



Hello... and welcome to the month of March! With the coming of every March, our Betsuin Sports Program enters the annual basketball tournament season, known all around the country as "March Madness." On every level of organized basketball, this is a special time of year.

At the professional level, the basketball season really got a boost from this year's All Star Weekend. This took place a few weeks ago over the romantic Valentine's Day weekend. That weekend was also a tribute to the 20-year career of retiring legend Kobe Bryant. But it was much more than the highest scoring All Star Game of all time. We fans of basketball were treated to perhaps the most exciting "Slam Dunk Contest" ever. Aaron Gordon from Orlando matched the defending champion, Zack LaVine of the Timberwolves, dunk for dunk. They were both so amazing; there will always remain controversy over LaVine's victory. But win or lose, it was a spectacular display of their athletic abilities.

For me, the highlight was the incredible 3-Point Shooting Contest. The finalists were Steph Curry (trying for a back-to-back win) versus his teammate, Klay Thompson. They are the most prolific shooting duo in the NBA, and have come to be known as "The Splash Brothers." In the finals shootout, Steph Curry started out hot, making his first 7 shots in a row. He closed with a great score of 23 out of a possible 30. Klay Thompson

(Continued on page 3)

Buddhist Church of Sacramento
2401 Riverside Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95818

Non Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Sacramento, CA
Permit No. 766

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



SANGHA

Sacramento Buddhist Church
Volume 53 Number 3 - March 2016

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

Calendar	2	2015-16 Metta/Padma Class	8
New Members	3	Boy Scout PUSH Dinner.....	9
Condolences.....	3	Boy Scouts	10
SBWA	4	PUSH Dinner Form.....	10
Minister Assistants.....	5	Girl Scouts	11
Legacy Endowment Fund.....	7	Sports Committee.....	11
Notes from the Office	7	Dharma School	12
RB & Rev. Patti Retirement	7	2016 Family Memorial Schedule.....	12
Betsuin Transportation Program.....	8	Donations	12

RB's Corner
(Continued)

went second. Under great pressure, he caught fire and just burned the net, making his last 8 shots to win with a score of 27 out of 30.

When Klay Thompson was interviewed at the end of the All Star Weekend, he was asked about the best memory he had of the entire All Star event. Without hesitation, Klay said it was seeing his teammate and friend, Steph Curry, jumping up and down, rooting for him to win the 3-Point Shooting Contest. That's a true friend and teammate — someone who is on your side and in your corner, rooting you on, even when they were competing against you.

As I write this, the Golden State Warriors remain on pace to tie and perhaps even break the 72-10 season record of the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls!

Watching the historic run of the Warriors, we easily see how important Curry and Thompson are to the team. Yet each and every one of the Warriors' players and coaches acknowledge the reality that they owe their success to playing as a team; they play as one; they play relying on and respecting their shared interdependence with one another.

I've come to feel that the sports we enjoy can often give us reflective lessons on living our lives. As we consider the games we love, we can see that there is a beginning and end to every game... and every season... and to every career. This was the Warriors' Draymond Green's FIRST All Star appearance... and this was Kobe Bryant's 18th and final All Star event. When Draymond was asked if Kobe shared anything with the "newbies," he said, "Yeah, he told us to just soak it in and enjoy it because it may never come again."

The same is true of life. We should "soak it up and enjoy it" thoroughly because each day we live will never come again. Coach Steve Kerr encourages his team to play with effort, enthusiasm and enjoyment. Don't force anything... and just do your best to respond to how the game unfolds.

Again, the same can be said about how we should live our lives. We should live with effort (one of the Eightfold Path and Six Paramitas) and enthusiasm. We should do our best to enjoy and appreciate every opportunity to be with those we love. And we should try to not force anything... and just respond to how our life's journey unfolds

And... we should try to surround ourselves with true friends and teammates. Dharma friends are people who are on our side and in our corner, rooting us on to do the best we can... and be as true and real as we can be.

As I wrote in our Betsuin tournament booklet, "Our time on the basketball court and also in life is limited. Someday our playing days will be over (and that day will come all too soon). But if we try to live each moment well... and give each moment our best effort, we cannot help but look back on a life well lived."

Wishing everyone a Memorable Month of March! I know that Reverend Patti and I will always look back and say, "This was the best time ever!"

Looking forward to seeing you through the month of March!

Office Manager
Cindy Kitade

Office Project Coordinator
Jennifer Nitta

Betsuin Office
446-0121

Sangha Helpers
Misao Abe
Shiyoko Futaba
Yukiko Hashisaka
Ruth Hayashi
Irene Hoshiko
Sanaye Imajo
Miyuki Inenaga
Mae Kaneko
Alice Kataoka
Yoshiko Morisawa
Mitzie Muramoto
Mutsuko Noguchi
Helen Sakaishi
Faye Uyemura



Welcome New Members
Misao "Helena" Nagao
Helen Rohr




Condolences to
the Families Of



Masami IwasaJanuary 3, 1922 - January 23, 2016
Mary Masumoto..... November 17, 1928 - January 26, 2016
Tom Matsumoto.....March 1, 1926 - January 30, 2016

**Sacramento
Buddhist
Women's
Association**
Keiko Jean Kashiwada

The February SBWA Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 3, with President Virginia Uchida presiding. Thank you to Lynn Kurahara for writing the majority of this article for me, as I was unable to attend the meeting.

Donations and Acknowledgements

Grace Hatano	SBWA Line Dance Class	\$250
SBWA	Bonenkai Entertainment – Ukettes	\$150
Alice Kataoka	In Memory of Joe Kataoka	\$100
Alice Kataoka	Special (Ukettes)	\$100
Lynn Kurahara	Birth of Grandson Kieran Tate Kurahara	\$100
June Matsuo Family	In Memory of June Matsuo	\$100
Gerry Tsukiji	In Memory of Ted Tsukiji	\$100
Tomi Tanaka	In Memory of Jim Tanaka	\$75
Lynn Kurahara	Women of Jodo Shinshu	\$50
Virginia S. Uchida	In Appreciation / Conference Delegate	\$50
Sueko Yamashita	In Memory of Jinger (her dog)	\$50
Hideko H. Sakazaki	In Memory of Ted Tsukiji	\$30
Hideko H. Sakazaki	In Memory of Morito Eiri	\$25
Hideko H. Sakazaki	In Memory of Jim Tanaka	\$25
Midori Ito	Bonenkai	\$25
Martha Shintaku	Bonenkai	\$20

NOTE: The SANGHA staff changed my listing of Bonenkai donors in last month's SANGHA newsletter. I hope it was easier for you to read. It is definitely easier to type!

December Bonenkai Report

I just received the Bonenkai report and the SBWA would like to thank the co-chairs, Diane Muranaka, Mari Lynn Shimamoto, Fusako Takahashi and Beverly Tanaka, along with their committee members, Pat Yamamoto, Utako Kimura, Hideko Sakazaki, Reiko Kurahara, Midori Ito, Grace Ishimoto, Jean Ota, Miyuki Inenaga, Marlene Takeoka and Lynn Kataoka, for a very successful event.

Special thanks to Rev. Patti Oshita for preparing the Tsuito Hoyo/Installation of Officers program. We appreciate the help she gives to the SBWA Religious Services Committee. Thank you to the ABA men (spouses or friends of SBWA ladies) and the SBWA Board members for setting up the Kaikan on Saturday and cleaning up on Sunday.

Thank you to the following people for donating gifts for the raffle:

Gladys Adachi	Shirley Kato	Mollie Oto
Joan Curry	Fumi Keikoan	Oto's Japan Market
Nora Bacchus-Dressler	Molly Kimura	Emily and Bob Raisner
George Dressler	Utako Kimura	Joyce Sahara
Masako Fukuda	Jane Komure	Heidi Sakazaki
Carol Fukumoto	Grace Kono	Ikuko Sakazaki
Janis Furuta	Mieko Kono	Dorothy Sasamoto
Sumiye Hamamoto	Lynn Kurahara	Ruth Seo
Harumi Hashimoto	Reiko Kurahara	May Shimada
Nancy Hashimoto	Sylvia and Dennis Lau	Mari Lynn Shimamoto
Ruth Hayashi	Amy Matsumoto	Martha Shintaku
Kathy Tanaka Henry	Teiko Matsuo	Fusako Takahashi
Meriko Hoshida	Judie Miyao	Irene Takeoka
Irene Hoshiko	Jan Muraki	Marlene Takeoka
Sanaye Imajo	Diane Muranaka	Ai Tanaka
Gloria Inaba	Grace Nakao	Beverly Tanaka
Miyuki Inenaga	Ritsuko Nakatani	Kiyo Tanaka
Mary Inouye	Barbara Nakatomi	Shigeko Tanaka
Gladys Irokawa	Bette Nakatomi	Hiroko Tsuda
Grace Ishimoto	Joanne Nishimura	Virginia Uchida
Ellen Ito	Gordon Nitta	Terry Uyeminami
Midori Ito	Eleanor Nobuye	Chieko Yagi
Nancy Ito	Nancy Mutsuko Noguchi	Miyo Yamada
Lori Itow	North American Trading	Pat Yamamoto
Terry Kagiya	Katherine Onuki	Jackie Yamashiro
Keiko Jean Kashiwada	Misa Oshiro	Elaine Yoshikawa
Alice Kataoka	Rinban Bob and Reverend	
Lynn Kataoka	Patti Oshita	
Kaye Kato	Jean Ota	

A special thank you to Shirley Kato and Mari Lynn Shimamoto, who brought some crocheted washcloths and dishwashing soap to package up in the event we did not have enough prizes. They were not needed this time, but we appreciate their thoughtful and generous donations. We are sorry if we left off any names. These were the names on the sign-up list taken by the raffle committee.

Upcoming Events for 2016

Spring Food Festival – March 12 and 13: Please come out and help! Bring your family and friends!

Friday, March 4 1:30 p.m. in classroom
Kampyo cutting, sushi mat wrapping, bag labeling



Rev. Bob Oshita
428-9833



Rev. Patti Oshita
428-9833



Sensei Koichi Mizushima
704-1493
bkmizu@gmail.com

Sacramento Buddhist Women's Association (Continued)

Friday, March 11 1:30 p.m. in the kitchen
Shiitake prep, cut takenoko, wash kampyo, make dashi, bag labeling
Saturday, March 12 8:30 a.m. – FOOD PREPARATION
Sunday, March 13 5:00 a.m. – FINAL FOOD PREPARATION AND PRE-SALE
Monday, March 14 9:00 a.m. – Cleanup

- Please wear head covering and apron. Gloves will be provided.
- Coffee, tea, donuts will be provided and a delicious lunch will be served on Saturday.
- MALE helpers are greatly appreciated on Saturday and Sunday!
- Bring paper grocery bags from March 1 for the Spring Food Festival.

The next BWA meeting will be on Wednesday, March 2, starting at 5:45 p.m. for service, followed by our 6 p.m. meeting.

Minister Assistants Rev. Patti Oshita

Welcome to the month of March! It is that time of the year when we find the days will be getting longer and the weather becoming warmer. It's that Ohigan time of year. As most of you know, Ohigan literally means "other shore." One of the images of the "other shore" is a place from which to see our lives in clear perspective.

So in other words, Ohigan is an encouragement for us to reflect on our lives as we are continually being transformed by life's experiences. It's a time for us to see again, that regardless of our age, each day and every moment, we are all being transformed and changed by the countless experiences we live through. Just spending time with family and friends; watching a movie or reading something in the newspaper changes us in ways large and small. Each day we are transforming, never to be the same again.

Most days we don't really give much thought to the changes we are made to live through. Most days we just take for granted our families and our friends... and just go through each day as a familiar routine.

But during Ohigan, we are reminded to view our lives with a Dharma perspective. And when we do this, we cannot help but feel a deeper awareness of what is truly of value in living each day.

It was a some years ago in February that Reverend Bob and I traveled with Reverend Yukawa and Michiko to Sapporo, Japan to see the Yuki Matsuri (Snow Festival). It was a great trip that has given us so many wonderful memories.

The Sapporo Snow Festival is something I have always wanted to see. Even now I feel as if that trip was a dream. It was so exciting to see the spectacular and detailed carvings of ice that lined the streets of Sapporo. We were amazed how enormous some of the carvings were. We marveled at the time and effort that clearly went into creating these remarkable carvings. Over the years, I had seen many beautiful photos of this famous snow festival, but to see with my own eyes how massive blocks of ice could be transformed into creations of art was breathtaking.

Each time we have traveled, wherever we might go or however beautiful the scenery might be, what I always find most meaningful is the kindness of people. I know that wherever I have encountered the warm kindness of people, a part of me feels, "I could live here."

After we left Sapporo, we went to Kyoto. From Kyoto Station, we hailed a taxi to take us to where we would stay that first night. We were trying to get to a small but elegant *ryokan*, a Japanese inn, called Rakuyoso, which is the ancient name for the city of Kyoto.

After about 20 minutes of driving around the area where it should have been... and after THREE CELL PHONE calls back to his company for directions, the taxi driver reached over and turned off his meter. He kept driving round, stopping twice to ask the neighborhood folks where this inn could be found.

Finally we were able to find the place. Bob actually pointed it out from the back seat... or the driver would have missed it again. When we all got out of the car, he bowed so deeply and kept his head down as he apologized again and again for getting so lost. He said he could not accept any money for the ride. And he added that he regretted wasting our valuable time and asked us to forgive him. Can you imagine that!

It was really no one's fault. Rakuyoso is just one of those really hard places to find. And while "lost," we got a great tour of the neighborhood. We thanked him for getting us safely to this inn... and Reverend Yukawa made him accept compensation for the ride. I thought to myself, "This would never happen in America." He apologized deeply for the inconvenience and with great reluctance... and great embarrassment, he accepted the payment Reverend Yukawa insisted he take.

We were so surprised to see the pride this Japanese taxi driver took in wanting to do his job well. What integrity. He was willing to forgo any payment because he felt he had failed in doing what he was supposed to do... and he got a little turned around. I couldn't help but think about this taxi driver throughout the rest of our trip.

Sangha Staff

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

Contributing Reporters

SBWA Keiko Jean
Kashiwada
Minister Assts Patti Oshita
Endowment Ruth Seo
Boy Scouts Eric Ngo
Dharma School Valerie Fong
ABA Wayne
Kurahara
PUSH Bobby Tanaka
Sports Alan Wu

Minister Assistants (Continued)

A few days later, in Kyoto, we were shopping at one of Kyoto's largest department stores, called Takashimaya. After a while, Bob and I both agreed it might be nice to find the bathrooms. As we were searching around, looking for the restrooms, we turned a corner and found ourselves accidentally looking into a large room that seemed to be the employees' lounge.

We were ready to turn around and leave when we saw a young girl employee in her 20s walking across the room. We knew she was an employee because she was still wearing her Takashimaya nametag. She was probably a salesperson because she was so well dressed. We also assumed that because she was carrying her coat and purse that she might be ready to leave work. If she walked our way, we were going to ask her for directions.

Instead, she stopped at a security desk (we imagined to check out). Then she walked to the large door at the back of the room. We figured that this must be the entrance and exit for employees only. What surprised us was that she didn't just open the door and leave work as we would do. (Keep in mind that the security desk was not facing the door... and there was no one else in the lounge.) But this girl stopped at the door, she turned around... and then she bowed deeply before leaving Takashimaya.

We looked around to see if there was someone she might be bowing to. There was no one. She was bowing as we might when we leave the Hondo. And her bow was not one of those "quicky" bows I sometimes see in our temple Hondo.

She was bowing in respect to her place of work. She was bowing to the whole store. She was expressing her appreciation to be able to work there.

Once again, I found myself thinking, WOW! That would never happen in the America. I could only assume that the employees of that store must bow like that when they come into work also.

How many of us really would take the time to stop and bow in appreciation for our jobs as we come in to work or when we leave at the end of the day?

I couldn't help but admire the sense of pride and integrity we experienced with the taxi driver... and the respect and gratitude we observed in the deep bowing of the Takashimaya employee. I have to admit that I felt ashamed that I honestly did not appreciate working at Caltrans as they appreciated and took pride in their work. I really couldn't see myself bowing at the front door of Caltrans in appreciation for my job when I arrived to work in the morning or when I leave at the end of the day.

In Buddhism, we are taught that one of the seeds of wisdom is realizing that we are able to live only because of the efforts and the lives of others. The Dharma reminds us that we cannot and we do not exist... simply by ourselves... and by our own effort alone.

When I think about the taxi driver and that girl, they appreciated their jobs. They respected the businesses they represented. The salesgirl appreciated the customers who shopped at the store; and the taxi driver respected those who rode in his taxi. They were grateful for the many people they served... for having customers is what allowed them to have their jobs. There was an awareness that they could not exist alone. We are all interconnected.

In Buddhism, we are taught that this is the teaching of interdependence... the Karmic Oneness of all things. We are never separate from each other. Instead, we are truly a part of all things. Realizing this, how can we NOT... but live with gratitude... for whatever our circumstances may be... we ARE already... the fortunate ones... living because of the countless efforts of others.

If the taxi driver and salesgirl were not enough, we were again surprised while on the plane ready to come home at the end of our trip. As we were sitting in our seats and the plane was ready to back away from the gate, we could see from the window, that five or six ground crew who helped prepare for our departure, continued to stand around the plane. As the plane began to move back, all of the ground crew took off their hats and bowed in unison as the plane was leaving the gate. Again, I couldn't help but think, this would never happen in America.

As I mentioned earlier, during Ohigan, we are encouraged to continually reflect on our lives... for we are continually being transformed by our life's experiences. During Ohigan, we are reminded to view our lives with the Dharma perspective that our lives are interdependent... that we are not separate from each other. And when we view our lives with such reflective eyes of Oneness, we nurture a deepened awareness of what is truly of value in life.

I am grateful that we were able to experience the Yuki Matsuri, for it was truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. But from the "other shore" of Ohigan, we realize that every single day we live is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

If we live our lives with the perspective of Ohigan, we begin to live appreciating each day with the deep gratitude we call a Life of Nembutsu.

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.

**Legacy
Endowment
Fund
Ruth Seo**

おかげさまで

**Notes from the
Office**

March officially marks the end of winter and the beginning of spring. In many cultures, that means a time for spring cleaning. For Iranians, Chinese and many other groups, the new year begins around this time and tradition means that the house should be thoroughly cleaned. Jewish people prepare for Passover, and Greeks call the week before Lent, "Clean Week."

Many of us grew up doing some type of spring cleaning, but have not been particularly diligent about doing so in recent years. However, with the Legacy Endowment Fund Board (LEFB) Rummage Sale coming up on June 4, this would be a good time to revisit the practice. Almost every home magazine contains articles on the virtues and ways to de-clutter and organize. As most of us have "too much stuff," cleaning and donating usable items to the LEFB Rummage Sale means a win-win for all.

So, let's get to work, sort out those things we no longer like or need, and be ready to drop off items on Rummage Sale collection dates, Thursday and Friday, June 2 and 3. With all the space we make, we will have plenty of room to shop for new items at the rummage sale on Saturday, June 4 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Also, invite your friends and relatives to attend.

In addition to preparing for the rummage sale, the Legacy Endowment Fund Board is undertaking the creation of a Legacy Donor Wall in commemoration of the retirement of Reverend Bob and Reverend Patti. The project is underway, so please watch for flyers and more information in the next SANGHA newsletter. Also, please read or reread Marty Tokunaga's excellent article, "What Will Your Legacy Be?" which was published in the December Sacramento Betsuin SANGHA newsletter.

Donation Statements

Many thanks to all of you for your understanding with our delay in mailing the 2015 Annual Statements that had been promised in January. We appreciate all the positive and constructive comments and ideas shared. Please keep your feedback coming!

Betsuin members can expect the first Quarterly Statements for 2016 donations in April. Unfortunately, we were unable to produce the Annual Statement in a format that could be automatically emailed through our database. However, if you have provided an email address to the office, your Quarterly Statement will be sent to you electronically. If you have not provided an email address and would like to change your delivery preference, please call the office at (916) 446-0121, or send your request to Cindy ckitadesbc@gmail.com.

Please, Please, Please Label Your Envelopes and Packages!

If you are using the Betsuin's "interoffice mail system" to deliver something to one of the sponsored or affiliated organizations (ABA, SBWA, Scouts, Sports, Choir, Dharma School, etc.), PLEASE make a notation on the OUTSIDE of the envelope! It will help us ensure that your mail is routed in a timely manner.

The same request applies to packages and bags. If you are leaving something for someone else to pick-up, if you are donating something to a Dharma School class, if you are leaving something for Reiko... PLEASE attach a note that clearly states your instructions for your item. Too often, miscellaneous goods are left at the desk with no explanation and we are at a loss as to what should be done with them.

Lost and Found Qjuzus, Jackets, Thermal Cups

Our "collection" is piling up! If you have been looking for a lost item, please stop by the office to see if it might be part of our treasure trove! Anything left unclaimed by March 21 will be donated.



Save the Date!
Retirement Celebration Honoring
Rinban Bob & Reverend Patti

June 11, 2016 6:00 p.m.

Sacramento Doubletree Hotel

Reservations to begin in April 2016
Forward any questions to: 2016rbrp@gmail.com

**Betsuin
Transportation
Program**
Wayne Kurahara

On March 20, the Adult Buddhist Association (ABA) will begin offering rides to and from Sunday church service to Betsuin members. This new Betsuin Transportation Program (BTP) is a “ride share program,” where members of the church will offer rides to and from church to those who do not currently have other means of transportation. The Betsuin Transportation Program enables Betsuin members who do not have transportation to attend church services by obtaining rides with other Betsuin members.

The program requires the update and maintenance of two rosters: 1) A roster of BTP riders; and 2) a roster of drivers and area coordinators. ABA will maintain the rosters, accept requests for rides and make driver assignments. Here are short descriptions of the roles and responsibilities of riders, drivers and coordinators.

BTP Riders List

We need Betsuin members who may need rides to register with the BTP, so that we have basic information concerning their location and transportation needs. Their names will be placed on a BTP Riders list.

When riders need a ride, they should phone the church office at (916) 446-0121 or ABA at (916) 392-3022 to request a ride at least three days in advance of the ride need. The church office or ABA will contact the appropriate BTP Area Coordinator to arrange the ride.

(Initially, please call ABA at (916) 392-3022 for your ride request since ABA is still in the process of developing the drivers and coordinator lists.)

BTP Drivers List

We need Betsuin members to sign up to be placed on a BTP Drivers List. All drivers will be asked to join ABA so that they can be covered under the ABA Affiliated Organization Group Insurance Coverage for liability when performing an ABA community service function. When placed on the BTP Drivers list, the driver may get a call asking if he/she is available to give a church member a ride to church.

BTP Area Coordinator

The BTP Area Coordinator will serve as the rides coordinator for his/her assigned area. Upon receiving a request for a ride, they will assign a driver and help arrange the ride.

ABA

ABA will oversee and manage the program and will maintain the rosters of 1) riders, 2) drivers and 3) area coordinators.

Please call Wayne Kurahara of ABA at (916) 392-3022 if you have any questions.

**2015-16 Metta
Padma Class**

For 10 weeks, 18 boys and girls met on Monday evenings to attend the Metta/Padma class. On Scout Sunday service, 15 scouts and three nonscouts received recognition for passing the Metta Padma program.

The Boy Scouts were: Antonio Aguilar, Bennett Caisley, Derek Chan, Alex Clark, Max Clark, Tyler Higa, Grant Itow, Nicholas Lee, Brandon Mengell, Lucian Slesicki and Benjamin Uyeno.

The Girl Scouts were: Mirella Bennett, Molly Maseba, Kianna Nakaoka and Nola Nishio.

The nonscouts were: Justin Izumi, Mitchell Maseba and Drew Watanabe.

Congratulations!



**Boy Scout
PUSH Dinner**
Bobby Tanaka



The second annual Boy Scouts of America, Golden Empire Council (GEC) PUSH dinner will take place on Thursday, April 21 at the McClellan Conference Center. This is a corporate and community fundraising dinner that will honor business community leader Mr. Larry Kelley, who developed McClellan Park and is currently developing the railroad yard north of downtown Sacramento.

For the first time, this dinner will also honor a religious community leader, and the dinner steering committee has selected Rinban Bob Oshita. Reverend Bob is being honored for teaching scouting's Metta/Padma youth religious classes for 32 years and for service to scouting and our youth. The GEC, which will host this dinner, covers a large area of Northern California and supports the operations of 16,000 scouts. There is no charge for this dinner. However, there is a \$250 minimum request, but any contribution will be accepted.

For more information, please see the enclosed PUSH dinner flyers, and if you wish to attend, please contact GEC Executive Board members Bobby Tanaka (*betanaka@pacbell.net*) or Kelvin Mark (*273kmark@gmail.com*), so you can be seated at a Betsuin table. Let's all attend and support Reverend Bob! Thank you!



Thursday, April 21, 2016
McClellan Conference Center
5411 Luce Avenue, McClellan,
CA
Reception 6:15 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Business Attire

Boy Scouts of
America
Golden Empire
Council
PUSH Dinner

Rev. Bob Oshita
Buddhist Church of
Sacramento
Religious Community
Guest of Honor



Reserve your seat with members of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento by contacting GEC Executive Board members:
Bobby Tanaka, 916-606-6929, betanaka@pacbell.net
Kelvin Mark, 916-320-7885, 273kmark@gmail.com

Boy Scouts
Eric Ngo



The month of February was filled with many activities. On February 12, the troop had its troop meeting on engineering. It was also when the cub scouts came to visit, where the troop and visiting cub scouts worked together on building a vehicle.

On February 15, Aaron Kitade completed his Eagle project, where he built a potting bench and two raised planter boxes.

On February 26, the troop continued the troop meeting on engineering.

February 27-28 included a troop snow outing, where scouts stayed overnight to sleep in the snow while enjoying various activities.



Thursday, April 21, 2016
McClellan Conference Center
5411 Luce Avenue, McClellan, CA
Reception 6:15 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Business Attire



Kelly Brothers
Genovese Barford & Brothers
Dinner Chair



Terry Street
Clark Pacific
Corporate Sponsor
Co-Chair



CC Myers
Myer & Sons Inc.
Corporate Sponsor
Co-Chair



Larry Kelley
President, McClellan Park LLC
Business Community
Honoree



Rev Bob Odita
Buddhist Church of Sacramento
Religious Community
Honoree

You're invited to...

The Boy Scout Push!

DINNER LEADERSHIP

Sean Murphy
Board Chairman

Dave Ishikawa
Board President

Jeff Reed
Immediate Past Chairman

- Mike Boggs
- Dale Campbell
- Mike Campbell
- Jim Carlsen
- John Chandler
- Judd Cline
- Dan Cole
- Robyn Crimmins
- Doug Cranley
- Ron Ellis
- Bob Gluck
- Mitchell Goresen

- Paul Helman
- Brendon King
- Dave Ishikawa
- Kevin Mark
- Robert Meyer
- Larry Massey
- Reed Matthews
- Becky Mesker
- Sean Murphy
- Julie Nauman
- Jeff Newland

- Eric Nuttal
- Don Pfleger
- Mary Rotelli
- Howard Sant
- Jeff Setzer
- Robert Smith
- Bobby Tanaka
- Ken Taylor
- Larry Taylor
- Don Whitaker
- Mark Wong
- Kyle Monson

At times we all need a push in the right direction. Please be our guest at the PUSH Dinner to benefit the Golden Empire Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Funds raised at this dinner will provide the Scouting program to young people in Northern California. Scouting continues to thrive due to friends like you who provide the funds to support our mission, "to instill values in young people." Help us PUSH this community.

I am pleased to be a Gold Level Corporate Sponsor for \$2,500.
The sponsorship includes:

- Seating for 4 (up to 8 upon request)
- Company listing in the dinner program
- Table top sign with company logo
- Company logo featured in slide presentation

I would like to sit at _____'s table.

I am pleased to be a Platinum Level Corporate Sponsor for \$5,000.
The sponsorship includes:

- Corporate banner displayed at the event
- Seating for 8 (up to 16 upon request)
- Company listing in the dinner program
- Table top sign with company logo
- Company logo featured in slide presentation

I am pleased to attend the dinner.

____ Number of reservations

Guest Names: _____

I am unable to attend the dinner, but I would be happy to support Scouting with a gift of:

\$250 \$350 \$500 \$750 \$1,000

Other _____ Silver Sponsor
4 Seats

Please send me a reminder in (month): _____

Check enclosed (Payable to Golden Empire Council, BSA)
Please charge my: Visa Mastercard

Account #: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Signature: _____

For more information, please call Andrew Dilliner at 916-333-5423 or send e-mail to andrew.dilliner@scouting.org

Fax to 916-929-4461, or mail form to: Golden Empire Council, Boy Scouts of America, PO Box 13558, Sacramento, CA 95815

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

The Golden Empire Council receives 100% of your contribution

Girl Scouts

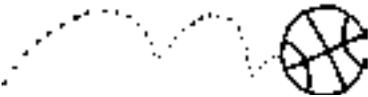


Welcome to that very special time of year! It's time for Girl Scout cookie sales! At this time, we have a preliminary count of 15,312 boxes of cookies! On Monday, February 15, the cases were delivered to the Kaikan.

A special thank you to Jan Goto, Lisa Cooper and Maya Griffe for heading up this project... also to our FOG ST committee members of Tim Castle and Creston Goi and GS Friend Ray Valdovino for helping that day.

Please save Sunday, May 15 at 1 p.m. for our GS Orientation Day. Girls and parents are encouraged to come and find out more about the girl scouting program!

Sports Committee
Alan Wu



Well hello there... it is definitely nice to see you again, in fact, it is a beautiful day to see you again...

It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood,
A beautiful day for a neighbor,
Would you be mine?
Could you be mine?
Won't you be my neighbor?

Hi television neighbor, I'm glad we're together again....

Of course we all recognize our childhood neighbor. Yes, of course we all know Mr. Rogers and his famous neighbor song!

For our purposes, maybe we should say: "Hi Dharma neighbor, we're glad to be together again to help each other open our eyes to see the Dharma that is everywhere."

The universal truth is that March is here again, and just like the last March, March is filled with warmer days, blooming flowers, and basketball tournaments. Hopefully, this March has a lot more rain than last March, but that is a whole different story.

Getting back to the topic at hand... for years now, we all look forward to the tournaments of March, and to start things off will be none other than our 45th annual, which will be happening on March 5-6 this go around. So get out your pencil and paper and jot down all the different gyms you will need to go to and at what times. When you go out to the gyms, be sure to bring that paper and most important, bring your appetite!

Each gym will have a concession stand with all kinds of eats and drinks for your metabolistic necessity and pleasure, and to add to the fun and festivity that is our annual tournament. Who does not like to eat? Of course we all like to eat! In fact, we all need to eat! Come on out to our tournament, eat, drink and be merry! And oh yeah, watch some basketball too!

As usual, following our tournament will be the Sacramento Japanese United Methodist tournament being held on March 19-20, and to cap off the March tournaments, the San Jose Ninjas will host their tournament on March 26-27.

And as if we needed more stuff to take place in March, it appears that we are a glutton for punishment and scheduled our annual Coaches Appreciation Dinner on March 20. So the important thing to remember about this dinner, is that your video snippet of your team is due on Friday, March 11. Stay in contact with your Team Mom or Division Coordinator to make sure your team's video gets included in the world famous Coaches Dinner Slideshow!

So, just in case you lost track and need a scorecard for what is happening in March, here is a little cheatsheet:

1. Go to tournament.
2. Go to tournament.
3. Go to Coaches Dinner.
4. Go to tournament.
5. Go to all the other things you have going on in your life.

Well, there you have it; your March is now all planned out, and you are good to go! We will see you at the tournaments, we will see you at Coaches Dinner, and we will see next month to see what April has in store for you.

Ciao Babies!



Dharma School News
Valerie Fong



Hello Everyone! On Sunday, February 21, we held our annual Open House after the Nirvana Day Service. Projects from our Dharma School students were on display in the Kaikan. A big "thank you" to our teachers, TAs, and students for the creative projects and hard work. Thank you to everyone who provided refreshments for Open House.

Next on our calendar is Hanamatsuri. This year's play is entitled "Looking for Dharma with Kevin, Stuart, and...." Please plan to attend the play on Sunday, April 10, after service to see our talented students perform to great songs from the '60s and '70s.

Upcoming Dates

Hanamatsuri Dress Rehearsal – Friday, April 8, 6 p.m.
Hanamatsuri Service and Play – Sunday, April 10

Donations

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

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 3rd Grade Class | Utako Kimura | Ikuko Sakazaki |
| 4th Grade Class | Rosemary Kitaoka | Sachi Sawada |
| Gladys Adachi | Jane Komure | Brooke Shimane |
| Boy Scout Wood Badge Staff | Lynn Kurahara | Fusako Takahashi |
| Carole Fukumoto | Reiko Kurahara | Jane Tamano |
| Girl Scout Troop 569, Boy | Mitzie Muramoto | Kazue Tanaka |
| Scout Troop 50, Cub Scout | Rachel Nagai | Gary Traganza |
| Pack 50, Venture Crew 50 | Barbara Nakatomi | Virginia Uchida |
| Midori Ito | Patty Nishikawa | Emi Watanabe |
| Jr. YBA | Sam & Mary Orite | Sueko Yamashita |
| Mae Kaneko | Mollie Oto - Oto's | |
| Keiko Jean Kashiwada | Marketplace | |
| Alice Kataoka | Sacramento JAACL | |

2016 Family Memorial Service Schedule

Traditionally, family memorial services are held for loved ones on designated anniversaries. These are precious occasions to honor the treasured memories of our beloved ones and to realize how fortunate we are to be embraced by Amida Buddha's light of wisdom and life of compassion.

If you have a loved one who has passed away in the following years, and would like to schedule a family memorial service, please call the temple office.

Year of Death

- 2015.....1st annual memorial 1 year from date of death
- 2014.....3rd anniversary memorial 2 full years from date of death
- 2010.....7th anniversary memorial..... 6 full years from date of death
- 2004.....13th anniversary memorial..... 12 full years from date of death
- 2000.....17th anniversary memorial..... 16 full years from date of death
- 1992.....25th anniversary memorial..... 24 full years from date of death
- 1984.....33rd anniversary memorial 32 full years from date of death
- 1967.....50th anniversary memorial..... 49 full years from date of death

