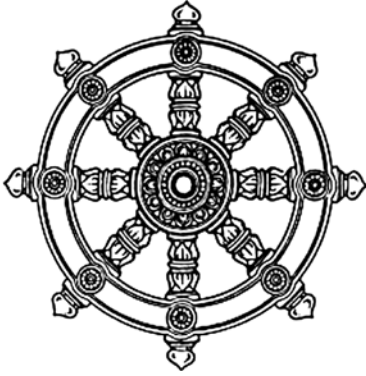


**Interim Rinban
& Supervising
Minister**

Rev. Marvin Harada



It really is a wonderful life

I am sure that for many of you, one of your holiday rituals is to watch the classic movie "It's a Wonderful Life," starring Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed. I never tire of watching this movie, as it is a classic. I know I have written about this movie before some years ago, but as I watch it again, I cannot help but feel the wonderful Buddhist message expressed in this classic film.

In the movie, the main character, George Bailey, becomes so despondent because he faces bankruptcy and maybe even criminal charges for the missing money from his savings and loan. His despondency leads him to jump off a bridge, wishing to end it all. A guardian angel saves him, but George still wishes "he had never been born." The angel cleverly thinks of a good idea to "save" George, which is to grant him his wish and show him what life in his town would be like had he never been born. The whole town is different. There is no savings and loan that George ran. His wife never got married, because there was no George to meet and fall in love with. The lives of people in the town, everything is different "because there was no George Bailey." No one knows him, of course, because he never existed... not his wife, not his friends... no one. How lonely he is now. How saddened he is to see how his town turned out without him.

(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 56 Number 1 - January 2019

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

Calendar	2	Family Memorial Service Schedule	8
Reverend Matt	3	Betsuin Talent Show.....	9
President's Message.....	4	Jr. YBA Spaghetti Dinner.....	9
SBWA	4	Buddhist Education Class.....	9
Minister Assistants.....	5	Sakura Matsuri	9
Legacy Endowment Fund.....	6	Notes from the Office	9
2019 Betsuin Leadership	7	Sports Committee.....	10
Congratulations, RB and Patti.....	7	Dharma School Courtyard.....	11
Annual Giving Reports by Request.....	8	Boy Scout Crab Feed.....	11
ABA Dance Club	8	Amazon Smile.....	11
Sakura Gakuen Adult Class.....	8	Where Does Your Donation Go?.....	12
Summer Bazaar Sponsors	8	Donations	12

Interim Rinban & Supervising Minister

(Continued)



Reverend Marvin Harada
(714) 323-6843 cell
marvinharada@gmail.com



Reverend Matt Hamasaki
(916) 926-2221
Mnhamasaki@gmail.com



Sensei Koichi Mizushima
(916) 704-1493
bkmizu@gmail.com



President Stuart Ito
stito1@gmail.com

Resident Minister

Rev. Matt Hamasaki

Now, all the more, he wishes to have his life back again. If only he could have his old life back again, with all of its problems... house, financial problems, savings and loan on the verge of collapse... everything.

And as the movie goes, the angel gives him his life back. George is able to return to his wife and family. He is able to return to his old job and his old house and his old car that he ran into a tree. But George's perspective on life has changed. He is deeply grateful for his life now. He doesn't need anything more, whether it is a bigger house or more money. He realizes that his life is a wonderful life, it is the only life that he has, and to think that he tried to throw it all away.

If I could put words into George Bailey's mouth that never come out in the movie itself, perhaps George would say, "What a fool I was! How ignorant I was! What a sad case of self-pity I had fallen into. What was I thinking? What a wonderful life I have. What a wonderful wife and children I have. What a wonderful job I have. How could I have tried to throw it all away?"

We don't have guardian angels in Buddhism like Clarence the guardian angel for George Bailey, but what Buddhism is trying to awaken us to, is the very thing that Clarence the guardian angel tries to awaken in George Bailey.

In the dramatic scene near the end of the movie, George Bailey returns to the bridge where earlier he had jumped off, trying to end it all, but now he begs to have his life back again. He pleads to Clarence the guardian angel, "I want to live again! I want to live again!" And so George Bailey miraculously is returned to his old life, with all of its problems and troubles. But somehow, now they no longer seem to him as problems and troubles. He is glad to have them.

Shin Buddhism talks about "birth in the Pure Land." Many would argue that this is talking about our transition to the world of Nirvana when our life comes to an end. I think that this "birth" is talking about a birth that occurs in this life, a new perspective of life that we are awakened to through encountering the light of the Dharma, the light of Amida.

It is to awaken to this "wonderful life," just like George Bailey. When we receive or encounter this awakening, then we truly want to live, from the depths of our being. We truly appreciate our life, including all of its problems and troubles. We wouldn't exchange our life for anything or anyone else's... not for a million dollars, not to become Bill Gates... nothing is more precious than our own, unique life.

Our problems and troubles haven't miraculously disappeared, just our perspective on them has changed. But with this new perspective, life is totally different. We do not wallow in self-pity. We do not stay in a state of despondency. We don't seek to be somebody else or wish we had never been born.

Now we want to live. We want to live this one life that has been given to us in all of eternity, in eons and eons of time. How could we ever want to throw it away? How could we ever want to have it replaced by anything? After all, it really is a wonderful life.

Namuamidabutsu,

I enjoy cooking. I like watching the Food Network and cooking competition shows and I enjoy being in the kitchen and putting meals together. It also makes me happy when I taste the dish that I made and it doesn't taste half bad! But, I don't have a ton of experience, so a lot of things that I make I have to look up on the internet.

I can only imagine how people figured out recipes before Google! Perhaps bookshelves of cookbooks or Rolodex's full of handwritten secrets or phoning all of your friends until someone has an idea of how to make something. All I have to do is plug some general thought into the phone in my hand and voilà! I instantly get hundreds of people's take on the recipe that I can choose from. Sometimes I will find a recipe I like, make a grocery list, and go to the store to get what I need. Although, having such an easy time finding a recipe, I have gotten lazy and oftentimes I will wait until I have already gotten to the grocery store to try to look something up for dinner.

At one particular grocery store, however, I wasn't able to get reception. I was getting so frustrated having to walk around trying to find a spot where I had one bar of reception so I could look up a recipe. I was mad at the grocery store for having such thick walls and mad at the phone company for not making the signal stronger and mad at my phone for not being able to get the signal. I was upset at so many things that made my life so much easier when really I should have been upset at myself for not taking the time to think ahead.

Resident Minister (Continued)

If we are to achieve any of our goals in life, we are required to have patience. Of course, there are many other things that are required, like time management or particular skills, but one of the most important is the ability to keep striving to get to where we want to be even when the path seems long and we are getting tired. This is especially true in a time and place where we have so many conveniences afforded to us.

We live in an incredible time in the sense that we have access to exponentially growing amounts of knowledge and increasingly improving technology, but our spiritual state as human beings has not changed at all. If anything, these conveniences have made it even harder for us to make progress. We expect to have everything handed to us and we expect it immediately.

It is quite the opposite with the path of Buddhism. The teaching that Buddha Lokeshvararaja said to the monk Dharmakara before he became Amida Buddha, "It is as if a person were to bail out the great ocean using a pail and eventually reach the bottom after many kalpas. Such a person would then obtain the precious treasures to be found there. Likewise, if one seeks the Way sincerely and diligently, one should be able to reach one's goal."

The thought of using a pail to empty the ocean sounds insane! Ultimately our goal is to let go of our ego-driven thoughts and although it may be counterintuitive, it takes immense effort and so much time to let go. Whenever we feel like we've made some progress, inevitably they will come back. But do not lose hope. Over time we will see that, little by little, the ocean which is our suffering is getting lower and lower and that the treasure is, in fact, the change we have undergone.

President's Message Stuart Ito

Happy New Year to everyone! As incoming President, I would officially like to thank outgoing President Brian Hatano and the entire 2018 Board of Trustees for their leadership, dedication and support to our temple. I would also like to welcome our new and returning 2019 Board of Trustees members. (As some of you may know, Brian was a journalism major in college so his Sangha articles reflected his skills. For me, I was educated as an engineer, so all I can say is I'll try my best.)

As we begin 2019, we have much work to do. As Brian has mentioned in previous articles, our temple (and most other temples in BCA) continues to lose members for a variety of reasons. This in turn places a strain on our continued ability to sustain our Temple. We are indeed fortunate to have such generous sangha members and only through your donations are we able to operate.

We have had a few major fundraising efforts over the last two years. The minister residence remodel project, bringing Ohana Arts Productions from Hawaii to perform "Peace On Your Wings" in Sacramento, and installation of the new audio and video system in the Hondo. Most recently, all the gifts and monetary donations collected for the Giving Tree allowed us to provide Christmas gifts to those less fortunate than us. This is truly a sangha that expresses Dana. Thank you so much for your ongoing support!

As I grow older, I can't help but be immersed in gratitude for the countless others who have sacrificed so much to allow us to gather here each week. When I look around, I now see every chair, every table, every wall, every thing and everything that was painstakingly planned and executed by others to give US the opportunity to hear the Dharma. I am honored to carry this tradition forward by working with other incredible sangha members to give something back to a temple and sangha that has given so much to me.

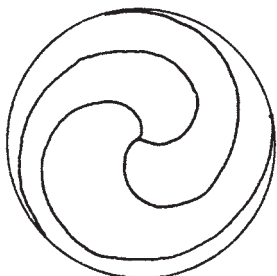
Namoamidabutsu

We began our monthly SBWA Board Meeting with a meaningful message by Reverend Matt Hamasaki. We certainly appreciate his active participation in SBWA meetings and activities.

[Editor's Note: SBWA donations appear in Donations section at end of newsletter.]

We received the donations to the SBWA from members who attended the Bonenkai Tsuito Hoyo Service and Annual Party. Donations received after December 6 will appear in the February issue, as Myra Okasaki went on vacation soon after the December 6 sign-up deadline and was unable to get the information to me before the December 15 Sangha articles deadline. Thank you, Myra, for keeping track of all of the dues, Bonenkai donations and luncheon orders and for making the folded nameplates for each attendee, along with the Bonenkai programs. The nameplates were great to use to save seats at the tables, as well as the stick-on nametag labels that were made by Misa Oshiro. Both were especially helpful when we were delivering the raffle prizes to all of you.

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



Sacramento Buddhist Women's Association (Continued)

Thank you to the 2018 Bonenkai Committee members: Myra Okasaki, Shirley Kato, Diane Muranaka, Mollie Oto, Reiko Kurahara, Misa Oshiro, Toshiye Kobata, Ikuko Sakazaki, Nancy Hashimoto, Loleen Nakano, Fusako Takahashi, Lynn Kurahara, Irene Takeda, Elaine Yoshikawa, Jane Komure, Jean Ota, Heidi Sakazaki, Grace Ishimoto, Helen Sakaishi, Alice Kataoka, Sueko Yamashita, Meriko Hoshida, Utako Kimura, Lori Itow, Joyce N, Naomi Hamamoto, Keiko Jean Kashiwada, Mari Lynn Shimamoto, Marlene Takeoka, Jennifer Niita, Thomas Okamoto, Ruby Okamoto, Janice Muraki and Diane Muraki.

Thank you to Gordon Nitta and Russell Oto, our outdoor chefs, Pat Yamamoto for the flowers, Ken Ito, Alice Kataoka and Jean Ota for the greenery for the tables, Heidi Sakazaki for the polished persimmons, Kazuoka Farms (Hideko) of Loomis, CA for the mandarins, Reiko Kurahara for the desserts, Diane Muranaka and Fusako Takahashi for the bottled water, and Nancy Hashimoto for acting as Mistress of Ceremonies.

I hope you all won a nice gift. Thank you to all the SBWA ladies and gentlemen who brought prizes. It was a fun luncheon and everyone went home with a prize! Thank you to the SBWA Board members and the ABA men who came out on Saturday to set up and cover the tables and for cleaning up the tables and chairs after the luncheon. Thank you to Don and Joanie Hamasaki and Stephen Kashiwada for vacuuming the Kaikan carpet.

Thank you to the members who made cash donations [see *Donations section at end of newsletter*].

Thank you, SBWA ladies, for always supporting the SBWA with your generous donations and for participating in our events and projects.

Upcoming Events – Save the Date!

- **Women of Jodo Shinshu Luncheon and Service** — February 10, 2019
- **Sakura Matsuri** — March 10, 2019 — the SBWA needs to have a chairperson for the SBWA portion of this event. The SBWA will be selling food items, such as spam musubi, salad, and perhaps chirashi.
- June 30, 2019 – potential date for our **Music Circus** outing. Virginia Uchida will be looking into this.
- **New Church Office Hours:** Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m; Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Next SBWA Meeting

The next SBWA Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 9, 2019, starting at 5:45 p.m. in the Hondo for a short service by Reverend Matt Hamasaki, followed by the meeting in Classrooms 1 and 4.

Reverend Gyomay M. Kubose shared this poem in the chapter “*Thoughts for the New Year*” in his book entitled *Everyday Suchness*:

Holding a warm heart
Together with people,
I will move forward;
Oh, this good year.

On behalf of the minister assistants of our Northern California District Buddhist Churches, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year. Perhaps you may be familiar with the New Year greetings “Shinnen akemashite omedetou” or “Akemashite omedetou gozaimasu.” Each phrase literally translates to mean “congratulations that a new year has opened up.”

Here in our northern hemisphere, the short cool crisp winter days are already beginning to lengthen and open up. Many trees that just weeks ago shed their leaves are beginning to reveal nodes where buds will form, leaves will emerge, flowers will bloom, and move forward through the seasons and cycles of life.

Each morning, especially while on my way to work at our neighborhood hospital, one cannot help but be reminded of the changing seasons and the precious moments that open up to bring color, richness, and meaning to our lives. Just the other day, I had the opportunity to help a young mother give birth to her third child.

Nowadays, we tend to think that giving birth has become a simple, routine procedure. But there is always the possibility for complications. This particular delivery proved to be one with serious complications. The mother’s and the baby’s placenta had grown through the womb and attached far beyond where it could naturally separate. In other words, this was now going to require a rare, special emergency surgery.

It was felt that although the baby could be delivered quickly, there was no guarantee that the mother would survive the operation. Specialists gathered and prepared for what they knew would be a challenging operation.

Minister Assistants Kelvin Mark

Sangha Staff

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

Contributing Reporters

President Stuart Ito
SBWA Keiko Jean
Kashiwada
Minister Assts Kelvin Mark
Legacy Fund Sandy Sumida
Tokunaga
RB and Patti Brian Hatano
Sports Cmte Alan Wu
Sakura Gakuen Masako
Thomas
Bazaar Wayne
Kurahara

Minister Assistants (Continued)

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
Sandy Sumida
Tokunaga

おかげさま

As predicted, a healthy infant boy was swiftly delivered and gently handed off to his father, who wept tears of joy. At the same time, as feared, the mother began to lose blood uncontrollably.

A series of surgical maneuvers quickly began. In the hours that followed, there were moments when the young mother's life seemed on the verge of slipping away. The bleeding seemed uncontrollable. Unit after unit of life-sustaining blood was transfused in order to help keep the young mother alive as the surgery continued. After eight hours of surgery, the young mother's life was saved. During this one procedure, she received more than 70 units of blood.

Later the following day, she awoke to see and hold her cooing newborn baby boy for the first time. She thanked the entire hospital staff for saving her life. Now there was only joy, when things could easily have been otherwise.

In the days that followed, our surgical team met in order to recount and review the many efforts, processes, and people who helped to make the operation successful. We do this in order to critique our efforts, identify what was done well, and determine areas in which to improve. Kind words were shared acknowledging the care extended by our technicians, assistants, housekeepers, volunteers, nurses, and doctors. During this interchange, the thought dawned on me that no acknowledgment was made of the 70-plus community volunteers who selflessly and anonymously donated the life-sustaining blood that was essential in saving this young mother's life.

As I sat and considered the enormity and the diversity of efforts that went into that one life-saving event, my Dharma eyes began to open and view the myriad events from a more balanced perspective. I began to realize that each person who gave blood did so without asking for anything in return; they did so without knowing that their efforts would help bring immeasurable joy and happiness to a family that would otherwise have been grieving a deep and painful loss. I realized more clearly that countless people, causes, and actions had contributed to help make this one baby boy's day of birth a truly happy occasion.

This experience reminded me of how easy it can be to foolishly think that we move through our lives and achieve feelings of success due solely to our own efforts.

It is really only because of countless others that we are all able to live each day. Even more, I am reminded of how easy it can be to forget that we live our lives today because of the countless generations that have lived before us—countless generations that have sacrificed without ever directly knowing that we would follow.

Seen from a Buddhist perspective, I think that the expression "Happy New Year" is meant to express our deep gratitude for all that others do — and all that we receive; whether the source of those karmic gifts is human, plant, or animal. Truly, uncountable karmic actions have given us life; and helped to create our warm, vibrant, and meaningful sangha community. When we pause to open our Dharma eyes, we have a chance to see that together, we are able to live and move forward along life's path, because of the countless efforts, sacrifices, and caring of others.

Holding a warm heart, Together with people, I will move forward, Oh, this good year.

Namo Amida Butsu.

How Do You Hygge?

What? Hygge? What the heck is that? I am reading *The Book of Hygge, The Danish Art of Contentment, Comfort and Connection* by Louisa Thomsen Brits. I bought it, not at some swanky San Francisco book store frequented by the literati, not online based on some algorithm of previous searches, but at Target! Yes, enlightenment can be found at your local Target.

Hygge (pronounced "hoo-gah"), as defined in this little book, is about belonging and togetherness; it is about being content, in the moment, in that special place that makes you feel safe and secure. Though not a "How to Hygge Like Danish Rock Stars..." it is outlined by Belonging, Shelter, Comfort, Well-Being, Simplicity and Observance chapters with succinct quotes peppered throughout.

"It is in the shelter of each other that the people live."
—Irish Proverb

The author asks where you find your space of contentment, to identify that it can be a simple steaming cup of tea from Reiko's Kitchen, knowing your children or grandchildren are safe in their Dharma School classes or attending a scouting meeting or at basketball practice.

Legacy Endowment Fund (Continued)

Where do you find hygge?

With my onenju on my left wrist and as I smell incense and hear the cascading kansho, this is where I sense hygge. I reflect on okagesama; because I live within the great shade of many people, I am fine. Through the many Buddhist educational seminars, youth programs and ministerial support funded by the Legacy Endowment Fund Board, we all benefit from the Danish idea of community, togetherness, respect, and security.

Though it is the beginning of the new year, contributions can be made to support the Legacy Endowment Fund within 2018 tax year. Consult with your financial planner or accountant for proper documentation.

2019 Betsuin Leadership



2019 Incoming Board of Trustees, Executive Committee and organization leaders (l to r): Ron Ishimoto, Karen Adachi, Sensei Kelvin Mark (past president), Valerie Fong (auditor and Dharma School superintendent), Mike Watanabe, Ted Yoshimura (executive senior advisor), Roger Ikemoto, Mark Amioka, Gordon Nitta (president-elect), Stuart Ito (president), Carol Tamai (secretary), Loleen Nakano (SBWA), Cheryl Oto-Inouye (treasurer), Marty Matsuda (sports), Marty Sakata (auditor), Russell Oto, Aaron Murata (Jr. YBA vice president), Brian Hatano (immediate past president), Nari Igawa (Sakura Gakuen).

Congratulations, RB and Patti Brian Hatano

For 32 years, Reverend Bob Oshita served as our resident minister and Rinban. He and his wife, Reverend Patti Oshita, retired in 2016. Since their retirement, they have been busy serving as chaplains for the California State Assembly, with RB serving as "lead" chaplain alongside Reverend Patti. Their term has just been extended another two years, with Reverend Patti serving as lead chaplain with RB.

According to the state records, Reverends Patti and Bob are the first Buddhist chaplains for the California State Assembly and the first husband and wife "team" to serve together in this position. We are proud of their achievements, as well as representing the Betsuin in such an honored manner.

Reverend Patti Oshita shares her experiences as chaplain:

The State Assembly Chaplain(s) opens each Floor Session of the State Assembly with a "non-denominational prayer or blessing." What we have chosen to do is to open with a "reflection."

Once the Assembly Session is called to order, the Speaker of the Assembly calls upon the Chaplain(s) to deliver the opening "reflection." This is the first order of business and is printed in the Assembly Journal and becomes a part of our California state historical record.

There is no application procedure to become a State Assembly chaplain. The selection begins when an invitation is extended by the Speaker of the Assembly. The chaplain(s) are voted on by the entire Assembly, sworn in the first week of December and serve a two-year term.

After retiring from the Betsuin in September 2016, we were honored to be invited to become the chaplains of the Assembly. As our term was coming to a close, we were invited and accepted a second two-year term.

It is truly an honor to be asked to serve as the first Buddhist chaplains to the State Assembly. We accepted the invitation because we had a vision of what we hope to accomplish.

Each time we open the Floor Sessions of the Assembly, instead of a "prayer" or "blessing," we share a "reflection." It is our challenge to share the Dharma without using a single technical Buddhist term.

Essentially, our vision as chaplains of the California State Assembly is no different than the vision we had for the 32 years we served the Sacramento Betsuin. Whatever messages we share, our hope is to make an immediate connection with a message that is clear and sensible.

So, although now retired, we feel we are taking on a whole new and fascinating challenge... and we will continue to represent as best we can, trying to connect with the clarity and sensibility that is the Buddha-Dharma.

Annual Giving Reports Available by Request

For the last three years, the Betsuin has automatically distributed Annual Giving Reports. Initially, reports were sent to all donors and more recently, only to members (non-member donations are acknowledged with individual donation letters). Each year since the inception of our reporting, we have received valuable feedback (thank you!), which has been very helpful in informing our process.

What we have learned this past year is that although the report is helpful, many of you:

- Track your own donations through your personal banking application.
- Donate directly to various Betsuin organizations and events and those contributions are not included in the Annual Giving Report (because each organization or committee tracks its own finances and acknowledgements separately).

For 2018 contributions, individual Annual Giving Reports will be available BY REQUEST. To make a request, please send an email to: *BetsuinGivingReport@gmail.com*. You can also call the office at (916) 446-0121, and provide your name and mailing address (including your zip code). Please allow 7 days for processing.

ABA Dance Club

The ABA Off-Broadway Ballroom Dance Club and Class donated ten tables for use in the Kaikan in honor of one of its members, George Kashiwagi, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Happy birthday, George, and thank you, Dance Club!

Sakura Gakuen Adult Class
Masako Thomas
Adult Class Dean

Spring semester starts on February 4 and registration by mail is open now. In-person registration will be on Monday, January 14 at 7:30 p.m. at annex classroom.

We plan to offer two new classes: Introductory Beginner Conversation, and Basic Kanji.

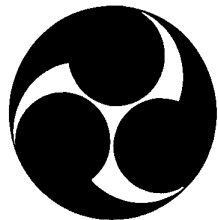


Continuing from the fall semester are Beginner Level 2 and 3, Intermediate Level 1 and 2, a pre-advanced and advanced classes.

We offer church members a 20% tuition discount. Contact me at *thomas@sakuragakuen.org*.

Looking for Summer Bazaar Sponsors
Wayne Kurahara

Each year since 1947, the Sacramento Buddhist Church has hosted the Annual Summer Bazaar. More than 750 members and friends work together to make the yearly event a "Regional Summer Festival" for an estimated 25,000+ guests during the second weekend in August. The two-day Bazaar has been featured in Sacramento Magazine, the Sacramento Bee, Sacramento News and Review, and various other travel publications. It is billed as the largest regional summer festival featuring Japanese cultural exhibits, displays, demonstrations and food.



Sacramento Buddhist Church

BAZAAR

Once again, we are inviting individuals and businesses to become sponsors of this wonderful, highly attended event. As a sponsor, you will be supporting the homecoming tradition, established more than 70 years ago. You or your business will receive advertising space in the Bazaar's full-color, printed program, as well as additional recognition and publicity, depending on the sponsorship level you choose. Your ad space may be used for a greeting or to showcase your business.

The sponsorship levels are as follows:

- Bronze Sponsor (business card ad): \$500
- Silver Sponsor (quarter page ad): \$1,000
- Gold Sponsor (half page ad & signage at the event): \$2,000
- Event Sponsor (full page ad, signage at the event and link on our website for six months): \$5,000

(Note: Members and Affiliated and Sponsored Organizations of the Sacramento Buddhist Church and other non-profit organizations will receive a 50% discount).

Please let your family and friends know that they are invited be a sponsor for the Summer Bazaar. More details are forthcoming later this month. Thank you from the Bazaar Committee.

2019 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.

Year of Death	2019 Memorial	Year of Death	2019 Memorial
2018	1 year	1995	25 year
2017	3 year	1987	33 year
2013	7 year	1970	50 year
2007	13 year	1920	100 year
2003	17 year		

Talent Show

Sacramento Betsuin Talent Show

01.20.2019

After Dharma School Class (Kaikan)

Sign up in the church office.

Questions: Koichi (bkmizu@gmail.com)

Sponsored by Legacy Endowment Fund

BUDDHIST EDUCATION CLASS

"Learning From Great Buddhists In Our Tradition: pt I"

WHEN
Sunday
January 27th, 2018
11:30am - 12:30pm

WHERE
Buddhist Church
Of Sacramento
2401 RIVERSIDE BLVD 95818

FREE CLASS
Register in the office.
Or Call (916) 446-0121



Reverend Marvin Harada is the resident minister at the Orange County Buddhist Church since 1986.

He also serves as the Co-Director for the Center of Buddhist Education, under the BCA. And also oversees the Vista Buddhist Temple.

He is currently the Interim Rinban at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento .



SACRAMENTO JR YBA

Spaghetti Dinner



Saturday
Feb 9th, 2019
6:00pm

Group reservations MUST be made in advance

Email: matthewn22@gmail.com

TICKET PRICES:

\$12 regular
 \$8 Kids (10 & under)
 Payable to: "Sacramento JYBA"

MENU:

Salad
 Spaghetti
 Bread
 Desserts

Questions? Email (matthewn22@gmail.com)

Buddhist Church of Sacramento 2401 Riverside Blvd, 95818
www.buddhistchurch.org (916) 446-0121

Sakura Matsuri Food & Shopping Faire

Sunday, March 10, 2019

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The Faire will feature a wonderful assortment of commercial products, services and craft items, as well as delicious food booths run by affiliated /sponsored organizations of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento.

Application forms are at the church office, or online at www.buddhistchurch.org

For more information, please contact:

Karen Adachi at (916) 801-3271
karenadachi@aol.com

Koichi Mizushima at (916) 446-0121
bkmizu@gmail.com

Buddhist Church of Sacramento
 2401 Riverside Blvd.
 Sacramento, CA 95818
 (916) 446-0121

Notes from the Office

2019 Membership Dues Payment

Annual Membership Renewal Forms were mailed in December to all individuals and families who were paid members in 2018. If you have not received yours, please contact the office so that we can remedy that right away! For our second year, online credit card payment is available for both monthly and annual options. You can go to the Betsuin website at www.buddhistchurch.org/membership

Betsuin Calendar - January Holiday Office Hours

- Tuesday, 1/1/19: 9:30 a.m.: Shusho-E Service and Otoki
 Bring a favorite dish to share and join us in welcoming in the New Year!
- Tuesday, 1/1/19: Betsuin CLOSED after Otoki - Happy New Year!
- Wednesday, 1/2/19: Betsuin CLOSED
- Thursday, 1/3/19: Betsuin CLOSED
- Monday, 1/21/19: Betsuin CLOSED in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Sports Committee

Alan Wu



Office Manager
Cindy Kitade

Office Project Coordinator
Jennifer Nitta

Front Desk Staff
Kellie Morioka

Betsuin Office
(916) 446-0121

Sangha Helpers
Shiyoko Futaba
Sumiye Hamamoto
Yukiko Hashisaka
Ruth Hayashi
Sanaye Imajo
Mae Kaneko
Alice Kataoka
Mutsuko Noguchi
Helen Sakaishi
Lynn Sunahara
Fusako Takahashi
Virginia Uchida
Faye Uyemura
Sandy Yuki

Hello! Thanks for stopping by. Here is another "Happy New Year" to you! For sure it is not the first, and for sure it is not the last. 'Tis the season, and when in Rome... We certainly do hope you all had a most wonderful holiday season.

We are sure it was quiet, peaceful and relaxing and almost borderline boring... right!

Pretty much just like sitting on your porch and watching the grass grow! Oh, wait a minute, that does not make any sense; it's cold and rainy out on the porch at this time of year.

OK, I know what is indoor and relaxing... a session of C-SPAN... or even better, a session with NPR! You pick 'em. After all, it's a lifestyle choice or a predisposed preference... Not that's there anything wrong with it.

