gordon Nitta for his advice; Steven Ito for reviewing and guiding the plans; Steven Tanaka's family for the extra care; the Nyugen family for providing food; and Gregg Kochi for providing towels. And I'm quoting Brandon: "Thank you to all the young scouts for their great effort and enthusiasm." Speaking for the sangha, "We thank all of you for your hard work in beautifying the entrance into Quinn Alley."

Allan Hoshida has been working with the city to repair the cracked pavement in Quinn Alley. Some of the cracks are so pronounced, we had a few people trip over them at Bazaar. In a carefully worded letter to the city, Allan pointed out that since the alley is city property, they could possibly face lawsuits by people tripping if they didn't make the necessary repairs. By the time this newsletter reaches you, the work should be completed. Way to go Allan.

Always working quietly in the background is Mike Dishno. He has been coming around periodically and blowing the leaves out of the gutters — keeping the water flowing now that we have rain. Also, you may remember he did the majority of the chainsaw work removing the old trellis. Recently, Mike filled in the holes in the asphalt left by the removal of the old trellis posts. Thank you, Mike.

What a great, productive year, thanks to all the dedicated people who make this temple "the best in BCA." Right, RB?

**OFFICE
MANAGER**

Cindy Kitade

**OFFICE
PROJECT
COORDINATOR**

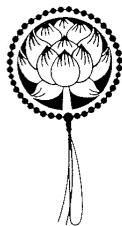
Jennifer Nitta

**BETSUIN
OFFICE**

446-0121

**SANGHA
HELPERS**

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Ruth Hayashi
Irene Hoshiko
Sanaye Imajo
Miyuki Inenaga
Mae Kaneko
Alice Kataoka
Yoshiko Morizawa
Mitzie Muramoto
Mutsuko Noguchi
Helen Sakaishi
Fusako Takahashi
Faye Uyemura



*Condolences to
the Families of:*



- Lucy Oda September 29, 1927 - September 19, 2015*
- Michiko Kubo January 10, 1925 - October 23, 2015*
- Sadao Nagao April 29, 1919 - October 24, 2015*
- Ichiye Wakabayashi November 29, 1923 - October 27, 2015*
- Alice Hamamoto June 19, 1926 - November 13, 2015*
- Virginia "Ginger" Lee October 3, 1942 - November 15, 2015*
- June Matsuo April 13, 1928 - November 17, 2015*
- Elsie Nakamura April 28, 1919 - November 18, 2015*

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

CALENDAR CORRECTION

Please note that on the annual calendar, the information for 12/20 and 12/27 are reversed. The CORRECT schedule is:

Sunday, 12/20 – Dharma School Service and Class

Sunday, 12/27 – No Dharma School Service or Class

WINTER HOLIDAY WEEKEND HOURS

Please note that our shortened weekend office hours continue through Sunday, 12/27/15, so the Betsuin office will be open from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. **Regular weekend hours (9 a.m.–4 p.m.) will resume on January 9, 2016.**

Our **December/January** Holiday Closure Schedule will be:

Wednesday, 12/23: Closing at 12 noon

Thursday, 12/24: Closed

Friday, 12/25: Closed

Thursday, 12/31: Closing at 12 noon

Joya-E Service at 7 p.m.

Friday, 1/1/2016: Closed

Shusho-E Service at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, 1/2/2016: Closed

Sunday, 1/3/2016: Closed

THANKS TO OUR SBWA AND OUR SANGHA LADIES!

Christmas came a little early, via a donation of two electric staplers from our SBWA! The staplers are used each month to help our FABULOUS, HARD-WORKING SANGHA LADIES speed the process of collating and preparing the monthly newsletter! The ladies would probably tell you that they come to enjoy each other's company, which is true, but please know that these dedicated volunteers spend several hours each month collating, stapling, folding, sealing and labeling so that the SANGHA arrives in your mailbox! Many thanks to Alice Kataoka and Miyuki Inenaga, who had been bringing their own electric staplers each month; Alice's recommendation to SBWA and Miyuki's Internet research helped to make the donation possible. Thank you, ladies!

LOST & FOUND

Have you been missing a precious item and have looked EVERYWHERE for it? Well... it might be sitting in the Betsuin's Lost & Found! We will continue to hold the following treasures until the end of the year and then they will be donated:

Purple aluminum water bottle

Men's yukata (brand new!)

Japanese character necklace

Ball bag filled with Baron's basketballs

Always the "Lost Ojuzu" Board to check!

DONATION ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Did you notice that your donation was missing from the listing in the SANGHA? If so:

Please note that contributions received by the 15th of each month are included in the very next edition of the SANGHA. Donations received from the 16th and later will appear in the month-after-next's issue. Examples:

- Donations received between 10/16–11/15 will be acknowledged in the December issue.
- Donations received between 11/16–12/15 will be acknowledged in the January issue.

