

BUSSEI SCRIPT

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BEING HERE

By Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs

In last month's Bussei Script I encouraged us all to remember that we're from here; - planet earth. Knowing that we are part of animal life on this pretty, but rather violent, little planet is important. Being here, embracing our status as he, she, and they, who are of the earth, who emerge as part of animal life on planet earth, must be our foundation.

The only way to realize that you are, in a very real sense, everywhere; - is to revel in having your feet planted in mother earth. As our hearts and minds are also planted in the Vow of Universal Liberation [Hon Gan], we are also everywhere. ... We are children of the earth who have connections, obligations, even alternate lives all across the universe.

In 1967 the late Jeff Beck wrote the song "Hi Ho Silver Lining," a critique of the uncritical, self-indulgent sub-culture ways of living that he saw amongst some of those who others called hippies. That song includes the line, "You're everywhere and nowhere baby, that's where you're at." Well, ... that's just what we don't mean. Those who believe that they already are the Universe, or that they are (already, as they are) everywhere are, actually nowhere. ... Nowhere in the negative sense.

The fact that we have identities spanning more than one biological lifetime, the fact that our universe would likely be a part of a multiverse, is just an aspect of the complexity Buddhists discover in the real world. This is a complexity that can be seen from a firm stance on the surface of our home planet. You have to actually be here and feel the joy and limitations of being situated, before you can feel you are everything, everywhere, all at once.



If we want to feel love and connection broadly, it can only be done from standing just where we actually are. So, as I urged us all last time, be an earthling. But also, be a nembutsu follower. As those who say the nembutsu and rely on the enacting of the Vow to soothe, liberate and inspire all; - we have the confidence to move forward in our lives. Take a few moments each day to say, "Namo Amida Butsu" aloud. When you have down time during the day, but are in public, let "Namo Amida Butsu" run through your mind. Wherever it is when you are saying, or silently holding the Nembutsu in mind, be there. Always be here; -amidst the Buddha's compassion, hearing the Nembutsu.

BTSD Taiko and Ondo Groups Perform at Cherry Blossom Festival

On Saturday, March 11, our own BTSD Taiko and Ondo Groups drummed and danced energetic performances at the Japanese Friendship Garden's Cherry Blossom Festival. The eight new members of the Taiko Group, including, Angela Cheeks, Akiko Gladsjo, Jaden Kruse, Juliana Kruse, Kim Olson, Sharon Sasaki, Lisa Schafer, and Julie Watson, did a fantastic job playing their first public performance. Other members of the group who also did a fantastic job are Bobby Koga, Junko Kajita, Karly Maruyama, Sue Moribe, Ann Ong, Margo Spears, Yuri Taira, and Laura Yoshida.

Twenty BTSD Ondo dancers dressed in colorful yukata and happi coats demonstrated five of our Bon Odori dances and shared the meaning of Obon to a very appreciative audience. Our amazing dancers included Akiko Gladsjo, Lori Hara, Elise Kajita, Junko Kajita, Noriko Kitada Nguyen, Margie Kitano, Jaden Kruse, Juliana Kruse, Kimberly Kruse, Sue Moribe, Kim Olson, Shirley Omori, Ann Ong, Mani Ryan, Stephen Smith, Yuri Taira, Melody Tsukahara, Yukari Williams, Carolyn

Woods, and Laura Yoshida.

Our appreciation is extended to these individuals who have been diligently learning and practicing for this event for the past two months. Thank you, also, to our support team including Gary Kajita, Tim Kajita, Jeff Kruse, and Efton Woodford for being there for us. The Buddhist Temple of San Diego appreciates your Dana of giving your time, effort, and talent to share the Dharma with our community.

Thinking about Becoming a Member? Just Joined?

In April **Buddhism 1-2-3** (Wednesdays via Zoom at 7 p.m.) tells all you need to know, ranging from the spiritual to the practical. Contact the Temple for login.

