

BUSSEI SCRIPT

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Growing Into the Dharma

By Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi,
Resident Minister

September marks the month that school begins and our youngsters are dealing with the process of growth and change. This seems to be an appropriate time to discuss what we are teaching our children and what we adults are learning. Since children change so dramatically from nursery school to college, it is easy to admit that we teach in a gradual process from the simple to the complex. As adults, since our physical changes occur more slowly, it is easy to discount this process of simple to complex. Although Buddhist practice has many practical mundane benefits, it also guides us to the deepest spiritual truths. A simple “thank you” can lead us to experience “Namo Amida Butsu.” How do we teach this?

Since Shin Buddhism has influenced the values, language and culture of Japan for so many centuries, its values have been incorporated in the attitude of daily interaction. Consider the response to “how are you?” The reply is “*okagesama*,” (because of the efforts of others), “*genki desu*,” (I am well.) The difficulty we have in modern America is the confluence of various cultures that may emphasize differing values. Additionally, the digital age has introduced a new, strange environment. Unlike Japan, the general society no longer reflects Shin values. What is it that we want to teach our children?

A common refrain “*Kodomo no tame ni*,” (for the sake of the children) may be true for all parents. But what is it that we want our children to have? Universally, I think we all want our children to be happy. But this is often interpreted as financial and social security. But history has shown that wealth, careers, and social standing may change for reasons beyond our control. We really want our children to be able to respond to any situation that they may face in the future. Didn’t our parents want this for us? How do we respond to real life?

Buddhism has guided individuals and cultures in human values that have sustained humanity in various ages of transition, exploration, conflict, and peace. The emphasis has been to align our hearts and minds to the natural process of human and earthly life. The truths of impermanence and interdependence are reliable standards. Since everything is changing, no physical or social structure is dependable. We might turn to the spiritual perspective to guide us in our prac-

tical world. Shin Buddhism provides a reliable guide for common people to appreciate life in any circumstance.

We often place an emphasis on our Dharma School to teach our children the principles of Shin Buddhism. Let us analyze this rationally. Assuming a child attends every Sunday for a year, the total hours at a temple would be about 60 hours (1 ½ hr. x 4 weeks x 10 months = 60 hr.). 60 hrs. would equal about 2 weeks of school, 1 ½ months of TV viewing, or 1 ½ months of sports/activities. Could we expect a child to learn and value Buddhist principles by spending 1/40 of a year at the temple? Is your life guided by Shin principles, especially if you attended Dharma School? How might we pass on the valuable lessons of the Buddha?

The most effective method of teaching children the value of Shin Buddhism is for each of us to live according to the Shin teachings. This may involve that each of us seek individual clarification regarding the doctrine. Listening to a Sunday Dharma talk may be as effective as listening to a general lecture on health or finances. If we were to have a medical condition or financial concern, we would consult a professional to help us understand and deal with the problem. The same could be said of a religious or spiritual concern. It is important for each of us to ask how we might incorporate the Dharma into our daily life.


We teach the children the lessons of the Buddha just as we teach them other guidelines for responsible adulthood. Children learn by watching us adults. Whatever they learn in school, they are influenced most directly by the conduct of their parents. As adults, we are able to reflect how our perspective of life was influenced by our parents, either positively or negatively. It is scary to realize that we are providing a similar pattern.

The Shin Dharma is an effective means of determining a healthy perspective on all aspects of our life. Isn’t this what we want for our children? Practical skills are important for us to be responsible in life. It is more important to have a spiritual basis to give heart to life. The benefits of Shin Buddhism are that our lives become more joyous. If the teachings help us to live a happier, healthier life, our children will follow our example. *Gassho*

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September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
2	Temple Closed No Service SD Jr. YBL Conf. at SFV/Oxnard/Pasadena	3 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED	4 Craft Day, 10 am, DR Minyo, 12 Noon, SH Shigin, 1 pm, CR Taiko, 6:30 pm, AH Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 SH	5 Tai Chi, 10 am AH	6 Koto, 9:30 am SH	1 SD Jr. YBL Conf. at SFV/Oxnard/Pasadena
9	Grandparents Day DS Staff Mtg., 9 am, CR DS/FS/Shotsuki Serv., 10 am BWA Mtg., 11:45 am, CR Jr. YBA Mtg., 11:30 am Taiko, 12 Noon	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 Minyo, 12 Noon, SH Shigin, 1 pm, CR Taiko, 6:30 pm, AH Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 SH	12 Tai Chi, 10 am AH BOD Mtg, 6:45 pm CR	13 SD Council Mtg. At West L.A., 7 pm	14 BINGO Benefit Spaghetti Dinner at 4:30 Bingo at 6 pm
16	FALL HIGAN Guest Dr. George Tanabe Keiro Kai Potluck Luncheon	17 OFFICE CLOSED Articles Due	18 Craft Day, 10 am, DR Minyo, 12 Noon, SH Shigin, 1 pm, CR Taiko, 6:30 pm, AH Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 SH	19 Tai Chi, 10 am AH	20 Koto, 9:30 am SH	21 BEC Lecture at 7 pm With Drs. George & Willa Tanabe
23	Autumnal Equinox Intro to Buddhism, 9 am SH Chanting, 9:15 am DS/Family Service, 10 am Taiko, 12 Noon	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 Minyo, 12 Noon, SH Shigin, 1 pm, CR Taiko, 6:30 pm, AH Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 SH Mail Kaiho	26 Tai Chi, 10 am AH Activities Mtg, 7 m CR	27	28
30	DS/Family Service, 10 am Taiko, 12 Noon					
Notes: The New Year of Dharma School starts on 9/9 Don't miss the Spaghetti Benefit Dinner on 9/8 A presentation on the temples of Hawaii will be on the 15th Fall O Higan will be held on the 16th with Keiro Kai Luncheon						



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By LuAnn Lee, Board President

The temple has been a busy place this summer. It started out with the temple Hatsuobon/Obon service and Odori at the end of July. On August 4th, we went to Balboa Park for our Annual Obon Odori and Festival at the Japanese Friendship Garden. The next two weekends, many dedicated volunteers were sorting, pricing, displaying and selling all the donated goods at the much-anticipated Rummage sale. Coming up at the end of August is our Golf Tournament.

How did all these events end up happening at the same time of year? Some thoughts were that the rummage sale is always this time of year, so we can have use of the classrooms and the 15th of the month is when people get paid. Our Balboa Park Obon Odori has always been this time of year so our Obon doesn't conflict with too many other Southern District temples and or churches. The Balboa Park event has grown in popularity within the community providing fundraising opportunities for us to sell goods to others. The exposure is another plus to attract new people to come to temple. Most importantly, the very diverse participants really seemed to be enjoying themselves.

We did add our temple Odori a couple of years ago that follows our Obon service and this has brought many of our elderly folks, families and friends to a smaller more intimate setting for dancing without the crowds and parking issues at Balboa Park. The meaning of Obon is the focus here with minimal food offerings and entertainment. A time for us to participate in the "dance."

We truly appreciate all of you that attended and or volunteered at any or all of the summer events. We know it is labor intensive, but we could not do it without you. Together we do great things.

Remember that the Activities Committee and the Board of Directors are always open to hearing new ideas, suggestions and also welcome new leaders.

In closing, I hope you get a chance to relax a bit and get away or take in a movie. I recommend seeing the movie "Crazy Rich Asians", an American Romantic Comedy Drama. It's a fun, crazy and touching film about an Asian American girl and her travels to Singapore to meet her boyfriend's family.

Hope to see you around the temple and please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

In Gassho,
LuAnn Lee

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met on August 9th -

1. Arturo Rubio represented Buddhism and BTSD in an inter-faith panel "Faith in Social Action", held at the Baha'i Center, August 11th
2. Copies of the pamphlet "On Death and Dying" were given out at the Obon service. Copies are available in the office and will be available at major services.
3. The Board approved co-sponsoring the annual JAHSSD meeting and Kansha Awards that will be held at the temple on October 13th. Joe Cross, a friend of the temple who volunteers for many BTSD events, is one of two honorees.
4. The Board was updated on the progress on website migration, temple finances, Rummage Sale, Golf Tournament and the 2019 Calendar of Events - July 28th will be the date of the Temple Obon service and Odori.
5. All four units of the investment property are leased.
6. The Board approved making an offer on the Cleveland Buddhist Church's Dharma Wheel (see last month's issue of the BCA Wheel of Dharma). The Cleveland Sangha is selling their current building and moving to a new facility. Ralph Honda will negotiate on the temple's behalf.
7. The temple is reviewing a request from the Okinawa Kenjinkai to store some of their equipment. We are currently working on space planning and require more time to determine our facility needs.
8. The Board approved funds to replace an AV amplifier.
9. Funds were approved to replace the Treasurer's computer.

BWA NEWS

August started out with the BWA assisting in making Daifuku mochi to sell at the Balboa Park Obon. Thank you to Nancy Martinez, Naomi and Mich, Ruby and Betty, Miyo, Alice Aoyama, Aileen Kawasaki, Randy, Brian and Sue Takeshita and Kiku for getting together at the last minute to make them.

A few days later, some BWA ladies helped prepare and assemble the Somen Salad. There were ladies and gents boiling somen noodles in a sauna environment. Mrs. Yamanishi made the Tamago sheets and others sliced and chopped other ingredients and cleaned up. The salads were delicious.

There were BWA ladies who took a shift or two or three to assist in the food sales at the Balboa Park Obon. We served many, many people who enjoyed the chicken skewers. The shaved ice and the variety of different drinks were a hit, too.

The next BWA meeting will be on Sunday, September 9th at 11:45 am. Toban group A will be hosts for the meeting. Hope to see you there.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome Back to Dharma School!

Our first day will be Sunday, September 9th. Service will begin at 10 a.m. This year our theme is **DANA** (giving). We will be focusing on that throughout the year and will start off with a project. More details to come.

Our Dharma School Classes and Dharma and Teachers for this year are: Pre-School to 2nd Grade: Mrs. Leslie, Mr. Gregg and Ms. Laura; Grades 3-5: Mrs. Aimee and Mrs. Breven; Grades 6-8 Grade: Mrs. Avis and Mrs. Lisa; Grades 9-12/ College: Mr. Roy and Miss Sara.

Teachers are preparing for their classes as we speak. We look forward to seeing all returning and new students, along with parents, grandparents and the Sangha on Sep. 9.

The next staff meeting will be on September 9 at 8:45 am. in the conference room.

In Gassho, Avis Honda, Superintendent

COLLEGE YBA DAY SET FOR HIGAN SERVICE

With school back in session, a College YBA Day event is scheduled for Sunday September 16, in conjunction with the Fall O Higan service.

College Day welcomes students attending SDSU, USD, UCSD and community colleges, who are interested in Buddhism or are attending college in San Diego but associated with other temple. Students have the opportunity to interact with other students and aspiring Buddhist followers.

For more information, contact Breven Honda at brevh831@gmail.com

In Gassho, Breven Honda

TEMPLE CLEAN UP THANK YOU

Twice a year, we clean the temple and this past July was no exception.

The pews were extra shiny, window blinds dusted, windows cleaned, and the rug looked extra fluffy. A small crew (Joe, Ken and Nancy) cleaned the convection oven to a state of clean that we haven't seen here in a while.

It was nice to see so many volunteers stop by to help. We thank Kenji Sensei and Karen Akahoshi, Reverend and Mrs. Aoyama, Aileen and Kiyo K, Amy, Eric, Trevor and Nollwenn S, Betty, Bill, Claudia, Carolyn, Claire P, Corrine and Michael Kawaguchi, Daryl and Mrs. Yagi, Efton and Shirley, Gregg, Henry and Tabo, Joe Cross, Joyce, Junko, Karly, Kay, Keiko, Ken, Laura, LuAnn, Michael Kinoshita, Naomi, Nancy M, Perata Senior/Junior, Patricia C, Qumiko, Ruth, Sue M, Sumi, Tim, Yukari, Yurwa and others that I may have missed. Also, thank you to all that clean all year long. It is appreciated!



Hailey Sasaki, Davis Ong, Trevor Muraoka and Trina Muraoka are part of the most recent high school graduates.

JR. YBA NEWS

As summer comes to a close, the Jr. YBA only has a few events left. We all had a great time at Obon, both at temple and Balboa Park. Thank you to everybody for supporting our opportunity drawing and helping us fund many more events.

Six seniors have graduated and some of them have already headed off to college. Davis and Trevor have left for the University of Arizona and UC Berkeley, respectively. Trina is going to Grossmont and Sean is attending school locally as well. Jill is heading to San Francisco State University soon, while I head to UC Davis. We've grown up with each other at temple and are sad to leave, though hopefully we'll remain lifelong friends.

Luckily, those who haven't left already will attend our last event, Conference, where we can hang out with some friends from Southern District. That's it for the month of August. Thank you, as always, for your continuing support.

In Gassho, Hailey

BINGO UPDATE

BENEFIT SPAGHETTI DINNER AND BINGO

September 8th from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.
Bingo starts at 6:00 pm

BTSD will sponsor a benefit Spaghetti Dinner prior to the monthly BINGO night on Saturday, September 8. Donation is \$10 for a plate of delicious pasta and accompanied with garlic bread, salad and dessert.

Come out with family and friends, and enjoy hearty dinner, followed by a chance to yell out BINGO! Players must be 18-years-old and above.

Proceeds from the dinner will support the temple's activities while proceeds from BINGO are shared with the temple and Asian Pacific Post 4851 to support each group's various programs.



Craft Days

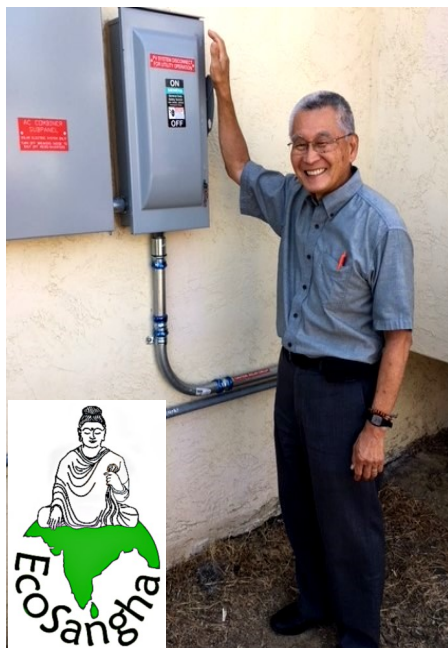
AND A POT-LUCK
WEDNESDAYS from
10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

BTSD Dining Room
Join us on the 1st & 3rd
Wednesdays for some crafts, and memories!

Sensei Akahoshi Throwing the Switch

It was done in record time, inspected and we were given the okay to Throw the Switch to power up the recently installed solar panel unit!! Eventually it will pay for itself, but right now, it just feels so right. Thank you to all of you who contributed, from deciding this was the thing to do, to interviewing

different companies, finding out the protocol with SD G&E , scheduling the work, and all of you who contributed to the fund. This is a moment to savor.



FALL O HIGAN OBSERVANCE

On Sunday, September 16, BTSD will observe its Fall O Higan service beginning at 10 a.m. Higan is the crossing over to the Other Shore and is observed twice a year in spring and fall.

Dr. George Tanabe, Professor Emeritus at the University of Hawaii in Religion and Art will deliver the Dharma message.

Following the Higan service, everyone is invited to share their favorite dish for the potluck luncheon that will take place in the Annex Hall. The Sangha is encouraged to bring a variety of foods including sides and rice dishes, salads and desserts to share. The Board of Directors will be providing the main dish.

During the luncheon, the Jr. YBA will recognize Keiro Kai honorees, 80-years-young and above with a gift.

Letters to the Keiro Kai group have been mailed. If you are planning to attend, please respond by Tuesday, September 11.

The temple looks forward to observing Fall O Higan and welcomes everyone to join us for the service and luncheon.

NISEI WEEK SPIRIT AWARD

On Wednesday, August 15, longtime temple member, Roy Muraoka was honored with the Nisei Week Spirit Award for his dedicated years of service to the Nikkei community.

Roy, along with seven other honorees were recognized for their lifelong achievements within their respective Japanese-American communities at the annual Spirit Awards luncheon held at the Doubletree Hotel in Little Tokyo located in downtown Los Angeles.

A contingent of 10 BTSD Sangha members, plus family members and friends of Roy, attended the event.

Roy joins temple members Madame Matsumae Katsukiyo Yoshiko Monji (2015) and Dr. Terry Tanaka, DDS (2016) for being recognized with this prestigious honor. Congratulations!

FUNERAL BROCHURE AVAILABLE TO SANGHA

Under the direction of the temple Funeral Committee, and with the guidance of Kenji Sensei, a booklet has been published for the Sangha.

DEATH & DYING Ritual and Remembrance "Planning for the Passing of A Loved One" was presented in July and distributed at the O Bon service.

The eight-page condensed guide explains suggested guidelines and procedures when a loved one is nearing death. Explanations include the Makuragyo "Bedside service," who to contact at the time of one's death and funeral planning. In addition, there are explanations of memorial services, Hatsubon and O Bon service, and the monthly (Shotsuki) memorial service.

The committee, who assisted Kenji Sensei with the booklet included: Ralph Honda, Laverne Imori, David Kawamoto, Norman Kiyono, Glenn Negoro and Maribeth "Smitty" Smith.

Pamphlets are available in the temple office. Please pick up a copy on your next visit. The booklet will also be available at the O Higan service on Sept. 16.



Dana Group

The Dana Group officially closed the School Supplies Drive on July 29th and would like to thank all the Sangha members and friends who supported this initiative. Thanks to your monetary and in-kind donations we will be delivering the following items to Hope for San Diego:

27 pencil sharpeners	126 glue sticks
30 reusable water bottles	181 erasers
33 pencil boxes	696 colored pencils
37 scissors	1037 pencils
71 spiral notebooks	1176 crayons

These supplies will go into backpacks that Hope for San Diego will distribute to children from low income families in the coming weeks. Your generosity will make a difference in helping these children be better prepared for school.

In reflecting on Tathagata's Vow of Salvation

It is to embrace the sentient beings in pain.

Selfless giving is the ultimate concern,

Whereby Great Compassion is fulfilled.

-Shinran

Hope for San Diego is a non-profit organization that engages our community to care for and invest in our under-served neighbors.

MANY THANKS FOR SUCCESSFUL BON ODORI FESTIVALS

By Ken Muraoka, Chairman

Dear Dharma Friends,

As our Obon season comes to an end I can't help but feel a little sad that it is all over. Obon is always a special time of the year and it is definitely my favorite Buddhist holiday. This year I savored the Temple Bon Odori a little more. I watched from my shirt booth in front of room 5 as the many temple members, family and friends all danced in the heat of the early summer evening. During much of the Odori it seemed there were less people at this year's event than last year's. I had distinctly remembered last year dancing to Tanko Bushi with a crowd of friends and family and really feeling like everyone was having a great time. This year it seemed there were less people, was it the heat? Was it that there was another Bon Odori happening at Balboa Park the following week? As the evening moved on, Ralph had announced that there were only two songs left and low and behold it was crowded again, of course it didn't hurt that Tanko Bushi was once again playing. Where was everyone? Where was everyone hiding? I think everyone was always there, only they were sitting around (not dancing) catching up with old friends and/or enjoying being around family. That is really what I think the Bon Odori committee really wanted Temple Bon Odori to achieve, the ability to have a "Gathering of Joy" with friends and family.

The Balboa Park Bon Odori was a different story. From my vantage point it felt like the attendance had grown. It was beautiful to see the many colorful kimonos worn around the Spreckles Organ Pavilion, but it was even more beautiful that they were being worn by so many different races of people. The cultural aspect of the Bon Odori attracts many visitors, but it is the dancing, lanterns, and Sensei's message that lets visitors know that there is much more meaning to Obon than just fun. The Balboa Park Bon Odori is a wonderful opportunity to share this special Buddhist holiday for all of San Diego to see and learn from. This was one of the goals that the Balboa Park Bon Odori committee set out to achieve and accomplished. This selection of song and dances was incredibly perfect. I especially like the song that had the Spanish background, I think its multi-cultural message was perfect for Balboa Park.

Both the Temple and the Balboa Park Bon Odori seem to have a place. Balboa Park is incredibly taxing on many of the volunteers, but it serves many purposes such as a fundraising mechanism, outreach, and education. The Temple's Bon Odori reaffirms the old bonds between friends and family. Both of these events are only possible because of the many dedicated volunteers that come out and help each year.

There are many people who were especially important to this past weekend.

Michael Kinoshita spent much of the week leading up to the Bon Odori moving items, purchasing food, setting up signs, and so much more. This event could not happen without him.

Junko Kajita, who is the Chairperson for the Lanterns, a leader of the Odori dancers, and a member of the BTSD Taiko group. Through her efforts the Bon Odori continues to have traditional consistency of its dance component and meaning through its lanterns.

Karen and Roy Okuhara both are chair people for the drinks booth. They help with somen salads, lanterns, and setting up the Obon Again Store. Their dedication to the Bon Odori helps the whole event run smoothly.

The Odori Instructors were led by Avis Honda, Breven Honda, Eugene Hotta, JoAnn Hotta, Susan Moribe, Shirley Omori, Ann Ong, Jamie Shimizu, and Junko Kajita. It wouldn't be an Odori without them. At practice they are so organized, and their selection of music is always perfect. The dancing is the main attraction of the weekend and their dedication starts months before practice even begins in July.

Carol Baker, she takes the lead to build the somen salads. She and her family run one of the drink/snack booths at the Garden. Through her leadership, those are worry free areas.

Joyce Teague, coordinates and takes the many, many hours to set up the Obon Again Shop at the Temple and tear it down only to build it again at the Garden and once again tear it down.

Nancy Martinez, she handled the Friday lunch, treasurer duties, and many odds and ends.

Akie Tomiyama, Glenn Negoro, and Nancy take care of the treasurer duties. They seamlessly make sure everyone has change and there isn't too much cash in the boxes.

Keiko Negoro handled the volunteer list. To me this is one of the most important and hardest jobs of the event and she did a great job filling the list.

Tim Kajita, who masterfully has made the Audio equipment set up look easy. Of course that is only because he prepared so well over the years.

The Sumida's, the Taiyaki making family. This year they bought their own Taiyaki machine which adds the ability to make 25 at a time and gives Eric the time and opportunity to make experimental fusion treats. Maybe he'll make some at some of the potlucks this coming year. We can all hope.

Bill Teague, who is the emcee for the Bon Odori and makes sure comp tickets are available for all the entertainers. This year the heat made it a little more challenging to work the mic but he did a marvelous job.

Kikue Graber and the BWA who helped with the Daifuku and Somen Salads. They are always a model of quality and consistency.

Bobby and Chelsey Koga who are the leaders of BTSD Taiko and even with a new second child made sure everything ran smoothly.

Jeanne Inouye is the rice lady.

Caitlin Yoshioka handled all the social media. Social Media has really become an vital part of how we advertise.

Yuko Niwa for adding color and style to the event with her Kimono Club. They were very impressive with their dance moves and I loved their old school song selection of Earth Wind and Fire.

Mike Ong, who did the general arrangements at the Temple



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Obon Article Cont. from Page 6

Bon Odori and helped where he could.

Ang Ong, who is one of the Odori instructors as well as the person we depend upon to make the dressing for the Somen Salad.

Angela Castillo designed the postcards, flyers, and t-shirts. There were so many wonderful comments about the designs, and she does such masterful work.

Ricky Cheeks who played the Taiko and percussions during the Odori dancing.

Issac Martinez and girlfriend Janna who made the Thai Iced Tea with Boba this year. They were a delicious treat that sold out.

Ralph Honda, who helped when he could at the Balboa Park Bon Odori and really took care of the many parts of the Temple Bon Odori including emcee duties. He is sort of a Fairy God (Buddha) Father in the way he makes sure things run smoothly even if you don't see it.

Sharyn Muraoka and the Jr YBA with a special thanks to Breven Honda for making the Jr YBA Opportunity Drawing a success. Sharyn also sold the shirts in the pavilion.

I also want to mention Victor Yamauchi, and Wilbur and Janice Shigehara who are always so enthusiastic at Odori practice and are always so helpful throughout the day.

A very special thanks to the BTS Crew (Behind The Scenes) who consist of LuAnn Lee, Michael and Yasuko Kinoshita, Glenn Torio, Harold Lee, Laura Yoshida, Gregg Yonekura, Karen and Roy Okuhara, and Nancy Martinez who

were setting up at the temple on Saturday morning, went to the Japanese Friendship Garden and worked there, then returned to the temple that night to clean up, only to return once again Sunday Morning to help pack and clean up.

And finally, Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi and, as he jokingly calls the Minister Assistants, his followers. Kenji Sensei does such a wonderful job making Dharma live at both the Bon Odori and Toro Nagashi. He condenses a lot of Buddhism in a short time.

There are many more people who helped make this year's Balboa Park Bon Odori and Temple Bon Odori a success. I wish I could name them all. My apologies if I missed you. Every year we work on trying to make everyone's experience just a little better and every year we get a little closer. I am thankful for the dedicated Sangha here in San Diego that make two weeks of the summer very special.

In Gassho, Ken Muraoka

A couple of links that went out before the Balboa Park Bon Odori. We had really good media promotion.

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/entertainment/things-to-do/sd-et-things-todo-20180801-story.html>

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/entertainment/things-to-do/sd-et-family-bon-odori-0802-story.html>



2018 RUMMAGE SALE GRATITUDE

The EcoSangha Committee sincerely thanks the many who gave their time and energy to help make this year's rummage sale a success. It was a lot of hard work – the heat and humidity didn't help – but together, we raised about \$4000 to help with the temple's operating expenses.

Rummage Sale is one of the events where we really make connections with the neighbors in our community. We have many long-time shoppers who look forward to their annual bargain-hunting.

Some donated items are great finds for the Obon Again shop which helps fund temple scholarships. Some donations are Silent Auction-worthy. Proceeds from the Auction to toward temple improvements. Donations also benefit Rachael's Center, people (especially children) in Tijuana, Ensenada and the Philippines, and the County Animal Shelter. Not much is left un-used!

Special Thanks To –

- Glenn Torio for chairing the EcoSangha Committee and coordinating the event.
- Akie Tomiyama, Karen Akahoshi, Shirley Omori, Efton Woodford, Kaytee Sumida and Claudia Poquoc who worked on pre-sorting donations and organizing storage.
- Ken Muraoka for picking up donations throughout the County and for the use of his truck.
- Kikue Graeber and the BWA who always answer the call when help is needed.
- Erik Sumida and Harold Lee for packing the donation trailer at the end of the sale. (If you ever want to win a Volkswagen "Bug Jam" contest, get Erik and Harold on your team).
- Holly Hiding and Janet Ochi-Fontanott, the Ochi Shoe Crew. Janet and Holly also generously provided for the Thursday and Friday night volunteer meals.
- Bill Teague for organizing the books, media and artwork for sale. A Japanese section and a children's section attracted many buyers. Bill took some items to Book-Off which brought in a little more income.
- Kaytee Sumida for taking care of craft and Asian-ware sales; Laurine Ota for plant sales.

Our thanks to our donors, sorters, pricers, set-up crew, clean-up crew, cashiers, kitchen crew, cleaners, haulers and movers, security, sales staff, holding area crew: Aileen, Akie, Akiko, Akira, Alan T, Alan Y, Aleesa, Ann Y, Anthony, Betty, Bill, Carol E, Carolyn, Corinne, Claudia, Ed, Efton, Erik, Gale, Glenn N, Glenn T, Gregg, Hailey, Harold, Holly, Henry, Jake, James, Janet, Janice, Joe, Joyce, Junko, Karen A, Karen O, Kaytee, Kenji Sensei, Ken, Kikue, Kiyoshi, Laura Y, Laurine, Linda, Linda, Louie, LuAnn, Margie, Margo, Mike A, Mike K, Mike O, Mildred, Miyo, Nancy, Patty, Richard, Ron M, Ron T, Roy, Ruby, Ruth, Shirley, Susan M, Tabo, Tim, Trace, Trina, Wilbur and Yuki. If anyone was missed, sincere apologies – it was unintended, and we want to give a shout out to all of our great helpers. Everyone's efforts were truly appreciated.

Comments on the sale and suggestions for improvement are welcomed.

Together, we make our Sangha stronger.

In Gassho...



SEPTEMBER SHOTSUKI LIST

The September Shotsuki Hoyo (MEMORIAL SERVICE) will be held Sunday, September 9, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in conjunction with the Family Service. Families and friends of anyone who passed away during the month of September are urged to attend and offer incense. If there are any errors in the list, please notify the temple at (619) 239-0896 or email info@btsd.net.

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Kisako Kishi (9-2-1939) Masao Kishi
 Haru Takashima (9-14-1943)..... Takashima Family
 Fumi Ishizuka (9-9-1951) Kimie Family
 Masao Nimura (9-8-1952) Saburo Nimura
 Rev. Tetsuro Kashima (9-19-1953).....Kashima Family
 Kiyono Fujimoto (9-21-1954)Fujimoto Family
 Usaburo Tsuji (9-4-1957) Laura Tsuji
 Isa Kasubuchi (9-12-1968)Naoye Kasubuchi
 Seikichi Moriyama (9-15-1968) Moriyama Family
 Ikuji Oto (9-29-1971) Oto Family
 Uta Sugiyama (9-2-1979)Sugiyama Family
 Midori Nishiuye (9-4-1979) Nishiuye Family
 Yuji Funaki (9-6-1980)Funaki Family
 Ruth Honda (9-12-1980) Amy Honda
 Noboru Tomiyama (9-9-1982) Sayoko Tomiyama
 Tamio Mayumi (9-27-1983) Mitsuko Kawamoto Family
 Michiko Obayashi (9-20-1988) Obayashi Family
 Ko Nakagawa (9-4-1992) Nakagawa Family
 Yasuyuki Sugiyama (9-22-1994)Yukiko Sugiyama
 Shin Araumi (9-14-1995) Shizuka Azuma
 Suzuko Davey (9-29-1996) John Davey
 George Kudo (9-8-1998) Will Kudo
 Kiichiro Osaki (9-26-1998) Sayoko Tomiyama

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Takashi Hamabata (9-16-1999) Hamabata Family
 Takaye Furuya (9-30-2001) George Furuya, Jr.
 Fujiko Tsujimura (9-5-2002) Roy Tsujimura
 Vyvyanne Owashi (9-16-2002) Bruce Owashi
 Yoshie Yonekura (9-28-2002) Yonekura Family
 Tokihiro Yano (9-11-2003) Michael Yano
 Yaeko Hamabata (9-12-2003) Hamabata Family
 Takeno Hayashi (9-7-2005)George Hayashi
 Takeshi Mike Sonoda (9-22-2005) Takeshi Sonoda
 Katherine Taylor (9-24-2006) Martin Taylor
 Shunsuke Hanaoka (9-25-2006) Kaeko Hanaoka
 Mary Iguchi (9-18-2007) June Hosaka
 Irene Yamamoto (9-21-2008) Sachio Yamamoto
 Mitsuye Hanano (9-29-2009) Gerald Hanano
 Peter Rex Adkins (9-13-2010) Yoshiko Adkins
 So Yamada (9-17-2011) Yamada Family
 Masamitsu Mayekawa (9-7-2012) Ahren Mayekawa
 Yoshiko Ruthenburg (9-29-2012) . Andrew Ruthenburg
 Leo Noriyoshi Hagio (9-23-2014)Hagio Family
 Margaret Ikeda (9- 2015) Paul Arakawa
 Shozo YamashitaEmiko Yamashita
 Cynthia Kashiwagi (9-2-17) Kuniyuki & Angeline **Kashiwagi**
 Tom Yanagihara (9-3-2017)Yanagihara Family
 Rev. Jim Yanagihara (9-19-2017)Yanagihara Family

M E M O R I A L S E R V I C E S

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 office Tues-Fri.

2018 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2017	13th Year Memorial	2006	27th Year Memorial	1992
3rd Year Memorial	2016	17th Year Memorial	2001	33rd Year Memorial	1986
7th Year Memorial	2012	25th Year Memorial	1994	50th Year Memorial	1969

DONATIONS

The Buddhist Temple of San Diego is grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their recent donations to the Temple and its affiliated organizations. "IMO" means "In memory of." For a correction, please inform our admin. assistant at (619) 239-0896 or info@btsd.net.

BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Onaka, Jun - Memorial
Service for Yoko Onaka
Wood, Carolyn
Otsuji, Dennis - Offering
Kuwada, Howard Kanji -
Offering
Okuhara, Roy
Jones, Mikako - Offering
Moriyama, Chieko -
August Offering
Koga, Florence - Offering
Ishisaki, Emiko - Offering
Moncrief, Mayko - Offering
Moriuchi, Toshio and Hatsuko
Hara, Ruby
Fujimoto, Jack
IMO Morizo & Emi Fujimoto
IMO Yutaka, Hisayo &
Seiko Fujimoto
Graeber, Kikue -
Rev. Sasaki's book
Kodama, Jay
Masumoto, Chiyoko -
August Offering
Jensen, Richard - Donation
IMO Tommy Yanagihara
Gladsjo, Julie - Donation in
Honor of Rosalind Sakata
Uyeji, Masako - Donation
IMO Michiko Kitagawa

BAZAAR

Lee, Harold and LuAnn

DHARMA SCHOOL

Seymour, Leslie
Sakai, Jeffery
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Ochi, K Kay

FALL HIGAN

Yamamoto, George & Ann
Ota, Laurine
Iwashita, David & Katie
Iwashita, Setsuo & Jan
Ryan, Mani & Ed
Ohara, Ann
Ohara, Kisae

FLORAL OFFERING

Seymour, Leslie
Negoro, Glenn
Sakai, Jeffery
Tsukamoto, Wayne

Ochi, K Kay

GEN MAINTENANCE

Seymour, Leslie
Sakai, Jeffery
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Ochi, K Kay

GOLF

Hidinger, Ronald - Donation

GOTANYE SERVICE

Seymour, Leslie

HANAMATSURI SERVICE

Seymour, Leslie

HATSUBON SERVICE

Kitano, Margie
IMO Kimiko Kitano
Uchiyama, Tissa
IMO Akira Hata
Kashiwagi, Kuniyuki and
Angeline
IMO Cynthia Kashiwagi
Spears, Margo
IMO James Michio Yamashita
Oto, June
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Himaka, Michio
IMO Rev Jim Yanagihara

HO ONKO

Seymour, Leslie

IMPROVEMENTS

Kaneshiro, Gale - Solar
Estes, Toshiye - Solar
Schraeder, Susan
IMO Tom Yanagihara

MAP

Sakai, Jeffery
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Ochi, K Kay

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Torio, Glenn
Pangelinan, Roque
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Tanaka, Kelvin
Ochi, K Kay

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Seymour, Leslie

NIRVANA DAY

Seymour, Leslie

OBON

Tomiyama, Steve
Spears, Margo
Hidinger, Holly
Seymour, Leslie
Torio, Betty
Kawamoto, Yukio and
Mitsuko
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Itsuko
Tsuneyoshi, Motoo
IMO Tsuneyoshi-Yamasaki
Families
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Nakamura, Jake K.
Hashiguchi, John
Smith, Maribeth "Smitty"
Tomoi, Irene
Yonekura, Roy
Tomiyama, Sayoko
Honda, Mikiye
Voorhies, Ruth
Nakashima, Sumiye
Morinaka, Asako
IMO Roy Morinaka
IMO Dennis Morinaka
IMO Harry Yamada
IMO Suzy Yamada
Hill, Miyo
Kida, Katsumi
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Ohara, Fumiko
Nogata, Yuriko
Ishizaki, Sheryl
Gladsjo, Julie
Ishisaki, Emiko
Koga, Florence
Torio, Glenn
Uyeji, Masako
Matsumoto, Akiko and Ken
Aoyama, Rev Tesshi
Kawasaki, Trace
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Jensen, Richard

Negoro, Glenn
Yamamoto, Sachio
Muraoka, Ken
Martinez, Nancy
Shigehara, Wilbur
Himaka, Michio
Amano, Takeko
Terusaki, Steven
IMO William Terusaki - 1 yr.
Kasubuchi, Naoye
Monji, Yoshiko
Honda, Ralph
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Lee, Harold and LuAnn
Sakagawa, Gary
Ong, Mike
Kubota, Hiroshi
Tomiyama, Alan
Fuchigami, Lynn S.
Moncrief, Mayko
Yamamoto, Hisashi

RUMMAGE SALE

Anonymous

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Seymour, Leslie
Sakai, Jeffery
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Isakari, Henry & Marcia
Ochi, K. Kay

SHOTSUKI HOYO

Yamamoto, George and Ann
IMO Noboro Tomiyama
Morinaka, Asako
Hidinger, Ronald
IMO Hideo & Kiyoko Ochi
Ochi-Watson, Shirley
IMO Hideo and Kiyoko Ochi
Ishisaki, Emiko
IMO Torio Ishisaki

SPRING HIGAN

Seymour, Leslie



SCRIP NEWS

As we start out the new temple Sunday School year, just remember that we are selling scrip before each service. New retailers' lists are available. Scrip is ordered on Sunday afternoons,

Everyone needs groceries so we have gift cards for Albertson's, Smart & Final, Stater Bros., Sprouts, Target, Von's, and Walmart.

To everyone who buys scrip, keep on buying!

23RD ANNUAL BTSD GOLF TOURNAMENT: A DAY OF FRIENDLY COMPETITION AND FRIENDSHIPS

Smiles, handshakes, hugs, welcoming new faces and doing a lot of catching up rekindled friendships at the 23rd annual BTSD Golf Tournament.

Under pleasant weather, 50 golfers gathered for the event on Sunday, August 26 at Eastlake Country Club in Chula Vista.

Players, traveled from Arizona, San Jose, and Los Angeles to join the local golfers from the community for a day of friendly competition in the four-person scramble format.

The temple wishes to thank Eastlake Country Club for being the host venue for this year's tournament. Albert Jauragui (Director of Sales) and Marco Perez (tournament facilitator) did another fine job making arrangements for hosting this year's event.

With extremely hot and dry weather climate this year, it was challenging for Eastlake to keep the course conditions up to par. The Eastlake staff was very apologetic with the course condition as being "unfortunate." They did their best to accommodate BTSD, which made for a wonderful day for everyone.

The event winners included: First place team, Tom Yanagihara, Milt Moss, Bob Sagat and Jeff Ward; second place team, Tracy Kim and Richard Tanaka; third place team: Ron Tokunaga, Mike Ong, Doug Maisel and Gary Komo; Low gross team: Ralph Honda, Breven Honda, Wayne Tsukamoto and Ryan Tsukamoto.

There were various contests throughout the tournament. Closest-to-the Pin winners were Tracy Kim, Mike Ong and Doug Maisel. Long Drive winners included Don Ueno (76-over), Chad Yagura (75-under), Tracy Kin (women) and Ryan Yamamoto (youth). The putting contest winner was Tracy Kim.

Each year, much of the success of the golf tournament depends of the generous sponsorships and donations received. The outpouring of the generosity of sponsors and donors were tremendous.

Corporate sponsors included Sycuan Hotel and Casino, Lauren Morrow, Community Development Manager (Eagle Sponsor); Muraoka Enterprises, Roy, Tad and Ken Muraoka (Birdie); Sushi Ota, Mr. Yukita Ota (Beverage Cart); Coronado Island Sinclair, Setsuo and Jan Iwashita (Beverage Cart); 3D's Travel, Doug Ojiri (Hole); MKA Inc., Michael Kinoshita (hole); California Bank & Trust, downtown branch, Jill Lozier, Manager (Hole); Gizmo Technologies, Inc. (Hole).

Individual category sponsors included:

Closest-to-Pin: Sumi Yanagihara, Barry Morinaka, Miki, Avis and Ralph Honda, and Yuki Iwashita, Dennis Otsuji and Alan Tomiyama.

Long Drive: Agnes Benson, Dennis and Elaine Otsuji, and Roy Okuhara and Karen Tom;

Hole Sponsors: John and Tsune Hashiguchi, Ron and Holly Hiding, Ed and Miyo Hill, Avis and Breven Honda, Miki Honda, Rich and Ruth Kaneko, Trace and Mildred Kawasaki, Steve Sato, Keiju Terada and Terada family (in memory of Rev. Koju Terada), Alan and Akiko Tomiyama; Motoo and Angie Tsuneyoshi, Ron and Sheila Yagura, Hisashi and Jane Yamamoto, George and Ann Yamamoto, Roy and Susan Yonekura.

Gallery Donors: Chula Vista Golf Course; Eastlake Country Club; Del Mar Thoroughbred Club; Fremont Hotel and Casino Las Vegas; Ichiban Restaurant, Yoshiro Minezaki; Kanpai Restaurant; Keidan Floral Designs, Naomi Himaka; Napoleone's Pizza House,



Randy Takeshita (center), along with fellow golfers, makes sure that he is all checked-in before the start of the BTSD Golf Tournament.

Photo credit: Breven Honda

Peter Crivello; Peking Restaurant; Riverwalk Golf Club; San Diego State University; Sushi Deli; and Viejas Hotel and Casino.

Individual Gallery Donors: Ed Hill, Miki Honda, Avis and Breven Honda, Harold and LuAnn Lee, and Richard Tanaka.

Special Donation: Tracy Kim and Richard Tanaka.

Rich Kaneko was the masters of ceremonies of the post-golf luncheon. He announced all 47 raffle prize winners, including the top winners Robert Ito (43 inch color tv), Bret Yamamoto (overnight package at Viejas Hotel) and Sheila Yagura (Chula Vista Golf Course package).

There were many volunteers who served as the behind-the-scenes crew who helped make the tournament run efficiently. The crew included: Avis Honda, Breven Honda, Trace and Mildred Kawasaki, Steve Sato (sound system), Alissa Tomiyama, Bret Yamamoto, Sas and Jane Yamamoto, Chad Yagura, Sheila Yagura, Greg Yonekura, Susan Yonekura .

Although a date has not be set for next year's event, all golfers are asked to check their emails periodically for updates.

Overall, the tournament tuned out to be another success. We appreciate everyone's support each year. BTSD golf brings out the best of friends of all ages a day of friendly competition. Thank you!

In Gassho,
Ralph Honda, Rich Kaneko and Ron Yagura

Buddhism 1-2-3 Resumes!

Other Buddhist Education in September

With hopes everyone found time to relax and stay cool in August, our ongoing programs resume in September. In addition to our first Family service Sept., 9, we start Buddhism 1-2-3 on Wednesday Sept. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Sangha Hall with guidance from resident minister **Kenji Sensei** for the first two Wednesdays of the month and BEC volunteers for the remaining schedule.

Our popular introduction to Buddhism one-hour course resumes Sunday, Sept. 24 at 9 a.m. with **Kaytee Sumida**. Visitors, students on assignment, long-time members alike have said how much they appreciated this basic review of the history of Buddhism, our Temple's place in it, and basic Temple etiquette.

マウンテンビュー 仏教会「回向」 二〇一八年九月法話

「心の鏡をもっていますか？」

駐在開教使 向嶋諦史

先日、息子とイソップ寓話集を読んでいたのですが、その中に「犬と肉」という面白いお話がありました。

「ある日、肉をくわえた犬が橋を渡っていました。その犬が何気なく水面に目をやると、そこに肉をくわえた自分が映っていました。しかし、犬はそれを別の犬だと思ひ込み、いきなり驚かしてその肉を奪い取ろうと吠えかかりました。「ワンツ！」その瞬間、くわえていた肉が川に落ちてしまい、結局自分の肉を失ってしまい泣きべそをかいた」というお話です。

イソップの作品はどれも素晴らしい教訓が盛り込まれていて、この「犬と肉」のお話の説明文を読んでもみますと「この寓話は、欲張りの人に当てはまります」と書いてありました。

しかし、数十年ぶりに改めてこの寓話を読んでみますと、欲張りな人にならないようにという戒めは勿論のこと、それ以上に、もっと大切な教えがこの寓話の中に存在していたということに気づかせていただきました。それは、「本当の自分を見る」ということです。

犬は、水面や鏡に映る自分の姿を見ても、それが自分であるとは認識できないとされています。たとえチンパンジーやオランウータン等といった知能の高い動物が自己を認識できるということがあっても、それ以上の行動を起こすことはありません。しかし、人間は鏡に映

っている自分を見て、身なりを整えたり、身を飾ったりすることができません。ですから、私達は自分の姿を見る為に常に鏡を意識して生活しているのです。

しかし、鏡というのは私達の顔や身体を見る事はできませんが、残念ながら、私達の心まで見通すことはできません。ここに極めて大きな問題があるのです。私は妻と喧嘩して何か注意されると、「自分の事は自分が一番良く分かっている！」という捨て台詞を吐くことがあります。しかし、残念ながら、この言い分は単なる負け惜しみです。なぜなら、鏡がないと自分の目で直接自分の顔や背中を見ることができないのと同じように、私には本来自分が持っている性格の悪さや欠点というものが正しく見えていないからです。

現代医学では、科字の発展によって内臓まで映し出すCTスキャン等といった受像機を通して的確な診断を下すことができるようになりました。ですが、そんな最先端の機械を使つたとしても人の心の状態を見る事はできません。

しかし、鏡で自分の姿を見るように、本当の自分を正しく見る方法が一つあります。それは仏法に出会うことです。仏法の鏡で見えるのは私達の本当の心の姿です。人生を歩む上で大切なことは自分の心の在り様を法の鏡、つまり、お念仏の教えを通して正しく見るということなのです。

「法」とは、ものの本当の在り方のことです。例えば、全てものは時々刻々と変化し、永遠に続くものは何一つとしてありません。ですから、お釈迦さまは「世の中の全てのものは無常であり、全てのものは依り合つて成り立っている」と説いておられます。