We do our very best to get each and every contribution listed just as you request, so if you see an error, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY. The sooner we know, the sooner we can publish a correction. No need to "feel bad" about making an inquiry — it is a high priority for us to ensure that the monthly listing is accurate. By bringing any discrepancies to our attention, you are helping us keep our records in order.

Also, please be sure to indicate the reason for your donation on your check's memo line or on your envelope itself. Examples:

"Mochi Order"

"Special"

"Birthday"

"In Memory of..."

"3rd Year for..."

"Shotsuki Hoyo" ... Etc.

Again, we try our best to capture your sentiments and requests, so these notations are a HUGE help! When an honoree's name is missing, it can be a challenge to identify your wishes correctly. Thank you!

**2015
NORTHERN
CALIFORNIA
BAZAAR
TERIYAKI
CHICKEN
THROWDOWN
REV. PATTI OSHITA**

On Saturday, November 14, all seven Northern California (NC) temples (Stockton, Lodi, Walnut Grove, Florin, Sacramento, Marysville and Placer) sent their best chicken grillers to the Sacramento Betsuin for the Third NC Bazaar Teriyaki Chicken Throwdown. The Betsuin grillers were James and Mark Amioka.

The Betsuin courtyard was filled with NC barbeque masters working their teriyaki magic on the grills. Each temple seemed to employ its own unique grilling technique and unique grilling tools. Our Betsuin courtyard was filled with smoke and the delicious aroma of barbequing chicken.

It was a fun afternoon of playful chatter and banter as they competed for the rights to the Best Bazaar Teriyaki Chicken in Northern California!

It was interesting to see the various styles that our NC Grill Masters used to achieve their perfect barbeque teriyaki chicken. We could see that each temple's grillers were firmly committed to their method, believing theirs was the best.

We all especially enjoyed hearing the grillers tease each other.

Additionally, this year we included fried rice, which was made by all seven temples. Our Betsuin delicious fried rice was prepared by our own Dale Louie and his crew. This year, we included the fried rice to be voted on by the



First Place: Stockton

members attending the Throwdown.

There was some delicious fried rice to enjoy, as well as tables full of fresh salads and tasty desserts.

Our MCs, Darlene Bagshaw (Stockton) and Rodney Raub (Marysville), opened the tasting and judging at 6 p.m. The judges for this event were Reverend Ron Miyamura (Midwest Buddhist Temple), Chris Macias (Sacramento Bee food critic) and Sonny Mayugba (co-owner of Red Rabbit Restaurant).

The judges were given seven pieces of chicken (one from each temple). The chicken trays were marked only by a colored toothpick that represented each temple.

The judges (after much discussion) decided that the winning team this year was the Stockton Buddhist Temple! Brian Louie joined David Hayashi in front to receive their chicken trophy.



Peoples' Choice: Florin

Following the judges' announcement, the people's choice winner was announced, and it was the Florin Buddhist Temple that came in first place!

The people's choice for the fried rice went to Sacramento under the leadership of Dale Louie, Marty Sakata, Ken Siu and Steve Sasaki.

Congratulations again to Stockton, Florin and Sacramento, and thank you to the many people who made this event possible. Those who participated had a great time.

This NC District Chicken Throwdown is one of the "Visionary Programs" created to bring together our Betsuin and our district.

A very special thank you again to James and Mark Amioka, Dale Louie and his fried rice crew, Valerie, Reiko, Gladys, Grace, and Gordon & Jennifer Nitta.



Fried Rice: Sacramento

**SPORTS
COMMITTEE**
ALAN WU



Merry Happy Bodhi [Holi] Day! AND any other holiday you wish to partake in this holiday season! AND it seems that December is jam-packed with a multitude of holidays... it's a holiday buffet, so loosen your belt and take it all in, and take time to reflect on it!

Without reflection, one can easily get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season that has become the social norm, a part of our society today that may have been invented and propagated by the merchandisers and advertisers of the corporate beast that has determined this is the time of "giving" so go out and buy everything "we" have to sell. Without a reflection, you may be hunted down for being a witch or warlock and then burned at the stake! From my front porch, that is definitely something you may want to avoid. In fact, make sure to put it on your Reverse-Bucket List: #1. Do not get burned at the stake!

With reflection, one can be reminded of the true meaning of the holiday and why we celebrate the day when the ex-Prince Siddhartha became awake and attained Enlightenment under a Bodhi tree on December 8, 566 BCE, thus becoming Shakyamuni Buddha at the age of 35. (I did pay attention during RB's Metta/Padma class.) And one can also be reminded of how 2,600-year-old teachings still apply to us in our today.