Inside This Month

Rev. Gibbs & Cherry Blossom 1
Calendar & Activities 2
President Msg., BOD & BWA 3
Membership & Bingo Fund. 4

Donations 5
April Shotsuki Hoyo 6
Rev. Mukojima's Message 7
BEC, Nat. Coun., DS & JRYBA 8



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By LuAnn Lee

First Day of Spring has just passed and although we had one hour less sleep, the time change has brought longer days with more time to do outdoor activities. With all the rain, there will be May flowers and more water to help with the drought.

The cold weather did not stop the cherry blossoms from blooming at the Japanese Friendship Garden in early March as they celebrated their annual festival. As part of our outreach to the community, the Minister's Assistants had a table with a variety of complimentary Buddhist literature, BTSD information pamphlets and small items sold for nominal fees. Thank you to Reverend Laverne Imori for organizing the volunteer schedule and being there for three days, Bill Teague for gathering and transporting the items and for all the people that helped receive visitors. Also thank you to the large group of Odori dancers led by Junko Kajita and BTSD Taiko, both groups always entertain the crowd and are attracting new members.

Going back to February when I attended the BCA National Council Meeting via zoom, I wanted to invite you to read a brief summary on page 8 in this newsletter on the two-day meeting plus workshops offered. I have heard some say "What does the BCA do for us" as we pay per member to them. In the past, I have thought this myself but have realized how much they do with limited staff and funds. Even before Bishop Harada has taken the lead, I have noticed the need for change as they just announced a strategic planning committee to be formed. This tells me that they realize the importance of hearing from all temples and working towards a common goal as we are doing here.

As many of you know, we have a San Diego/Vista connection to BCA President Terri Omori (Honda) and President-elect Steven Terusaki (who grew up in San Diego). So, I am committed to communicating any future goals with you and supporting BCA.

As I close my message, I want to thank those that participated in our strategic planning focus groups. The team is looking forward to having a couple more sessions, evaluating the data and sharing them with our members. Please see me if you have any questions or concerns on the focus groups or any other topic. As always, your support and donations are appreciated beyond words.

With Gratitude and In Gassho,

LuAnn Lee



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors met on March 9th -

1. It was reported that Rev. Gibbs had his surgery and is recovering well.
2. The Board welcomed Tom Nakagiri, Venice Buddhist Temple Board President, who wanted to observe the San Diego Board meeting.
3. The Minister's Assistants will tend to a booth at the Japanese Friendship Garden Cherry Blossom Festival. They will provide information on the temple, Buddhism, and have literature and bookstore items available.
4. The Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning committee will continue meeting with focus groups looking internally for challenges and at what we do well, analyze this information, develop a plan of action, and execute for the future of the temple.
- 5.. The temple Obon service will be held on July 23rd. The Hatsubon service and the Obon odori will be held on Saturday, July 29th.
6. Sept. 24th was approved for a showing of the film *Carving the Divine*.
6. Sept. 30th is the tentative date for the Tri-Temple Seminar San Diego is co-hosting.
7. The President, the ministerial team, all committees and affiliated organizations updated the Board on their activities.

BWA NEWS

Last month the new BTSD BWA board was installed at the O-Higan service on March 19, 2023. The board will serve for the next three years. We are very thankful and happy to announce our new/continuing volunteers. They are: Co-Presidents Junko Kajita & Sue Moribe, 1st VP Akie Tomiyama, 2nd VP Margo Spears, Recording Secretary Fusako Yokotobi, Treasurer Susan Yonekura, Religious Chair Rev. Laverne Imori, Corresponding Secretary Ann Yamamoto, Well-Care Chair Laurie Ota, Advisor Fumi Ohara, Laverne Sensei, Group Leaders Alice Aoyama, Ann Yamamoto, Margo Spears, and Kim Hagio.

There have been many times in the past, when the book club meeting time has conflicted with other activities and have had to be postponed or canceled. Because of this, we will be meeting regularly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm by Zoom. Our March meeting at our new time was a hit and led to a fun and dynamic session. Please let Sue know at 858-699-8876, if you are interested in joining and wish to get a link to future meetings.

BWA will be selling daifuku mochi at the Hanamatsuri bake sale after service on April 9th. In preparation for that, we are looking forward to the 2 work parties which will be held on Wednesday, April 5th and Friday, April 7th. It's a little bit of work and a lot of fun to do it together.

Some of our members will be traveling to Hokkaido as part of the Vista Buddhist Temple's Japan tour before attending the WBWAC in Kyoto. Other members will be touring other parts of Japan, including Shikoku, after the convention. It seemed so far away, but suddenly it's almost here. Gassho

Membership Report

Bill Teague, Membership Chair

Thanks. Thanks much to our new members and the Board of Directors and the Membership Committee for our successful New Member Breakfast on March 5. With all kinds of goodies and fresh-cooked items we had a lovely feast. New Members included Plover Brown with Misha; Jayson and Mariel Schmidt with Penelope and Jonathan; and Bob and Yoko Schultz, with Jack.

Good News. With new members and renewals, we are now over 40% of our goal to maintain current membership levels. And that's not counting some auto-renewals we are catching up on. By the numbers, we have 83 members confirmed for 2023, across 63 households.

Website Restored for More New Members. Apologies that some Membership links were broken or missing in March. They are now restored so if you are thinking about becoming a member in 2023, go to Member > Easy Join.

Don't Forget Easy Renewal. We haven't changed rates for years, so if you haven't renewed yet and your information hasn't changed, you can repeat last year's amount. Just write us a check or call to have one of our treasurers charge your card, or use PayPal from our website. Just be sure to identify it is for 2023 membership.

2023 Renewals

This list is partial as of mid-March, as we are catching up with some auto-renewals.

Takeko Amano, Denise Amemiya, Gregory Bull & Julie Watson, Megan Dixon & Philip Kao, Julia Gladsjo, Kiku Graeber, John & Tsuneko Hashiguchi, Holly & Ronald Hiding, Miki Honda, Eugene & Jo Ann Akiko Hotta, Sally Ishihara, Sheryl T. Ishizaki, Jeanie Kashima, Naoye Kasubuchi, Itsuko Aileen & Kiyoshi Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace Kawasaki, Norman Kiyono, Florence Koga, Nancy Martinez, Chiyoko Masumoto, Marianne McDonald, Ronnie Morinaka, Jake K. & Patricia Nakamura, Fred & Nancy Nakatani, Sumihiro & Yuriko Nogata, Janet Ochi-Fontanott, Michiko Ogasawara, Ann Chizuye Ohara, Karen & Roy Okuhara, Kimberly Olson, Shirley Omori, Ann & Mike Ong, Dennis & Elaine Otsuji, Claudia Poquoc, Mani Ryan, Akemi & Bill Sannwald, Jayson & Mariel Schmidt, Leslie Seymour, Janice & Wilbur Shigehara, Margo Spears, Yukiko Sugiyama, Floyd & Kaytee Sumida, Yuriko Taira, Kelvin & Lara Tanaka, Naomi & Dr. Terry Tanaka, Bill & Joyce Teague, Aki Tomiyama, Betty Torio, Wayne Tsukamoto, Angelina Tsuneyoshi, Chris & Tissa Uchiyama, Ruth Voorhies, Ron & Sheila Yagura, Jean Yamada, Pat Yamada, Laura Yamaguchi, Jane Yamamoto, Mae Yamamoto, Sumiko Yanagihara, Fusako Yokotobi, Gregg Yonekura, and Susan Yonekura.

Questions? Let me know at btcomms@cox.net or text or call 619-248-3749.



Join Us in Supporting the MAs Going to Japan
HANAMATSURI TOSTADA/BINGO FIESTA
Sunday, April 9 at 11:30 a.m.
 Teens/Adults (13 & over): \$12 (includes 2 tostadas & 5 bingo games)
 Youth (12 & under): \$5 (includes 1 tostada and 5 bingo games)
 Additional tostadas purchased at the event are \$5 each
Reservation and Payment due by March 31
 Call 619-239-0896 or email: info@btsd.net
Ensure your reservation today & join the Fiesta!

BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Mitchell, Jonathan
 Voorhies, Ruth
 Sasaki, Brian & Lorin
 Imori, Laverne
 Sasaki, Sharon & Robert
 Yamamoto
 Sugiyama, Yukiko
 Yanagihara, Sumiko
 Nguyen, Tam - Visit 2/19/23
 Chon Duc Buddhist Temple
 Rucker, Akiko - Special
 Visitation, 3/5/2023
 Yamamoto, Ann Miyuki
 Morinaka, Ron
 Masumoto, Chiyoko - 2022 End
 Voorhies, Ruth - Hospitality
 Birnbaum, Alex Hajime
 Funeral Service for Eriko Shoji
 Reception
 Voorhies, Ruth -
 Dharma School
 Social Welfare
 Martinez, Daniel & Nancy -
 In honor of Isaac & Janna
 Sasaki, Brian & Lorin
 Negoro, Keiko - Yoshie Okuma
 Temple - Funeral
 Annex - Funeral

**In Honor of Ruth Voorhies
100th Birthday**

Imori, Laverne
 Himaka, Michio & Naomi
 Yoshioka, Adele,
 Joann Spencer,
 Penny Spectator,
 Claudia Denault Asherman,
 Albert & Ann
 Koga, Jan
 Misleh, Anton & Joyce
 Imoto, Michael T
 Johnson, Gregg A and Marti L
 Gay, Brian & Bailey Kurahashi
 Martinez, Nancy
 Angotti, Sandi
 Omori, Shirley & Efton
 Woodford
 Ong, Ann
 Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace
 Kawasaki, Tricia
 Honda, Mikiye

DHARMA SCHOOL

Mitchel, Jonathan
 Kawamoto, David H. & Carol
 Yagura, Ronald & Sheila
 Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
 Nakamura, Jake K. & Patty
 Ohara, Ann
 Ong, Ann & Mike
 Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
 Kaneko
 Negoro, Keiko

FLORIAL OFFERING

Mitchell, Jonathan
 Kawamoto, David H. & Carol
 Yagura, Ronald & Sheila
 Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine

Nakamura, Jake K. & Patty
 Ohara, Ann
 Ong, Mike & Ann
 Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
 Kaneko
 Negoro, Keiko

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Mitchell, Jonathan
 Kawamoto, David H. & Carol
 Yagura, Ronald & Sheila
 Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
 Nakamura, Jake K. & Patty
 Ohara, Ann
 Ong, Ann & Mike
 Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
 Kaneko
 Negoro, Keiko

HANAMATSURI

Yamamoto, Ann Miyuki
 Ohara, Ann

HO ONKO

Ohara, Ann

MAP (Ministers Assist)

Kawamoto, David H. & Carol
 Yagura, Ronald & Sheila
 Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
 Nakamura, Jake K. & Patty
 Ohara, Ann
 Imori, Laverne
 Okuhara, Roy & Karen
 Sasaki, Brian & Lorin
 Ong, Ann & Mike
 Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
 Kaneko
 Negoro, Keiko

MEMBERSHIP

Bradford, Qamar A.
 Kawamoto, David H. & Carol
 Yagura, Ronald & Sheila
 Torio, Glenn & Janet
 Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
 Kawamoto, Mitsuko
 Yasuhara, Paul
 Fuchigami, Lynn S. & Stephen
 Nakamura, Jake K. & Patty
 Ishizaki, Sheryl
 Ohara, Ann
 Tanaka, Kelvin & Lara
 Ong, Ann & Mike
 Poquoc, Claudia
 Katsuda, Jo Ann Akiko &
 Eugene Hotta
 Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
 Kaneko
 Negoro, Keiko

