

BUSSEI SCRIPT

2929 Market Street, San Diego, California 92102 Web: www.btsd.net E-mail: info@btsd.net Phone: 619-239-0896

VOLUME CXXVIII NO. 10

OCTOBER 2016

90th Anniversary For All the Children

By Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi, Resident Minister



This month, we celebrate the Wisdom and Compassion of 90 years of Shin Buddhist efforts. A familiar Japanese phrase that was often used to inspire each generation is "*kodomo no tame ni*," "for the sake of the children." The early Shin pioneers realized that the deep spiritual wisdom that supported their difficult lives, would be

a crucial guide for their children. Through the decades, as physical and social hardships diminished, the relevance of a religious/cultural/social center slowly lost its appeal. So how might we view this quaint "saying" now?

Due to global, technological, and social changes, these words may take on a different view. "Our children" should not be limited to referencing the children of our temple. Our efforts should not be limited to the physical and social health of our temple members. The truth of **interdependence** is more evident today with ecology, and our globally connected world of TV, world news and the internet. The truth of **impermanence** is evident, as flowers fade and each consumer product is outdated within a matter of months. These two fundamental truths of the Buddha are accepted universally. Shin Buddhism is now poised to offer the world a resolution to the fundamental concerns of humanity.

As we are the children of previous generations, I hope that we have a clear understanding of the Shin Dharma that we pass on to our children. The Buddha's Teaching is not just for the betterment of our physical and social wellbeing. The truth of the Dharma is a guide for our inner wellbeing. Our spiritual health determines how we see and value our ordinary life. It was this grounding in the Buddha's spiritual reality that sustained the pioneering Issei and Nisei. This truth must be conveyed to our children and the children of the world. The threats to our children will not be resolved by some local solution to employment or housing. The threat comes from 7 billion individuals feeling alienated and separate from the other. It is this rejection of the truth of interdependence that is the root of our discontent.

It is imperative that we incorporate the Buddha's Teachings of interdependence and impermanence into our world view. The physical hardships and the vast destruction

of two world wars in the first half of the 20th century, created a desire for a pleasant and peaceful physical existence. Technology and the exploitation of resources created conditions that provided a comfortable life style for many of us. But for others, in America and other parts of the world, hardships remained. The dawn of the 21st century shines a light to the destructive results of this affluent lifestyle. Natural resource depletion, climate change, and the inequality of life styles are signs that we ignore the fundamental truth of interdependence. The social unrest, of the gap between those who "have" and those who "have not," has become evident in our daily news. Therefore, a shift in our thinking is required, before any major shift occurs in our policies and practices. Buddhism has much to offer in the area of clearing the mind.

The motives for living a Shin Buddhist life have shifted from the 1960's. We are informed by technology and social changes, that our individual actions influence the world around us. "For the sake of our children," the Shin Dharma provides the guidelines that can bridge the gap among our various factions. Let us expand our sights from the limited cultural concerns of the past, to the significant issues that challenge us today. Defending our fortress in a plague of ignorance is challenging.


The model of medical science reveals that the quarantine, isolationist strategy has limited value. Vaccination for the greater population has a greater benefit. Let us not treat ignorance with rejection. The vaccination of wisdom and compassion will have a much greater effect. The bodhisattva ideal includes all of us. The primal vow assures us that the Dharma is an effective vaccination against ignorance. By acknowledging our own ignorance, we can accept the healing energy of the Buddha's Teaching. Accepting our personal role in the ills of our society, may be the first step in our awakening.

The Buddhist Temple of San Diego is greater than our physical facility. It is the **sangha**. Let us emulate the efforts of our pioneering members. They sacrificed their own personal wellbeing to insure the health of the community. Today, it is evident that the community must include our greater society. With every recitation of Namo Amida Butsu, we gratefully accept the compassionate gifts from others. And in turn, we become part of the primal vow to assure others the same gift of acceptance.

Future articles will elaborate a contemporary view of the Primal Vow, so that our children can provide future updates for their children.

Gassho,
Kenji Sensei

OCTOBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 10 a.m. – Koto Class @SH
2 9 a.m. – DS Staff Mtg. @CR 10 a.m. – DS/Family Serv./Shotsuki 11:30 a.m. – Jr. YBA Mtg. @ SH 11:45 a.m. – BWA Mtg. 12 Noon – Taiko @ Annex	3 Temple Closed	4	5 10 a.m. – Craft Day @DR 12 p.m. – Minyo Group @SH 1 p.m. – Shigin @AH 6:30 p.m. – TAIKO @ AH 7 p.m. – Buddhism 1-2-3 @SH	6	7 FBWA Conference @ Bellevue, Wash.	8 FBWA Conference @ Bellevue, Wash.
9 10 a.m. -- DS/Family Service 12 p.m. -- BWA Mtg, CR 12 Noon -- Taiko FBWA Conference @ Bellevue, Wash.	10 Temple Closed 7pm -- Ways & Means Mtg.	11 10:30 a.m. – So. District Minister's Mtg. @LA Nishi Betsuin	12 12 p.m. – Minyo Group @SH 1 p.m. – Shigin @Annex 1-2 6:30 p.m. – TAIKO @ A.H 7 p.m. – Buddhism 1-2-3 @S.H.	13 6:45 pm – Board of Directors Mtg. @Conf. Rm.	14	15 10 a.m. – Koto Class @SH Jr. YBA 65th Reunion 12:00 Bowling/Kearny Mesa Bowl 5:30 p.m. Banquet at Crowne Plaza Hotel
16 90th ANNIVERSARY (Guest minister: Rev. Kodo Umezu) 9 a.m. – Kieshiki Affirmation 10:15 – Chigo parade, Group photo 90th Anniversary Service, Luncheon	17 Temple Closed	18	19 10 a.m. – Craft Day@DR 12 p.m. – Minyo Group @S H 1 p.m. – Shigin @ Annex 1-2 6:30 p.m. – TAIKO @ A.H 7 p.m. – Buddhism 1-2-3 @SH	20	21	22 SD Jr. YBL Religious Retreat at Nishi
23 9 a.m. – Intro. To Buddhism @SH 10 am -- DS/Family Service 12 Noon -- Taiko	24 Temple Closed	25	26 12 p.m. – Minyo Group @SH 1 p.m. – Shigin @AH 6:30 p.m. – TAIKO @ A.H 7 p.m. – Activities Mtg. @ CR 7 p.m. – Buddhism 1-2-3 @ SH	27	28	29 6 p.m. -- BTSD/VFW Bingo
30 10 am -- DS/Family Service 11 am -- Dharma School Halloween Party @ AH	31 HALLOWEEN Temple Closed					

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By LuAnn Lee, Board President

Although it felt like tropical weather today with the rain and humidity, I felt a cool breeze in the air one evening last week. It made me think of fall and reminded me that October is right around the corner. As many of you know, we have been planning and looking forward to the middle of October when we will celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the Temple and the 65th Anniversary of the Junior YBA.

I know 100 percent participation for these events may not be a realistic goal but I think we are on our way to having many members and guests attend. As of this week, we have about 150 people signed up for the luncheon and almost 30 people signed up for the Affirmation Ceremony with Bishop Umezu as officiant.

Another update is the 90th Anniversary Fundraising Project, We are so grateful and excited to let you know that we are half way to our goal and it's only September. It would be something if we could get the \$50,000 or more by our Anniversary weekend. It's true what they say that every little bit counts. We are truly thankful to all of you that have already donated and pledged a donation.

I look forward to seeing you around the temple and at our many events for the Anniversary weekend October 15 and 16th.

In Gassho,

BWA NEWS

Many members enjoyed Rev. Sasaki's talks at Ohigan. Thank you to all who shared delicious food for the potluck luncheon which followed the service. As always it was a warm and friendly gathering.

Thank you to Group D who hosted hospitality after the Sept 25th family service.

Although it is past, we would like to acknowledge and thank a few members who went above and beyond in working the craft booth at the Balboa Park Obon Festival. Kim Hagio, Jeanie Kashima, Betty Torio, Karen Akahoshi, Miyo Hill, and their leaders, Kiku Graeber and Ruby Hara, were essential in insuring the great success of our craft booth this year. Domo arigato gozaimashita! They continue to help on the first and third Wednesday craft group. Please join them from 10am-2pm & bring something to share at the potluck lunches.

Katelyn Morimoto of Gardena, and Kelli Kato of OCBC, the 2016 FBWA Youth Exchange Program students, will be attending the 44th FBWA Conference in Bellevue, Washington, Oct. 7-9 and will be speaking at Sunday's General meeting, of their experiences in Japan. Kenji Sensei, Aki T, Kiku G, Margo S, and Sue M will also be attending.

Hope you have signed up with the office for some of the temple's Jr. YBA Reunion, and 90th Anniversary and luncheon activities, on Oct. 15 and 16.

Be sure to bring your kids/grandkids to the Dharma School annual Halloween party this year to be held after 10 am service on Sunday Oct. 30.

It's almost that time of year...please be on the lookout for our annual almond brittle sale!

Also in November, we will have our annual fund raiser sushi sale after the Eitaikyo/Lady Eshinni service. Please look for the future work schedule.

Hope to see you at our next meeting on Oct 2, Group A hosting.

Craft Days

1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAYS

from

10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

BTSD Dining Room

*Join us each week for some crafty fun, and great memories!

Bring a dish to share for the pot-luck!

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met on Sept. 15th -

1. Rev. Akahoshi provided highlights from the Ministers' meeting held in Berkeley in August.
2. The Board approved June 23-25, 2017 as the dates for Rev. Akahoshi's 2017 summer retreat.
3. Rev. Akahoshi will attend the Jodo Shin Shu Center's 10th Anniversary celebration, Oct. 22nd.
4. The 90th Anniversary planning committee updated the Board on its activities.
- 5 The Board approved a donation for the 59th Annual Yokohama Sister City Society meeting.
6. The Buddhist Education Committee met with the National University Charter School 5th grade class. The students are interested in visiting the temple.
7. The Board approved paying for 1/2 of the cost of materials for the replacement of the property line fence at the minister's residence.

JR YBA NEWS

September was a busy month for the group.

It started with Southern District Jr. YBL Conference that was held September 3 and 4 and hosted by the Nishi Jr. YBA. The theme was "Back to the Basics: Before Anything Else". Eight members along with three chaperones and Kenji-Sensei attended. Congratulations to Jill Yamanishi for being installed to the Southern District Jr. YBL Cabinet as the Girl's Athletics Chairperson. I'm happy to announce that during the Delegates Meeting, San Diego won the bid to co-host the 2017 Southern District Jr. YBL Conference with Vista! San Diego won bragging rights for the chapter sign contest, along with Gardena. Thank you to Jill for designing our beautiful sign. Also during the Conference, our advisors (Avis & Ralph Honda) surprised the San Diego & Vista Jr. YBAs with a birthday party to everyone who had a birthday in July, August and September with a big cake. Happy Belated Birthday to everyone! Thank you Nishi Jr. YBA for hosting a great Conference! We learned a lot and had a lot of fun!

The first meeting of the new term was held on September 11, and included election of the 2016-17 cabinet .

Here are the officers:

Co-Presidents: Breven Honda and Hailey Sasaki

VP of Finance: Davis Ong

VP of Religious Activities: Trina Muraoka

Secretary/Historian: Jill Yamanishi

Member at Large: Trevor Muraoka

Parliamentarian: Kenji Niwa

Congratulations! Installation of officers will take place on Oct. 2.

Students entering the ninth grade through first year college are welcome to join the group. Current and past members would say "Jr. YBA is fun and is great way to bring out your Buddhist self." All we ask is that you be a registered Dharma School student in order to join. For those who have any questions about joining Jr. YBA, you can ask our advisors, Ralph Honda at rkhonda205@gmail.com, or Avis Honda at seharu25@aol.com.

ATTENTION ALL JR. YBA ALUMNI

The 65th Reunion of the San Diego Jr. YBA, "Turn Back the Clock" will be on Saturday, October 15. If you have not signed up, there is still time. Registration fee is \$65 per person. The banquet will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Mission Valley from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Bowling will take place from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at Kearny Mesa Bowl in Kearny Mesa. Registration is \$12. For more information, please contact our advisor Ralph Honda. We hope you can all attend! It'll be a great night reminiscing on those high school days in Jr. YBA. We hope to see all of you on October 15th!

Our chapter will send up to three members to the

Southern District Religious Retreat will be on October 22 at the Nishi Hongwanji. The group will host games for the annual Halloween Party on October 30. Looking ahead to November, we will have our annual Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive and plan to attend the Central California Jr. YBA Conference in Fresno.

In Gassho,
Breven Honda, Co-President

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

Following a busy summer for all of the students, it was nice to see smiling and familiar faces when Dharma School resumed on September 11. All of the kids, who have been attending with their families, were reunited with their friends to begin a new term, some with new classmates and teachers.

Classes will offer fruit and floral offerings prior to each service. Here are the assignments: Pre-kindergarten and first grade (October 2, 9 and 23); second and third grade (October 30, November 6 and 20; fourth grade (Nov. 27, December 4 and 18). Thank you, students!

On September 24, I attended the Southern District Dharma School Teachers League Conference in Oxnard. The event was hosted by the Oxnard Dharma School Teachers and the theme was "Appreciation for Shinran Shonin and the Otoki Experience". Rev. Mas Kodani, Emeritus, was the keynote speaker.

Dharma School is getting ready to participate with the temple's 90th Anniversary that will take place on October 16. Our youngest students will be accompanied by some of the older elementary and middle school students in the O Chigo Parade. Students and parents will be instructed on what time to arrive at temple on the morning of the event. Students will sing a song for the celebration luncheon. Students are making a link for the DS Sangha Chain. It is getting longer each Sunday.

Get your Halloween costumes ready! The annual Halloween service and party will be on **Sunday, October 30th**. Please come to temple dressed in your costume. Service will begin at 10 am and the party will start at 11:30. We will have class potluck assignments. The entire Sangha is invited to join the fun by sharing their favorite dish for the luncheon and taking part in the Halloween activities.

In November, we are planning a bowling activity for Sunday, November 27th so stay tuned for more details.

The next teacher-staff meeting will be Sunday, Oct. 2 at 9 a.m.

In Gassho,
Avis Honda, Superintendent

ACTIVITIES REPORT

Our Temple 90th Anniversary Celebration is just around the corner, it will be held Sunday, October 16, 2016 starting at 9:00 am with the Kieshiki Ceremony. On this occasion we will have over 25 of our Sangha obtaining their Buddhist Name. Bishop Umezu will perform the Kieshiki Ceremony prior to the regular service. Following the Kieshiki Ceremony, we will have the Chigo Parade and Group photo, 90th service and lunch program to conclude the festivities. The attendance numbers are growing rapidly which means we will have a nice crowd on hand to enjoy the day.

With so many former Jr. YBA members, family and friends in town, head to the Jr. YBA reunion to be held the evening before at the Crown Plaza in Mission Valley. All are welcome to attend both events as the Reunion includes non Jr. Y members as well. They will start off with Bowling earlier during the day so dust off those funky bowling shoes and hit the alleys! It will be a great time to catch up with some old friends and make new ones.



Just a reminder for Ralph's and Food 4 Less shoppers. On September 1, 2016, all Ralph's and Food 4 Less shoppers will have to re-register for the community rewards program. A reminder that Ralph's will no longer be accepting the letters and you have to register in the comfort of your home. For Ralph's go to www.ralphs.com, click on Community, then Community Contributions, then 'Enroll Now.' If you don't have computer access, please call 1-800-443-4438 for assistance.

If you shop at Food 4 Less go to www.for4less.com or www.foodsco.net, click on Community, then Community Contributions, then 'Enroll Now.' If you don't have computer access, please call 1-800-443-4438 for assistance.

Remember to do this after September 1, 2016. Registering on the computer is more time consuming, but worth it for the temple so please take the time to do it or make the call. Have your Ralph's card handy as you will need to register your card number.

Looking into the future-we carry lots of gift cards, but special orders take a week to receive. We always have on hand Albertson's; Amazon; Bed, Bath, & Beyond; Chili's; CVS; Darden (Olive Garden & Red Lobster); Home Depot; Honey Baked Ham; IHOP; iTunes; Macy's; Panera's; Smart & Final; Souplantation; Sprouts; Starbucks; Stater Bros.; Target; Vons; and Walmart.

Great Lakes Scrip Center carries gift cards for Barnes & Noble, Big 5, Regal and AMC theaters, Office Depot and Staples, JoAnne's and Michael's, Einstein Brothers, Dunkin Donuts and Krispy Kreme, as well as Nordstrom's and other department stores.



Join us for the next BTSD/VFW Bingo Night

In the Annex Hall on October 29 at 6:00 p.m.

Buy-in for BINGO is \$10 for the 12-game session.

Support the temple and enjoy an evening of BINGO.