この事実が「縁起」という法です。これは普遍的真理なのですが、私達はこの明確な事実でも、自分のことになると、これを認めることはありません。なぜなら、他人は死んでも自分はいつまでも大丈夫だと思つているから、生かされていることへの感謝の心を忘れ、物事が思い通りにならなくなったり、都合が悪くなったりするとすぐに腹を立て愚痴を吐いて無駄に人生を送っているのです。

それは正に、イソップ寓話に出てくる愚かな犬と何ら変わりありません。水面に映つている姿が自分であるにもかかわらず、別の犬と勘違いして見ている愚かな姿は、無常という理の中で生かされている儂いのちを、他人事のように眺めている私達の姿そのものなのです。「ワンツ！」と吠えた瞬間、肉ではなく己のいのちを落としたかねない儂い人生なのです。

この無明で無知なる考え方が迷いの原因なのです。お釈迦さまは、自分だけは例外とする自己中心的な考え方に目覚め、この迷いの世界から脱するには、法の真理に基づいた考え方に根を下ろす努力が何よりも大切だということを教えて下さっています。

ですから、自分の大切な人生を「法という鏡」、つまり、「お念仏」を通して常に深い内省の中から本当の自分を正しく見つけ、物事のありようをしつかりと見定め、真の人間として自己を確立し、真の仏教徒として自立していかななくてはなりません。

これこそ、私がイソップ寓話の「犬と肉」の中から教わつた「本当の自分を見る」ということです。毎日、鏡で自分の姿を見ているように、お念仏の鏡を人生の拠り所として本当の自分に出会い、正しい道を歩むことの大切さを改めて気づかせていただいた愛息との有意義な読書の時間でありました。



Japanese Buddhist Temples in Hawaii: Special Lecture and Slideshow

On **Saturday, September 15**, please join us in the Annex Hall at 7:00 p.m. for this special presentation and slideshow with Drs. George Tanabe and Willa Tanabe. The event is free and open to all, with a recep-

tion to follow.

The Drs. Tanabe will co-present their findings on visiting and researching every Japanese Buddhist Temple in Hawaii to reveal through detailed illustrations the meanings behind Temple art and architecture.

Special Banner Exhibit

Throughout the Annex Hall for the lecture and on display around the Temple in the days before and after the lecture are a series of pictorial banners of photographs with details on the common elements – both architectural and decorative – that are found in Hawaii's Temples.

About our Presenters

George and Willa Tanabe are both Professors Emeritus at the University of Hawaii, in Religion and Art, respectively. In 2012 George Tanabe was awarded the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun. He is currently the President of BDK America and the Chairman of BDK Hawaii. At the University of Hawaii Willa Tanabe served as Professor of Art and served as Dean of the School of Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Studies. Both are authors of important books; *Japanese Buddhist Temples in Hawaii* was their first joint title.

Reception to Follow

We expect the presentation to last some 90 minutes. Immediately following the presentation, we invite all to stay for a Hawaiian themed reception in the Annex Hall.

Ohigan Guest Speaker

Dr. George Tanabe is our guest speaker for the Sept. 16 Spring Ohigan service at 10 a.m. the morning following the lecture.

The Book

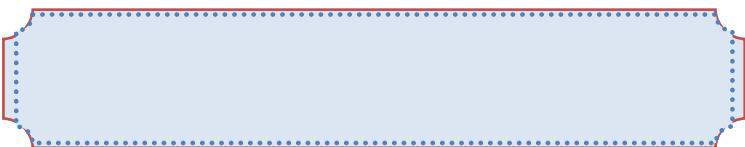
The Tanabes published the findings of their three-year project (visiting every Japanese Buddhist Temple in Hawaii) in this book: *Japanese Buddhist Temples in Hawai'i: An Illustrated Guide* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2012). A limited number of copies of the book are available for sale following the presentation.

Appreciation

Appearance of the two Professors Tanabe in San Diego is made possible by BDK America, and for the banner display by The Hiroaki, Elaine & Lawrence Kono Foundation, with the cooperation of the Hawai'i Buddhist Council, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai, and the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i.

Tell Your Friends and Neighbors

This presentation is free and open to all and will be of special interest to San Diegans with roots in Hawaii or interest in Buddhism, as well as students of art and architecture. The event is free but we welcome donations and will have our *Jozai* (donations box) in the Annex Hall; all proceeds will be applied to retire debt on our new solar panel installation.



Social Action Panel at the San Diego Baha'i Center



On August 11, the San Diego Baha'i Center hosted an interfaith panel titled Faith in Social Action. The purpose of this particular event, part of the 2018 San Diego County Interfaith Awareness Week, was to discuss religion as an agent for social change from a multifaith perspective: Baha'i, Buddhist, Catholic, and Muslim. As the coordinator of our temple's Dana Group I was invited to provide a Buddhist perspective and speak about some of the community outreach initiatives our temple has engaged in.

Each panelist spent some time describing programs they are currently involved with, such as supporting women's shelters, feeding the homeless, improving college-level academic performance, among others. It was very inspiring to hear how committed each faith group is to improve the lives of underprivileged segments of our community. I was also pleasantly surprised to hear from other panelists how deeply they feel about certain concepts that are very familiar to us as Buddhists.

Imam Qaisar Wahed Shabir explained that the Quran compels every Muslim to help a neighbor in need, regardless of the latter's adherence to a different faith, or none at all. "We all breathe the same air. We're all part of the same body," he emphatically explained.

Sister Laverne Olberding, the Catholic panelist, expressed her desire to cast aside metaphorical barriers that, for a variety of reasons, prevent assistance from reaching those who need it the most. "We should get rid of dichotomies, ideas of good or bad, and just help," she stated.

Hearing non-Buddhists speak about what amounts to interdependence, oneness, and the side effects of a dualistic view, allowed me to identify the commonality that exists between different religions. I couldn't help but think about the analogy of the finger pointing to the moon. When it comes to social action we may practice different faiths, but our goals are one and the same, to reach out and aid our community.

Nazanin Zargarpour Endicott, the Baha'i panelist, talked about a pilot program they implemented that better prepares High School seniors for their transition to college. Since the launch of this initiative, which required substantial changes to the students' study and testing curriculum, the percentage of college dropouts has decreased substantially.

I had the opportunity to talk about the school supplies drive we completed at the end of July, some of the other initiatives we're planning on launching in the coming months, as well as the engagement shown by many of our temple members who have gone out and participated in the Women's March, the Pride Parade, and other grassroots events.

There was a very good response from attendees during the event; I was approached afterwards by several individuals who had questions about Buddhism and expressed an interest in visiting our temple in the future. Special thanks to the temple members and friends who took time off from their Saturday evening to attend this event.

In Gassho, Arturo Rubio