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Ohara, Ann

NIRVANA DAY SERVICE

Gladsjo, Julie
 Ohara, Ann
 Tanaka, Kelvin & Lara
 Jensen, Richard
 Koga, Florence
 Yamamoto, Koichi & Joyce

OHIGAN SERVICE

Yamamoto, Ann Miyuki
 Yamamoto, Jane
 Morinaka, Ron
 Kida, Katsumi
 Gladsjo, Julie
 Ohara, Ann - Spring
 Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
 Kaneko
 Estes, Carol
 Yanagihara, Sumiko
 Kawamoto, Mitsuko Hendrix,
 Hiroko
 Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
 Nogata, Yuriko
 Masumoto, Chiyoko
 Suyenaga, Irene
 Hashiguchi, Tsuneko & John
 Kodama, Jay and Family
 Sumida, Floyd & Kaytee
 Oto, June
 Monji, Yoshiko
 Honda, Mikiye
 Hagio, Quimico
 Sugiyama, Yukiko
 Tanaka, Kelvin & Lara
 Honda, Ralph & Avis
 Spears, Margo
 Tomiyama, Akie
 Shigehara, Wilbur & Janice
 Moribe, Susan
 Tsukamoto, Wayne
 Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
 Martinez, Nancy
 Teague, Bill & Joyce
 Graeber, Kiku
 Torio, Betty
 Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace
 Aoyama, K. Alice
 Himaka, Michio & Naomi
 Kawamoto, Mitsuko
 Negoro, Glenn
 Yonekura, Susan
 Yokotobi, Fusako
 Okuhara, Roy & Karen
 Ong, Mike & Ann
 Oyama, Garrick

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Mitchell, Jonathan
 Kawamoto, David H. & Carol
 Yagura, Ronald & Sheila
 Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
 Nakamura, Jake K. & Patty
 Ohara, Ann
 Ong, Ann & Mike
 Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
 Kaneko

Negoro, Keiko

SHOTSUKI HOYO

Ohara, Ann
 IMO Takenori Ohara
 IMO Buyemon Ohara
 IMO Mitsu Ohara
 IMO Kisae Ohara
 IMO Takeyoshi Ohara
 Koga, Florence
 IMO Mary Sugimoto
 Yamamoto, Koichi & Joyce
 IMO Haruhiko Otsuji
 IMO Ayako Otsuji
 Ong, Ann & Mike - March
 Estes, Carol
 IMO Michael Kawamoto
 Yanagihara, Sumiko
 IMO Patsy Yanagihara
 IMO Mari Tanizaki
 IMO Masaru Yanagihara
 IMO Senkichi Yanagihara
 IMO Hideo Watamura
 Baker, Carol
 IMO Masaru Yanagihara
 Tomiyama, Alan & Akiko
 IMO Sayoko Tomiyama
 Yonekura, Susan
 Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
 Kawamoto, Mitsuko
 IMO Michael Kawamoto
 Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
 IMO Haruhiko Otsuji
 IMO Ayako Otsuji
 Yamamoto, Ann Miyuki
 Kawasaki, Trace & Mildred
 IMO Kiyo Kawasaki
 Yagura, Ronald & Sheila
 IMO Mary Yagura
 Tomiyama, Akie
 IMO Mary Tomiyama
 Takashima, Wilbur
 IMO Tommy Yonekura
 Rubio-Torres, Arturo
 IMO Armando Leal - April
 Tomiyama, Bruce & Doreen
 Oto, June
 IMO Motona Oto
 Amano, Takeko
 IMO Sam Amano
 Driscoll, Christine
 IMO Susumu Yagi, Dad
 Honda, Mikiye - March
 Honda, Ralph & Avis
 Martinez, Nancy
 IMO Dad
 Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
 Kaneko - January

CULTURAL BAZAAR

Is coming up and we are in need of donations for the opportunity drawing. Please contact Gregg Yonekura, Bill Teague or the office if you have a donation of gift cards, event passes or other items.



APRIL SHOTSUKI (MONTHLY MEMORIAL) LIST

The Shotsuki Hoyo honors the memory of loved ones who passed away during the month. This month's service will be held on March 5 at 10 a.m. on April 2. If you are unable to attend in-person, the service will be livestreamed on the temple's YouTube page and can be accessed on the BTSD website under the "Video" tab. If you find an error in the Shotsuki listing or wish to add a name, please contact the temple at (619) 239-0896 or email info@btsd.net Gassho.

<u>DECEASED</u>	<u>FAMILY MEMBER</u>
Toyosaburo Yanagihara (4-23-1930)	Yanagihara Family
Saburo Sugiyama (4-10-1936)	Sugiyama Family
Seihachi Tsurudome (4-2-1943)	Tsurudome Family
Shizuko Kasubuchi (4-27-1947)	Naoye Kasubuchi
Masaichi Kuroda (4-30-1948)	Toshio Kuroda
Yoshitaro Matsumoto (4-19-1952)	Eiji Matsumoto
Yukichi Okuma (4-16-1953)	Okuma Family
Yohichiro Torio (4-24-1954)	Betty Torio
Hiromi Moribe (4-26-1954)	Lee Moribe
Mansaku Shinohara (4-6-1956)	Shinohara Family
Yoshiko Haseyama (4-5-1958)	Noboru Haseyama
Saburo Oyama (4-5-1963)	Oyama Family
George Kozuma (4-9-1966)	Tomiko Kozuma
Shinzaemon Fujii (4-28-1967)	Katsumi Kida
Shizuyo Izumo (4-1-1970)	Yanagihara Family
Ume Inouye (4-10-1970)	Inouye Family
Iwaguma Tsuneyoshi (4-9-1973)	Tsuneyoshi Family
Buheiji Tanaka (4-12-1975)	Yoko Ozawa
Hajime Kyutoku (4-10-1978)	Tamio Tsurudome
Ryohei Tsujimura (4-5-1980)	Roy Tsujimura
Kuzo Sugiyama (4-23-1980)	Sugiyama Family
Magoichi Hamano (4-3-1983)	Toru Hamano
Isao Imaizumi (4-27-1983)	Imaizumi Family
Kazumi Sugioka (4-29-1985)	Sugioka Family
George Yukio Kodama (4-19-1986)	Vivianne Jones
Chiyo Yamagata (4-27-1987)	Harold Yamagata
Mike Hagio (4-7-1988)	Quimico Hagio
Frank Tachiki (4-6-1989)	Les Tachiki
Terry T. Doi (4-28-1989)	Patrick Doi
Mine Takeshita (4-27-1991)	Takeshita Family
Zenbei Iwashita (4-11-1992)	Iwashita Family
Benso Tsuji (4-6-1993)	Laura Katsue Tsuji
Setsugo Taniguchi (4-14-1993)	Wilbur Takashima
Yoshiko Sueyoshi (4-2-1995)	Sueyoshi Family

<u>DECEASED</u>	<u>FAMILY MEMBER</u>
Shizuko Yanagihara (4-30-1995)	Yanagihara Family
Ai Yamada (4-27-1996)	Keisuke Yamada
James Kasubuchi (4-12-1998)	Naoye Kasubuchi
Muneo Torimaru (4-30-1998)	Ricky Torimaru
Hazel Ito (4-13-2000)	Ito Family
Shigenori Tsurudome (4-30-2000)	Tsurudome Family
Taro Matsui (4-29-2001)	Matsui Family
Kenshi Tachiki (4-30-2001)	Lewis Tachiki
Haruko Muraoka (4-13-2002)	Takenori Muraoka
Yoshiko Takashima (4-21-2002)	Wilbur Takashima
Shinichi Okuyama (4-07-2003)	Mai Kawaguchi
Kosaburo Ochi (4-27-2004)	Emi Ochi
Toshio Hayakawa (4-11-2005)	Emiko Hayakawa
Yoshiko Miyazaki (4-29-2005)	Madoko M. Miyazaki
Armando Leal (4-11-2006)	Rubio Family
Kaneko Houdek (4-09-2006)	John Houdek
Kikuo Uyeji (4-21-2006)	Chieko Takeguchi
Kattie Magotsugu Uyeji (4-15-2007)	Masako Uyeji
Hidetoshi Akiyama (4-25-2007)	Terry Akiyama
Masao Santohigashi (4-06-2008)	Kiku Graeber
Judi Shigeko Shinohara (4-18-2009)	Janice Shinohara
Shimako Uda (4-26-2009)	Georgiana Uda
Setsuko Himaka (4-24-2011)	Lynn Fuchigami
Earl Isoki Osaki (4-21-2013)	Gail Furuya
Robert C. McDonald	Bruce McDonald
Kazuo Kiyono (4-6-2014)	Norman Kiyono
James Noboru Nakashima (4-7-2014)	Tomoye Nakashima
George Tachiki (4-22-2014)	Miyako Tachiki
Hiro Tsurudome (4-19-2015)	Joanne Tsurudome Garcia
Mildred Pocock (4-2016)	Pocock Family
Kimiko Kitano (4-24-2018)	Margie Kitano
Jeanne Inouye (4-8-21)	Nabeta Family
Helen Kikuko Takashima (4-15-21)	Takashima Family
Alyce Asako Morinaka (4-10-2022)	Morinaka Family
Yoshiko Honda (4-20-21)	Honda Family

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MEMORIAL SERVICES allow us to pay homage to loved ones who have passed away. In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, family members hold a service at certain intervals following a relative's death to express gratitude for and acknowledge their continuing influence in our lives. If you wish to schedule a memorial service for a loved one, please call during weekly office hours.

2023 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2022	13th Year Memorial	2011	27th Year Memorial	1997
3rd Year Memorial	2021	17th Year Memorial	2007	33rd Year Memorial	1991
7th Year Memorial	2017	25th Year Memorial	1999	50th Year Memorial	1974

Buddhist Education in April

Bill Teague, Buddhist Education Committee

Don't miss the April memorial (*Shotsuki Hoyo*) on Sunday, April 2, at 10 a.m., with **Rev. Laverne Shidou Imori** presiding. The highlight of the month will be our most beautiful service, *Hanamatsuri*, on April 9 at 10 a.m. The Hondo will be filled with flowers, celebrating the birth of the historical Buddha.

Rev. Laverne Shidou Imori will lead the service and share the Dharma. Buddhist lessons abound in such observances, including *gratitude to others* in *Shotsuki Hoyo* and *joy of life* and *joy in the Dharma* symbolized in *Hanamatsuri*.

Our **Chanting Group** exists to allow us to practice chanting. Under the leadership of Rev. Laverne, we meet at 9:15 a.m. Sundays before the 10 a.m. service. No appointment is required, just come and join us in the Hondo, our main hall on the top floor.

Intro to Buddhism will be Sunday, April 30, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., in the Sangha Hall or Conference Room (TBA), with **MA Kaytee Sumida**. This is a great overview of Buddhism in general and our Temple in particular, in a single session.

For New Members and Dharma Friends curious about becoming a temple member, in April **Buddhism 1-2-3** (Wednesdays via Zoom at 7 p.m.) will focus on topics ranging from the spiritual to the practical on being or becoming a member. Session host in April will be Bill Teague, Certified Minister's Assistant. Contact the Temple for login details.

Question Sessions on Demand: Buddhism Zero we can schedule a Zoom session for you at your convenience if you had questions about Buddhism or the Temple. Please contact the office and suggest times you could meet via Zoom. Note: Buddhism Zero is also great for students on class assignment.