BUDDHIST EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES IN OCTOBER

Buddhism 1-2-3: Ninety Minutes of Peace and Calm Each Wednesday Night in the Sangha Hall at 7 pm. Our popular Wednesday night open class continues in October with the first two sessions dedicated to two special classes by Rev. Kenji Akahoshi aimed at both Kieshiki participants and others wishing a more solid background in the basic rituals and cultural traditions in Shin Buddhism. Kenji Sensei says some have attended Classes A and B already; he will vary the presentation in emphasis for people who will be returning again. The last two sessions will revert to the 1-2-3 of chanting, meditation, and informal Dharma discussion.

- Oct. 5. Class A on Jodo Shinshu with Kenji Sensei.
- Oct. 12. Class A on Jodo Shinshu with Kenji Sensei.
- Oct. 18. Time and Mortality with BEC Dharma Leader.
- Oct. 26. Time and Mortality with BEC Dharma Leader.

Q&A with Rev. Kodo Umezu, Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA)-: Son Saturday, Oct. 15 at 3 pm. The Buddhist Education Committee (BEC) wants to be sure you know about a special opportunity to engage with the spiritual and administrative head of our national organization. With activities including the Jr. YBA Reunion and 90th anniversary celebration, Rev. Umezu is kind enough to make time in his busy schedule to allow time to meet with the Sangha in a more relaxed atmosphere.

Fourth Sunday A Sixty Minute Overview: Sunday, Oct. 23 in the Sangha Hall (one-story building) at 9 am. BEC member Kaytee Sumida will meet with students or those wishing a brief overview of World Buddhism and the place of Shin Buddhism within it, and will answer your questions about Temple etiquette and more.

BUSSEI SCRIPT SUBSCRIPTION

The temple publishes its newsletter, the *Bussei Script*, or more simply *kaiho* or bulletin, in both print and email forms.

Print Subscriptions. We currently have over 360 subscribers to our print newsletter. Print subscriptions are provided to all Temple members as a benefit of their membership fees. We also provide complimentary subscriptions to some individuals and neighboring institutions and other temples.

Negative Option. To make sure we are not sending newsletters to people who no longer read them, over time we will be sending letters to some *complimentary* subscribers simply asking them to re-subscribe. If you are one of these recipients, you should have received our letter a few weeks ago. The request to re-subscribe is a kind of negative option; that is, if you do not respond, your subscription will cease with this issue.

If you are in this category, the label on your print copy reads "LAST ISSUE." This just means that the October issue will be your last *only if you do not re-subscribe*. You may renew your subscription just by contacting the temple by phone, email, or mail. There is no special form to fill out; just let us know.

Email Option. We currently have close to 900 email subscribers to the PDF version of our monthly newsletter. Later this year we will query subscribers on the same negative option.

Your Donation. If you currently enjoy a complimentary subscription the print edition of the *kaiho*, we always welcome a donation to cover the cost of paper, printing and postage. Many of you are members or otherwise frequently donate to the Temple, and if so, please don't worry about a specific donation. We appreciate all of this support in its many forms.

BTSD – THE OLD DAYS By Yukio Kawamoto

(Editor's note: Yukio Kawamoto is a "native" member and a living legend when it comes to the Buddhist Temple of San Diego's history. He shares his memories as the temple celebrates its 90th anniversary. Enjoy Yuki's story. Gassho).



I'm writing this article because I thought it would be interesting to young people and others who don't know much about the temple in its early days. This article is what I recall from my childhood days I spent at Bukkyokai as we used to call the Buddhist Temple of San Diego in the old days. With memory fading in my old age, my recollection is not too keen so the things I wrote about may not be exactly as they happened but it's the best I can do.

The earliest memory I have of Bukkyokai was when I was 5 or 6 years old, not too long after it was built at 29th and Market. My sister, Fusa Shimizu, said that we used to go to the original temple on 6th and Market, but I have no recollection of going there. When I started going to the temple on 29th Street, we lived downtown on 4th Street in the then Japan Town area where my parents ran a small hotel. We lived in the downtown area for only about a year, then we moved to a house on Main Street near Crosby Street (now Cesar Chavez Parkway) and about 2 blocks north of Fish Camp, a cluster of ramshackle apartments built on a couple of wharves over San Diego Bay and occupied by Japanese fishermen and their families.

In the period before World War II, the big temple building was the only building on the property – the Annex and the Sangha Hall were added post WWII. The lot on the west side of the building was fenced and used as a playground – it is now the temple parking lot. As I remember it, the Hondo on the 2nd floor was a multi-use hall. It was used for Buddhist services such as Sunday School (as Dharma School was called then), major services such as Hanamatsuri, funerals and other temple and community activities such as shibai, talent shows, dancing, Japanese movies, kendo, etc. Downstairs, the 1st floor was on two levels -- the north half of the 1st floor was the upper level and the south half was the lower level which was about 3 feet below the upper level. Temple offices and the apartment where the resident minister and his family lived was on the upper level. Classrooms for the Japanese language school (Nihon Gakko) were located on the lower level. Initially, there was a ramp in the hallway for access to and from the upper level to the lower level. When the minister and the teachers weren't looking, some boys used to run down the hall and slide down the ramp. Eventually, the ramp was replaced by steps and within the last year or so the entire 1st floor was remodeled so that it will be on the same level. Where the ground level elevator lobby is located today, there was a cellar which was used as the Boy Scout room for Troop 72.

The first resident minister I remember was Rev. Ouchi., followed by Rev. Seki, but he was at our temple for only a very short while. Then came Rev. Guzei Nishii (Alice Matsumoto's father) whom I remember from those days as a mean, tough old guy. But after the war, when I came back to San Diego as a young adult, I found him to be a really nice, kindly person, vastly different from his role as Nihon Gakko principal.