Anyway, the holidays come around once a year and many use this time to gather with friends and family. It is also a time for eggnog. Eggnog comes out of hiding once a year during the holidays and to many, it is one time too many. This too is a lifestyle choice or a predisposed preference. And also to many people, seeing certain friends and family once a year is also one time too many!

Just kidding; remember, it takes a village, and who is your village? Your friends and your family are your village, so enjoy your village while you can.

Don't put off today what you can do tomorrow... hold that! Don't put off to tomorrow, what you can do today. So, do it today! Make your plans for next year's holidays right now!

So it is January now, and the holidays are over, and all the colorful decorations and especially the aluminum pole have all disappeared, (for a few months) and we are all back to the regular, hum-drum reality of normal life... not that there is anything wrong with that. It is now something we have to look forward to, say about 359 days from now, give or take a few!

Getting back to the usual and customary, the NCCL basketball games will or have resumed by now and so far everything is steady as she goes, and should be smooth sailing until the end of February. Then we will need to get ready for the tournament season with our tournament leading the way during the first weekend of March.

A year-long usual and customary routine is the attendance requirement. Remember, it is 60% for the entire year from September to June. So be there... or be square.

What happened last year, actually, last month, which was last year, was our annual Mochitsuki. Mochi King Wes was again at the helm and again we had a very successful event. And speaking of the King, here now are a few words from King Wes:

On Saturday, December 15, the Sports Committee held our annual Mochitsuki event. This event brings together over 130 volunteers from the different sports programs, church organizations and simply those committed to helping the church. This one-day event produced over 850 pounds of mochi and kasane for our sangha. Our sincerest thank you to all who participated. Without your help, this event would not be possible.

There are specific people who played an integral role and deserve individual recognition: Curtis Matsuura for storing, maintaining and delivering the grinders in top condition each year; Martin Matsuda, Sports Committee chair and mochi production leader; Kyle Tsuye for leading the rice steaming process; Marty Sakata for keeping a watchful eye on the aging grinding machines; Alan Wu for helping with everything from rice washing to grinder clean-up; Patty Nishikawa for collecting and organizing all of the mochi/kasane orders; the wonderful ladies of the Fujinkai who showed up to make the beautiful kasane (Nancy Hashimoto, Meriko Hoshida, Terry Kagiya, Lynn Kurahara, Loleen Nakano, Misa Oshiro, Heidi Sakazaki, Fusako Takahashi and Sueko Yamashita); and lastly, Reiko Kurahara and the Kitchen Crew for all of the delicious food during the event.

We are always looking for ways to improve. If you have any comments or suggestions, please write them down and turn them into the church office marked "Sports Committee Mochi."

AND, Many BIG Thank yous go to Mochi King Wes for all the hard work in planning, organizing and managing this important event... Long Live the King!

To echo King Wes: if there is anyone who would like to contribute to this monthly article, please send to: sbcodhitree@yahoo.com.

See you next month.

Dharma School



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

Cub Scout Pack 50
Valerie Fong
Midori Ito
Mae Kaneko
Alice Kataoka

Utako Kimura
Rosemary Kitaoka
Jane Komure
Mollie Oto

Sacramento Buddhist
Women's Association
Sachi Sawada's Grandson
Shige Tanaka
The Yasuis

**Boy Scout
Troop 50
Annual All-You-
Can-Eat**



Boy Scout Crab Feed 2019

**Salad
Ice Cream
50/50**

**Crab
Raffle Prizes
Last Man Standing**

**Saturday, January 19, 2019
Doors Open at 4:30 p.m.
Dinner Served at 5:30 p.m.**

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

Tickets: \$55 per person

For tickets, please contact any Troop 50 Boy Scout or the Sacramento Buddhist Church Office, (916) 446-0121, or Cindi Lu at (916) 607-1168 or Amie Ichio at (415) 613-8951.

Thank you in advance for your support!

**Support the
Betsuin through
Amazon Smile**

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

- Go to: smile.amazon.com.
- Log in or create a new account.
- Select "Buddhist Church of Sacramento" in the charity search box.
- Bookmark it, and shop away!

It doesn't cost you anything and the temple gets a small percentage of all qualified purchases.