DHARMA SCHOOL

Happy Spring! In March, the Dharma School held regular classes (Pre-K to 3rd grade, 4th-8th grade, and High School) on three Sundays, and after the Spring Ohigan Service, we enjoyed an all-Dharma School "marshmallows and toothpicks challenge" activity led by Mrs. Junko Kajita.

Please note that prospective new students are welcome to attend Dharma School any time. Check us out, no obligation. Classes or an activity will be offered every Sunday in April. We look forward to decorating the Hanamido (flower structure housing a statue of the baby Buddha) on April 8th, for our *Hanamatsuri* Service on April 9th. After that service, there will be an all-Dharma School activity. Another important April celebration is Earth Day, which we will observe on April 23rd.

Some Dharma School teachers plan to attend the 2023 Federation of Dharma School Teachers League Conference on April 29-30, either virtually or in person at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple.

Thank you to all who generously donated games and activities for our "Little Kids Can Do Big Things" collection for Ronald McDonald House in March. We sincerely appreciate

National Council Meeting Highlights

Our national organization, the Buddhist Churches of America, held its business meeting virtually on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24 and 25. The event was preceded by workshops and an IBS symposium.

BCA Workshops - On Feb. 18, BCA provided free zoom workshops that were open to all. Workshops began with a Town Hall meeting with the topic: "The Benefits of Following the Shin Buddhist Path," with **Rev. Hōkai "Smitty" Smith** as one of the panel members. Other workshops were presented by the BCA Social Welfare Committee, BCA Dharma Forward Campaign, and BCA Endowment Foundation.

IBS Symposium - On Feb. 23, the IBS offered a symposium with **Rev. David Ryōe Matsumoto**, **Rev. Harry Gyōkyō Bridge**, **Rev. Melissa Jōshin Opel**, and **Rev. Todd Gan-E Tsuchiya**.

NCM Meeting - Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24 and 25, the BTSD Delegates were President, **LuAnn Lee**, 3rd VP **Bill Teague**, Supervising Minister, **Rev. Gregory Gibbs**, and **Rev. Smitty (non-voting)**.

Highlights of NCM Meeting

President **Terri Omori** conducted the business of the BCA and encouraging all Temple's to observe the 125th Anniversary of the BCA in 2024.

Harassment Training presented by **Camille Pating** for one hour was completed (required every two years)

Rev. Kenji Akahoshi, retired, presented a workshop on "Guide to Attract New Members" (received hand-out). Membership for BCA Assessment is \$177.21 per member (includes Maintenance share).

2024 NCM will be hybrid and hosted by Northern District (Feb. 23 and 24, 2024).

Breakout session in small groups to discuss "Why Jodo Shinshu" and benefits of following the Shin Path.

BCA Eitaikyo Service - This hybrid event on Sunday, Feb. 26, included **Rev. Michael Endo** was the chairperson and **Rev. Gerald Sakamoto** was the guest speaker from San Jose.

(Thanks to **Ralph Honda**, **Tim Kajita**, and others, BTSD carried the event on a large screen TV in the Dining Room). The service featured music from **San Jose Taiko**, **June Kuramoto & Kimo Cornwell**, **Ko Ha**, and **Rev. Bridge**.

Respectfully submitted, **LuAnn Lee**.

JR YBA

We had a great time attending Seminar 2 hosted by Oxnard, Pasadena, and Senshin. Held at Senshin Buddhist Temple, dharma messages and workshops centered around "Buddhism in Nature." So grateful to have the opportunity to learn and spend time with peers from Southern District.

Mark your calendars, we will be serving **breakfast on Mother's Day, Sunday, 5/14 from 8:30am-9:45am**. Breakfast will be miso soup, rice, eggs, sausage, fruit, and a beverage. See any JrYBA member for tickets, mothers are free, presale \$8 until 5/7, \$10 at the door.