The people of 566 BCE had to deal with their own set of trials and tribulations of everyday life, just as we do in our today. In our little specific scope of influence of everyday life, here is what is on tap for our today:

The basketball league games will begin on **Saturday, December 5** for the **E Division**, with most of the games being played at the Buddhist Church of Florin at 7235 Pritchard Road, 95828. Be sure to get their udon; it's very good and even better when it is cold at courtside.

The **D, C and B divisions**: These games will begin on **Sunday, December 6** at Kennedy High, or McClatchy High, or Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation (SASF), just to name a few. Be sure to confirm with your Team Mom or Coach for game time and location. There may be some last-second changes and updates to the game schedule, and if history has taught us anything, this will occur anytime up until December 4. So, keep an eye and an ear on the lookout for this!



**SACRAMENTO BETSUIN
SPORTS COMMITTEE**

MOCHI TSUKI

Pick Up:

**Saturday, December 12, 2015, 11:30-2:00 pm
or Sunday, December 13, 2015, 9:00-11:00 am**

**Where: Sacramento Buddhist Church Kaikan
Deadline for Orders: December 4, 2015
Pre-Orders Cost: \$5/pound or \$6/Kasane Set
(After 12/4/2015: \$6/pound or \$8/Kasane Set)**

Please submit orders and make checks payable to:
Sacramento Betsuin Sports Committee
c/o Sacramento Buddhist Church
2401 Riverside Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95818

MOCHI ORDER

Name _____
 Address _____
 Telephone _____
 E-mail _____
 Lb(s) _____ Kasane Set(s) _____
 Total Cost \$ _____ Cash Check # _____
 Pick Up: Saturday Sunday

SPORTS COMMITTEE
(CONTINUED)

Then, due to the December holidays, the basketball league will take a two-week break. There will be No Games the weekends of December 26-27, and January 2-3, 2016. Please thoroughly enjoy the holidays and also be thoroughly safe.

As a friendly public service reminder: December 4 is the very last day to order your mochi for this year. When it's gone, it's gone for a whole year. So it would be wise to stock up and freeze for your enjoyment at a later date. Use the order form found in the SANGHA. The office and website have order forms too!

Mochitsuki is on December 12, so please remember to work your shift! Do you remember signing up at church after our Parent Meeting? Again, please consult with your Team Mom for your work assignments.

The church office CLOSSES at NOON on December 23, and is CLOSED on December 24 and 25.

Do not forget about the last 2 Extra Credit days! Attend our New Year's Eve Service on December 31 at 7 p.m. for that Extra Credit day, and then attend the New Year's Day Service on January 1, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. for yet another easy day of Extra Credit. And just like that, you will have 2 extra credit days to give you a little cushion for when you might need an attendance boost. Remember, if a player's attendance drops below 60%, that player is ineligible to play in any games, which includes league and tournaments. So, it may be considered a heavy price to pay to have poor attendance.

The church office CLOSSES at NOON on December 31, and is CLOSED on January 1 through 3, 2016.

After the two-week break, games will resume the second weekend of January 2016. So, Saturday, January 9, 2016, the E Division will resume, and on Sunday, January 10, 2016, the D, C and B divisions will resume. See you next year!

JR. YBA AT FRESNO CONFERENCE
KOICHI MIZUSHIMA

The Sacramento Jr. YBA attended the Central California Conference in Fresno on November 14-15. We asked seven parents to carpool 29 kids down to Fresno that weekend. It's one of the largest youth conferences in our area.



The kids have a fantastic time and it's an excellent opportunity for everyone to bond and get to know each other.

I would like to congratulate them on their fourth consecutive talent show win. It was a very enjoyable weekend!

DHARMA SCHOOL COURTYARD DONATIONS

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

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 6th Grade Dharma School Class | Kaye Kato | Sacramento JAACL (Mary Ann Miyao) |
| Gladys Adachi | Gail Keikoan | Sacramento Rebels Youth Organization |
| Mickey & Susan Bennett | Rosemary Kitaoka | Sachi Sawada |
| Betsuin Sports Committee | Reiko Kurahara | Masaaki & Yaeko Tadamaru |
| Tim & Carol Castle | Cathy Lemelin | Kathy Tanaka Henry |
| Gary Hamamoto | Emmie Makishima | Hiroko Tsuda |
| Nancy Hashimoto | Rachel Nagai | Gerry Tsukiji |
| Grace Hatano | Barbara Nakatomi | Stan & Florence Wong |
| Esther Hokama | Sacramento Buddhist Women's Association (SBWA) | Haruo & Sueko Yamashita |
| Tak Ito | | |

NEW YEAR'S DAY TOAST

WHEN: JANUARY 1, 2016, AFTER SERVICE (NEW YEAR'S DAY - SHUSHO-E - SERVICE STARTS AT 9:30 A.M.)

WHERE: SACRAMENTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE.