

# the Dharma

---

October 2020



## **San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin**

640 North Fifth Street, San Jose, CA 95112

[sjbc@sjbetsuin.org](mailto:sjbc@sjbetsuin.org)

Office: 408-293-9292 Fax: 408-293-0433

---

# VOTE. BE COUNTED.

G SAKAMOTO

---

Every four years America makes a decision to continue into a second term of an administration or peacefully change the current administration. It has been, with all its faults, an example of government handing over leadership from one administration to another. We have faced challenges in that transition from assassinations to hanging chads to the debate on the importance of the Electoral College, through all of this we have continue to hold to the fundamental importance of a free and open democracy.

Equally important is this year's US Census. Be sure to be counted and help others who might need help. This happens only every ten years. The Census determines everything from Federal Government representation in the House to Federal funding allocations.

Be sure to vote. Be sure to be counted.

Whatever the outcome of the November elections, no matter our political or non-political identity, we can not resolve our differences until we can see the value of each other. This should not be surprising. Regardless of our beliefs, as long as we can work through the differences that separate us there is a chance that we might be able to come to decisions that support the world around us.

This has been true for a very long time. We can see this in politics. Politics that affect economies and the persistence war. The perspectives and decisions of politics affect food distribution and shelter. Political views influence what resources are applied to where in our world. Politics itself is neither good or bad. It is simply the basis, development and application of policy. How we get to the application of policy can involve decisions that we might judge good or bad. That judgement will depend on how we view the world.

For some the Second Amendment is a mandate to establish armed militias not regulated by government. Others may see the Second Amendment as no longer relevant.

The Bill of Rights Amendment II

"A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Whether you agree with the idea of armed militias or not that there is a question regarding the existence of militias should concern us all. It is not a question that is easily answered. Yet at the crux of the question is a need to protect. Whether to protect property or ideology the need to protect comes from a threat from something or someone that conflicts with my world view. The importance of this question is not just about armed militias. It is about how we understand the origins of these conflicts.

There are many examples that have outcome that are profoundly consequential. Where irreconcilable differences express actions that have deadly results. Armed conflict is an expression of two ideas colliding. It is easy to see. Easy to recognize. What we might not understand is how our actions can rise to killing each other.

If we vote for our side to win and the other side to lose we will have already lost. If we can work to find our common humanity there may be a way forward.

---

# “THUS HAVE I HEARD”

ETSUKO MIKAME

---

As one of the characteristics of Buddhist sutras, they always begin from the phrase, "Thus have I heard." This also appears at the beginning of Amida Sutra and The Larger Sutra, which we consider as our essential sutras in our tradition. I can say this phrase shows us the important attitude to hear the teaching of Buddhism.

As Sutras are a collection of What Sakyamuni Buddha told his disciples, it is natural to start the sutra from "According to Buddha" or "Buddha said as follows," however it is not. Why?

Because Sakyamuni Buddha taught in a very personal manner, it is said that he gave 84,000 messages during his lifetime. The number of paths is the expression of the universality of the Buddha-Dharma. Therefore, it is hard for us, human beings, to receive and understand all Buddha's teachings because its enlightenment is indescribable in a simple word. That is especially why sutras start from "Thus have I heard" because each disciple tried to share what they heard individually, and it emphasizes their position as one of the receivers of Buddha's words. The phrase "thus have I heard" shows us an ideal attitude when we hear the teaching. Here, I feel their humble attitude that they tried to accept Buddha's words as they were without depending on their perspectives or understandings.

Speaking of our daily lives, even if we see the same thing and share the same experience, we, human beings, see the world differently because we live our lives in each person's place.

However, we tend to judge others who they are or whether the person is wrong or not regardless we don't know the person well. We pretend to know everything, but the fact is that we don't know anything perfectly; my Delusions, blind passions make our hearts stubborn. With this stubborn heart, we will never know what is true and real.

However, we can encounter the truth only by hearing the Buddha's teaching. "Truth" is something that never changes its form as an unchanging fact. Buddhism tells us that there is no 'self' that never changes its form in our lives because everything is changing in this world. So, while hearing the teaching, Buddhism gradually makes us realize that human beings don't have any "truth" in our lives.