Issei parents in those days had big families, lots of children, so there were a lot of kids going to Bukkyokai. To me, Bukkyokai was more like a Japanese language school rather than a religious facility. During the regular school year (autumn, winter and spring), we went to Bukkyokai on Saturdays and Sundays. It was studying Japanese all day Saturday, then on Sunday it was Nihon Gakko for a few hours then up to the Hondo for Sunday School. Maybe, it was Sunday School first, then Nihon Gakko afterwards – I can't really remember. At Sunday School, we would do oshoko, sing a gatha, chant something I later learned was called "Ti Sarana." The first part of Ti Sarana, "I put my faith in Buddha," I got it, but when we chanted "I put my faith in Dharma" and "I put my faith in Sangha," I had no idea what Dharma and Sangha meant or even that those words were what we were chanting. The Ti Sarana was the only thing that was in English; everything else in the service was in Japanese. We called Amida Buddha "Hotokesama." Sensei would give a little sermon, but it seemed like most of the time Sensei talked about "Oya Koko" or honoring your parents. Koko is a word my parents used for tsukemono, so whenever Sensei talked about Oya Koko, it always brought tsukemono to mind rather than any thought of honoring my parents. Can't remember that we chanted any sutras. At the end of the service, the teachers would line up in front of us and we would bow and sing "Sayonara Sensei" then the teachers in turn bowed and sang "Sayonara Minasan." Doing oshoko was a little different than the way we do it today. Most of the ritual was the same, but instead of just getting a pinch of incense and putting it in the burner bowl, we would raise the pinch of incense to our forehead level before placing it in the bowl. We would then repeat it two more times – three times in all. As I recall, during the summer we went to Nihon Gakko on weekdays, but not on Saturdays and Sundays.

Most of the teachers, including the minister, were men who were hard-nosed disciplinarians and tolerated no foolishness. First thing in the morning we had to line up on the playground. Nishii Sensei would stand on the steps and holler "Kiritsu" and we had to come to attention. Anyone not coming to attention was in for a bad time, subject to physical discipline. Sensei would then shout "Ohayogozaimasu," (Good Morning) and we would reply the same thing and bow. We were then released to go to our respective classrooms. One teacher, Tokunaga Sensei, who later became a Buddhist minister in San Jose, was well known for his knuckle sandwich he called "Genkotsu." If you got out of line, he would ball his fist up with the knuckles of his middle finger jutting out a little bit and give you a hard punch to the head. Luckily, I never had him as a teacher so I never experienced the Genkotsu. But I had other disciplinary encounters. One such incident I vividly remember. There was a young Kibe sensei who was very short. When he passed by some older teenagers, they would greet him with "Hi, Shorty." I guess he didn't like it but he did nothing because they were so big. One day I passed him in the hall and I greeted him with "Hi, Shorty." He immediately hollered "Tomare!" (Halt). Then he really slapped me hard; I turned around and ran off fast. At home I never did tell my parents about the incident, because if I did I would have gotten a big scolding or maybe something even worse for such insubordination.

In Nihon Gakko, we were promoted by Book, rather than by Grade. We started with Book 1, then when we finished Book 1, we were promoted to Book 2, then to Book 3, etc. Every time a new teacher came, he or she would test the class to see where we stood.

Invariably, when I was tested, I would have to go back at least a couple of books. I think I got as high as Book 12, but when my mother allowed me to quit Nihon Gakko around junior high school age, I was down to Book 7. All the lessons I had in Nihon Gakko did me little good because today I can remember only a few “katakana” and “hiragana” characters and the only “kanji” characters I know are my first and last names and some simple characters like yama (mountain), Ki (tree), hi (day or sun), etc. My ability to carry on a conversation in Japanese is nil. When we lived in the downtown area, Mr. Kikuji Kawamoto (no relative, but my father’s best friend) who was owner and operator of Frisco Café and Mr. Arakawa who operated a dry goods store took turns driving us kids living in the Japan Town area to Bukkyokai. When we moved to Main Street, Rev. Ouchi would pick up the Fish Camp kids, including us Kawamoto kids, in the temple sedan at the foot of Crosby St. near Fish Camp. There was a lot of kids in Fish Camp so he had to make at least 2 or 3 trips to pick everybody up. On every trip there were about 10 kids in the car – 2 kids sitting on the front seat with 2 kids sitting on their laps and 3 or 4 kids in the back sitting on the seat with 3 or 4 others sitting on their laps. I think besides Fish Camp, Sensei picked up kids in the downtown area and Coronado.



After school, a group was assigned to stay and clean the classrooms and the hallway on the 1st floor. There was about 5 “toban” groups who took turns to do the cleanup. There were toban groups from downtown, Coronado, Fish Camp, Mission Valley, and Chula Vista which included Otay Valley and Nestor/Palm City.

Lunch time was a great time to hang around with friends. Most kids brought “bento” in a small Japanese aluminum box typically packed with gohan and okazu or fish with tsukemono on the side. A friend, George Nishigaki whose father was a widower and worked as a cook at Frisco Café, always brought roast beef or roast pork sandwiches from the café. He craved Japanese food so he would always trade his lunch for bento. With roast beef or roast pork not being in the diet of most Japanese families at the time, there was always a bunch of kids, included, eager to trade with him. During the lunch breaks and recesses, I remember playing marbles and tops. The girls played Jacks, hop scotch or jump rope. Across 29th Street from the temple where a carpet store is located today, there was a grassy hill. Someone brought an old fender and during lunch we used to slide down the hill on the fender.

As I mentioned before, the Hondo was used for temple and community activities. There were no family services per se. Major services, such as Hanamatsuri were held on a Sunday beginning at 2 p.m. I remember attending Hanamatsuri Services, but I don’t remember going to any others like Obon or HoOnko, though I probably did. During the service, the minister would chant a sutra, but I don’t remember that the Sangha chanted along with him as we do today. My dad used to call sutras “Jin-jan-gon-ja” and always complained that they were too long. It would seem strange today, but women and men always sat separately – women on the left side facing the Onaijin and men seated on the right. I think us kids sat in the front rows, probably separated the same as the adults. I don’t believe there was any rule requiring that men and women be seated separately – it was just custom.

One of the other activities I remember going to were Japanese movies, which were held on Saturday nights probably once a month. They were silent movies, but the man who brought the movies would narrate the dialog of all the characters in the movie, changing his voice to match the character. Among our favorites was a series of “chanbara” (sword fighting) movies starring a one-eyed, one-armed samurai character named Tange Sazen. On Sundays following the movie there would always be some boys playing sword fighting ala Tange Sazen. During the movies, one of the temple organizations sold soda and snacks in the back. No admission was charged but donations were accepted. Each donor’s name and amount donated were written in Japanese on a strip of paper and posted on the wall around the hall.

One of the community events I remember going to was an annual celebration of the Japanese Emperor’s birthday. A picture of the Emperor was posted on the stage and someone would read something in Japanese very formally, then someone on stage shouted something like “Sai-kei-re;” everyone would then bow deeply. Following that was 3 banzais to the “Tennoheika.” At some point, the Japanese national anthem “Kimigayo” was sung. I wasn’t particularly interested in the celebration, but I was always anxious to go, because candy bars were passed out to kids.

I don’t remember much about Buddhist funerals, but I do remember that there were two services held when someone died. A service called “Otsuya” was held the night before the funeral and the actual funeral was held the following day. More people attended the Otsuya than the funeral. Following WWII the Otsuya custom gradually faded away where today only the funeral service is held.

One of the big event of the year for the children was the temple picnic which was held during the summer on the mud flats of Tijuana Slough. There were races held for different age groups where a prize of a pencil and Big 5 tablet was given to each participant. A prize was given to the winner of each race, but I don’t know what it was because I never won a race. As I mentioned earlier, Bukkyokai sponsored a Boy Scout troop, Troop 72. I joined the troop when I was 12 or 13. Azusa Tsuneyoshi, Moto Tsuneyoshi’s brother, was the Scoutmaster and Masami Honda was the Assistant Scoutmaster. I was a lousy Boy Scout – never earned a merit badge and never promoted past the initial rank of Tenderfoot – but I enjoyed my time with the Boy Scouts. (See **THE OLD DAYS** on page 12)

FUN IN THE SUN AT 21ST ANNUAL BTSD GOLF TOURNAMENT

A day of great golf and rekindling friendships took place at the temple's 21st annual Golf Tournament that was held on August 28 at the Eastlake Country Club in Chula Vista.

A total of 39 golfers, forming ten teams, participated in the four-person scramble format. Although the numbers were lower than in 2015, everyone had a good time and the tournament proved to be another success.

After checking in, golfers were treated to a continental breakfast, took part in the putting contest, practiced their swing on the driving range then headed out on the golf course at 8 a.m. After four hours-plus of chasing that little white ball, golfers enjoyed a BBQ lunch, awards ceremony and raffle drawing.

The temple extends a heartfelt thank you to all of the sponsors and donors who contributed to the tournament:

Upper level sponsorships: Roy Muraoka (Eagle sponsor); Muraoka Enterprises, Muraoka family (Birdie); Sushi Ota, Mr. Yukita Ota (beverage cart); Coronado Island Express, Iwashita Family (Closest to pn); Tom and Sumi Yanagihara (Closest to pin), Honda family (Closest to pin); California Bank & Trust, downtown San Diego Branch, Jill Lozier, manager (Long drive); Agnes Benson (Long drive); Dennis and Elaine Otsuji (Long Drive).

Hole sponsors: MKA Inc (Michael Kinoshita), 3D's Travel (Doug Ojiri), Ron and Holly Hiding, Ed and Miyo Hill, Rich and Ruth Kaneko, Howard and Kaneko Kuwada, Glenn Obayashi, Roy and Karen Okuhara, Steve Sato, Keiju and Seiju Terada, Alan and Akiko Tomiyama, Motoo and Angie Tsuneyoshi, Ron and Sheila Yagura, Sas and Jane Yamamoto and Roy and Susan Yonekura.

Gallery sponsors: John and Tsune Hashiguchi, Tim Kajita, Trace and Mildred Kawasaki, George and Ann Yamamoto

Merchandise sponsors: Coronado Island Express, Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, Eastlake Country Club (Albeert Jauregui, Director of Sales), Avis and Breven Honda, Miki Honda, Ichiban Restaurant (Yoshiro Minezaki), Ichiro's Restaurant (Junko Sakai), Kanpai Restaurant, Keidan Floral Designs (Naomi Himaka), Harold and LuAnn Lee, Peking Chinese Restaurant, San Diego Gulls Hockey Club.

Congratulations to the team winners: First place: Glenn Obayashi, Ron Yagura, Sheila Yagura and Don Ueno. Second

place: Chad Yagura, Derek Yagura, Bret Yamamoto, Kevin Yoneda. Third place: Tim Kajita, David Kawamoto, Toshio Moriuchi and Lane Nishikawa; Breven Honda, Ralph Honda, Ryan Tsukamoto and Wayne Tsukamoto. Low gross team: Roy Asaki, Rich Kaneko, Yoshi Migita, George Ozaki.

Congratulations to the following contest winners: Closest to Pin – Toshio Moriuchi, Randy Takeshita and Kevin Yoneda; Long Drive – Women: Mine Tominaga; Youth: Ryan Tsukamoto; Men's over 75: Rich Kaneko; Men's under-75: Derek Yagura; Putting Contest: Tom Yanagihara, Jr.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped on the day of the event: Avis Honda, Mildred Kawasaki, Richard Matsumoto (photographer), Chad Yagura, Derek Yagura, Bret Yamamoto, Sas Yamamoto, Gregg Yonekura, Roy and Susan Yonekura. Thank you to Sas and Jane for providing doughnuts, and Steve Sato for supplying the public address system.

We hope that everyone looks forward to the 2017 event.