Our stubborn hearts will be gradually melted by the gentle warmth of Amida's wisdom and compassion. Especially Shinran Shonin knew so, and he appreciated Buddha's teaching always depending on his masters' words throughout his life. Shinran Shonin's master, Honen taught him that the Dharma is "received," and that we must simply open our hearts and minds to it in gratitude. Shinran discovered this way of gratitude, the way of humility, through Honen's compassionate teaching. Now the light of the Dharma began to permeate his heart and mind, illuminating and penetrating into even the darkest corners of his ego self.

Therefore, Shinran Shonin hardly included his own opinion and understanding in his writings but he quoted a series of selections and commentaries on Buddhist sutras. This was because he wanted to value to be a good listener of Buddhism while composing these writings. Although he didn't originally intend to establish his own sect, as a result, he revealed the distinctive characteristics of Buddhism known as Jodo Shinshu for us. Shinran Shonin showed us the ultimately humble attitude of "Thus have I heard" through his life.

We receive Buddha's wisdom and compassion through hearing the teaching. It doesn't mean the more we hear, the smarter we become but the more we hear, the more it makes us realize our foolishness. We can become humble and gentle to others when we accept our imperfections. And we will know Amida embraces us as we are here and now with Nembutsu. This is what I heard.

---

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

---

Hello everyone, I hope all of you are healthy and well. Please take care and stay safe.

As you may already know, Dharma School started on September 13, but it isn't too late to enroll your children.

I am grateful to the Dharma School for teaching children things that should be taught by parents but are overlooked. How many of the parents teach their children about Ohigan or that it occurs twice a year? Did you know Ohigan was mainly a Japanese Buddhist holiday that coincides with the vernal and autumnal equinoxes? It is when the days and night time hours are equal. Most of the time, Ohigan is a pleasant day because of the temperate weather, it is not too hot or too cold. The term Higan comes from the Sanskrit word Paramita - "gone to other shore," and suggests the Six Paramitas of charity, morality, patience, effort, meditation, and wisdom. Various sutras teach that six paramitas or perfections of practice are the way of reaching the other shore from this shore.

Other lessons learned in Dharma School is etiquette in the Hondo. We teach how when entering the Hondo, you politely bow to show respect. You will first step into the Hondo with your left foot as it signifies a conscious effort into Buddhist domain of thought. When exiting the Hondo, you will politely bow and step with your right foot denoting the real world to which you are returning. When the bonsho (large hanging bell) is rung, we must be quiet and ready ourselves to receive the teaching of the Dharma.

Ojuzu or Onenju is a string of beads of varying lengths. In some sects of Buddhism, this string of beads is called Ojuzu (counting beads.) However, Jodo Shinshu does not use these beads as an aid in meditation or for counting. Therefore, it is more properly called Onenju (thought beads.) Onenju is to be carried on your left wrist. The formal Onenju has 108 koshu 'children'/main beads, plus either one or two larger bosshu 'parent' beads. The 108 koshu represent the 108 bonnou (earthly desires, worldly & or evil passions) which the follower of the Dharma seeks to overcome.

Proper technique Oshoko is also taught to the students. When I was young, I was terrified of performing Oshoko because I didn't have confidence in my practice. I would watch others and everyone was doing it differently. There is a proper way to Oshoko. Offering incense is a symbol of purification. When we offer incense, it is not a desire for something in return. Many practices in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism are exercises in being mindful. Here are the steps the children are taught. Bring your Ojuzu or Nenju with you.

- Bow with your hands at your sides about 3 feet away from the incense burner.
- Starting with your left foot, take a few steps until you can reach the burner.
- Take a very small pinch of incense and put it in the burner.
- Place your hands together to Gassho and bow reciting "Namo Amida Butsu".

- Place your hands back at your side, and take one or two steps backwards starting with your right foot.
- Bow again then return to your seat.