Gassho,
Ralph Honda, Rich Kaneko, Ron Yagura
Co-chairmen



Winning smiles: Ron Yagura, Don Ueno, Sheila Yagura and Glenn Obayashi scored the best low round in the team scramble. Photo by Richard Matsumoto.

90TH ANNIVERSARY

JOIN US ON OCTOBER 16 TO COMMEMORATE
THE LEGACY OF THE BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF
SAN DIEGO ON THIS HISTORIC OCCASION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Kieshiki Buddhist Name Ceremony — 9:00 a.m.

O Chigo Parade with Dharma School students leading the procession — 10:15 a.m.

Group Photo "Don't be left out!" — 10:30 a.m.

90th Anniversary Service with commemoration message delivered by Rev. Kodo Umezu, Bishop, Buddhist Churches of America — 10:45 a.m.

Luncheon, Keiro Kai Recognition and Entertainment following the service in Annex Hall — 12

悲しみつて必要？

駐在開教使 向嶋謙史

来年の三月に福音堂の伝言会が当教会で開催されます。そこで先月、サンゼ別院で伝言の代表者が集って準備会を開きました。

来年の大会は、デイズの「インサイドアウト」という映画のストーリーをヒントにしたワークショップを提供したのがこの会だったので、皆で映画を鑑賞したのですが、大変素晴らしい作品でした。

作品の主人公であるライリーの心の中に、ヨロコビを始め、イカリ、ムカムカ、ビリ、そして、カナシミという感情が存在しています。これらの感情は、ライリーの誕生とともに生まれ、彼女の成長を守り、彼女を幸せに導くために日々奮闘しています。

ヨロコビは、ライリーを常にポジティブ思考にして、悩みのない明るい心を作り出し、イカリは、ライリーを奮起させ、ムカムカは、ライリーの害になりそうなものから回避させ、ビリは、危険から彼女を守るための、ライリーが生きるうえで、それぞれが大切な役割を果たしています。しかし、ライリーをうらみ思ったり悲しませることかきかきカナシミの役割は、他の感情から理解してもらえず、いつも煙たがられています。カナシミ自身も、そんな自分を否定し、ライリーの心の中に自分が必要のない存在なんだと泣いてしまっています。

私達の日常生活においても、悲しみを感ずるような思いを避けて、常に楽しいことを追求めて生きています。そうなる、自分の心を暗くしてしまふ悲しみの感情と

いうものは一体何の役割を持っているのでしょうか？誰もが経験する大きな疑問だと思います。

しかし、その答えは、阿弥陀仏のお慈悲の中にしっかりと表されています。浄土真宗では、阿弥陀仏を「慈悲の仏」と呼んでいます。慈と悲という言葉はサンスクリット語の「マイトリー」という言葉が語源で、誰にでも平等な心を持つ、純粋な友情を意味し、悩ま苦しんでいるものに常に寄り添って励まし続ける慈しみの心です。つまり、ヨロコビです。

そして、「悲」という言葉は、サンスクリット語で「カルナー」と呼び、その本来の意味は「呻きだ」といわれています。苦しみや悲しみが心にのしかかてきて、その重さに耐え切れず思わす漏らしてしまう呻き声のことです。つまり、人の苦しみを自分の苦しみとして受け入れ、人の悲しみを自分の悲しみとして受け入れる同苦の心をいいます。それは、まさにカナシミです。

映画の中で、ピンポンがライリーとの思い出が大切をロケットを崖の底に捨てられてしまう場面がありますが、その時、悲しみに暮れているピンポンを見て、ヨロコビが笑顔で励まします。しかし、ピンポンは立ち上がれません。すると、カナシミは彼の横にそと座って、ピンポンの話を聞いてあげます。そして、抱きしめながら、一緒に泣いたのです。

すると、ピンポンの心は癒され、「もう大丈夫」といって立ち上がります。カナシミはピンポンの悲しみに共感して、傷ついていた彼の心をやさしく包み込んだのです。

ヨロコビのように、苦しみを悩んでいる人を親身になつて励ますことは大変素晴らしいことです。しかし、ヨロコビがピンポンの云々にた姿を見て、カナシミに「一体何をしたいの？」と聞いたように、ヨロコビだけでは人を勇気づけることはできません。まず、

相手の苦しみを我がごととして受け止めて一緒に涙を流すことが、苦しんでいる人に生きる希望と力を与えることを忘れてはなりません。悩ま苦しんでいる人にとつては、「この苦しみを分かってくれる人がいる」と思えることが救われていく道なのです。

また、ライリーは慣れ親しんだミネソタを離れて家族でサンフランシスコに引っ越しましたが、新しい生活になかなか馴染めません。そこで、ヨロコビがライリーの心を明るく保つために過去の楽しかった思い出を思い起させますが、現実の世界と向き合うたびにライリーの心は沈んでいきます。

ヨロコビはライリーが悲しい思いをするのを否定して、何とかライリーを明るくしてあげたいと試行錯誤するのですが、その中で、ようやくヨロコビがカナシミの持つ「特殊な役割」に気づきます。

苦境に立たされたとき、悲しむことを避けるのではなく、悲しみの感情を素直にあらわすことで、家族や友人に本当の自分の心を開くことができるのです。

悲しみの心を持つからこそ、人は互いに励まし、助け、支え合えることができるのです。だから、そんな境遇に会おうとも力強く目の前の壁を乗り越えていくことができるのです。その先に、新たな喜びと感謝の心が生まれるのです。

ライリーが両親の前で初めて涙を流しながら自分の本当の心(カナシミ)を伝えた時、両親がライリーを温かく抱きしめ、彼女の悲しみと心を一つにします。その時、両親の胸の中で癒されていくライリーの心がほほえみ(ヨロコビ)となつてあらわれる最後の場面には思わず涙しました。

伝言会の委員会メンバー達は、ヨロコビだけではなく、お互いのイカリ、ムカムカ、ビリ、そして、カナシミを存分に活出して、伝言に通じた実りあるワークショップを作り上げていたんだと思います。

に、ご出席の希望があるさいは、グループリーダー または SUZ MORIBE (858-699-8876) の方にお知らせ下さい。

- 1) 10月2日【日】 婦人会員会議 グループ-Bの皆様10月当番を、お願い致します。
- 2) 10月5日【水】 クラフト民芸作品展 一 場所は教会です。時間は朝10時から午後2時までです。
- 3) 10月5日【水】、10月19日【水】 - 第1と第3の水曜日 クラフト民芸作品展 一 クラフト会員は民芸品を作り、楽しい会話をしながら、楽しい時間を過ごしています。新しい綺麗な作品の作り方も習つて、会員一同、美味しいpotluck昼食をしています。皆様もどうぞ。時間は朝10時から午後2時までです。
- 4) 10月7-9日【金-日】 44周年FBWA CONFERENCE 会議はベレブア (Westin Hotel in Bellevue, WA) であります。もしもこの会議に出席をご希望でしたら bddhistchurchofamerica.org ウェブ サイトにお願いいたします。会議
- 5) 10月16日【日】 サンデゴ教会-90周年創立記念日 お弁当の注文を、お忘れないようにお願い致します。又この日は、OCHGO parade【おちご行進】と JrYBA reunion activities【JrYBA再会活動】もあります。
- 6) 10月19日【水】 クラフト民芸作品展 一 場所は教会です。時間は朝10時から午後2時までです。
- 7) 10月23日【日】 ハロウィーン パーティ (Halloween party) は午前10時のサービス (service) の直後に初まります。
- 8) 特別なアーモンドの割れ易く出来たキャンデーは、もう直ぐ発売が始まります。

皆様お元気ですか。お彼岸はいかがでしたか。佐々木先生のお話は「大変良い話でした」と会員の皆様に喜ばれました。グループ-Bの皆様、お彼岸のホスト【当番】は大変有難うございました。綺麗で美味しい昼食でした。少し遅れましたが、バルボア (BALBOA) 公園でクラフト ブース (露店) に、ご協力された皆様 (Kim Hagio, Jeanie Kashima, Betty Torio, Karen Akahoshi, Miyo Hill, and their leaders, Kiku Graeber and Ruby Hara), 大変有難うございました。

MEET AND GREET GATHERING WITH REV. KODO UMEZU

WHEN: Saturday, October 15

WHERE: Buddhist Temple of San Diego

TIME: 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Please Join us for a question and answer session with Rev. Kodo Umezu, Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA).

Umezu Sensei, who was born in Fukuoka, Japan, came to the United States in 1973 to serve the BCA ministry at the Fresno Betsuin. After receiving his masters degree from the Institute of Buddhist Studies in 1976, Rev. Umezu enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he served four years. He returned to the BCA and was assigned to the Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple and later the Buddhist Church of Oakland. In 1996, Rev. Umezu was appointed to serve as Executive Assistant to the Bishop. In 2006, he was named Director of the Center for Buddhist Education in Berkeley, and in 2012 elected as the 14th Bishop of the BCA, our



national organization for Shin Buddhism.

Rev. Umezu's more recent visits to San Diego include presiding over the Ministers Association's annual meetings in 2015 and presenting the welcome message at the Southern District Buddhist and BWA Conference this past June.

The session is sponsored by the temple's Buddhist Education Committee.

THE OLD DAYS

(Continued from page 7)

Some of the activities I remember were camping trips to Laguna Mountain, Tijuana Slough, and Indian Village in Balboa Park; outing to the Palomar Mountain observatory; snow outing to Laguna Mountain; marching in downtown parades on (I think) Decoration Day and Armistice Day, as Memorial Day and Veterans Day were known in that era; throwing over-ripe tomatoes from the back of a truck on Halloween (no Trick or Treat in those days, just Trick).

With the outbreak of World War II, the temple was locked up and most of us San Diegans ended up in Santa Anita and Poston, Arizona, for the duration of the war. Upon return to San Diego after the war, a group of us decided to activate a Young Buddhist Association chapter. For a short while, the YBA was the only organization active at the temple. We held services every Sunday with Rev. Nishii officiating. The YBA published a monthly newsletter, the Bussei Script which eventually became the temple's newsletter with the same name.

Despite my lack of enthusiasm for Nihon Gakko, I fondly remember my childhood days at Bukkyokai. I made many lifelong friends there and through osmosis learned about the Shin Buddhist way of life that I have tried to practice in my adult life. I have the utmost respect and gratitude for our Issei Pioneers who had the foresight and guts to build our temple in spite of their personal hardships in

the midst of the great depression. I feel with great pride that the temple today is in good hands and confident that the young members of today will carry on and expand on the traditions and legacy passed down by our Issei Pioneers. What a great feeling it is to know that our temple, "Bukkyokai," has survived through some very tough times in the 90 years of its existence and continues to flourish today with a group of young innovative leaders and a growing active membership!

BUKKYOKAI: BANZAI!! (Hurrah for the Buddhist Temple of San Diego!!)

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

- SHOTSUKI HOYO** (Monthly Memorial) -- Oct. 2
- FBWA CONVENTION** at Bellevue, Wash. — Oct. 7-9
- MEET and GREET with BISHOP UMEZU** — Oct. 15
- JR. YBA 65TH REUNION** — Oct. 15
- 90TH ANNIVERSARY** — Oct. 16
- BUDDHISM 1-2-3** — Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26
- INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM** — Oct. 23
- DHARMA SCHOOL HALLOWEEN PARTY** — Oct. 30

We invite your participation in our October events. Please check the Calendar (Pg. 2) for more activities and read the articles in this month's edition.

Thank you for your support of the Temple. Gassho.