There are many variations of altars. In San Jose, there are 3 main altars. There is the central statue of Amida Buddha. Amida Buddha is one of countless Buddhas. Buddha is a person who is enlightened. The altar on the right when facing the altar is a picture scroll of Shinran Shonin (1173-1262), the founder of our sect and one of the truly great religious thinkers in Japanese Buddhism. The altar to the left of the center altar is a scroll of Rennyo Shonin (1415-1499.) Rennyo is considered the second founder or restorer of Jodo Shinshu. He is the eighth abbot of our sect. He restored and organized a small group of followers to become one of the largest religious institutions in Japan. Our Onaijin also has two extra altars. The one on the left has the scroll of the Seven Patriarchs which Shinran Shonin says represents the ancestry of Jodo Shinshu.

All this information is taught in our Dharma School that you may not have known. In Juseige, we say chant KAI HO ZO, "Open the Dharma Storehouse". Dharma School is part of our Dharma storehouse.

Be sure to join in on Sunday for virtual service at 10:00 with Rinban Sakamoto and Mikame Sensei.

In Gassho, Ed Nodohara

<https://www.nishihongwanji-la.org/teachings/dharma-services/ohigan-rededication/>

<https://www.buddhistchurch.org/post/how-oshoko-offer-incense>

---

## SAN JOSE BUDDHIST CHURCH BETSUIN BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 3, 2020, 7:00PM

---

### **A. MOTIONS**

1. Motion made by Paul Endo and seconded Joyce Iwasaki. The minutes were approved with the corrections.
2. A total of 4 sidewalk chalk artworks: Motion was made by Mas Nishimura and seconded by Gloria Yamauchi to give orei for the 3 artists (\$100 to Momo, \$50 to Yurika Chiba, \$50 to Addie McClure). Motion passed.
3. Gloria Yamauchi reported the number of students is 23 which is half of last year's enrollment. Cost will exceed income from JLS students. Gloria wondered if the surplus from previous years will cover this year's shortfall (estimated \$4,600)? The five teachers and clerical aide are trying to restructure the classes and hours billed to save money. Motion by Mas Nishimura - begin JSL online instruction this year even if expenses are \$8,000. Seconded by Paul Endo. Motion Passed

### **B. MEETING REPORTS:**

1. New Board Meeting structure and Bylaws changes update: Joyce Iwasaki said it was decided not to make a lot of changes because the bylaws will have to be ratified at the General Meeting. Joyce and Janice Doi will review the latest version one more time and then ask lawyer Dean Osaki to review the document.

One change to the bylaws - the start of Board meetings from 7:30pm to 7:00pm. Joyce will bring the edited bylaws to the next Board meeting for Board approval.

**2.** Update on Fundraising opportunity suggested by Mike Mori on eBay: Mike is selling from his personal inventory and from Joyce Iwasaki's donations. Steve Onishi will contact Mike regarding Janice Oda. Is she still helping with PR, designing a flier or other promotional ideas? There is an article in The Dharma about the fundraiser. We need to expand to temple organizations.

**3.** Dharma School families will be encouraged to become members of the temple. List the advantages of being a member of the temple.

**4.** Virtual Organization Day: Deborah Aso sent out an email asking organizations if they want to participate in a virtual Organization Day. Mas Nishimura said he could help with setting up Zoom breakout sessions. Mas will speak to Deborah. Rinban suggested that the Membership committee (Dina Nakano and Rajan Saigusa) be involved since this is their project.

**5.** Update on ADVG to rewire Hondo for \$4,400. A laptop or PC will help present what is going on in the Hondo. Mas says the benefits of purchasing a laptop X-Phone??-1/3 clearer picture and audio is integrated so is better than Zoom. This will be a controlling laptop or PC and the cost will be about \$500, depending on the memory capacity. Rinban said they have been working on the problem with the connection between the Hondo and annex.

**6.** Discussion on signatory protocol: No changes

**7.** Long Term Disability Insurance for Betsuin: Joyce Iwasaki said in January and February long term disability Insurance covering Rinban Sakamoto, Reverend Mikame and Randy Suzuki were to commence. Next step was to meet with Michael Yoshihara the ministers, Randy and Joyce to proceed after the approval from the Board. However, due to the pandemic, all has been delayed. Michael suggested that he meet with Ed Nodohara. Ed needs to contact.

Michael to complete this transaction. The cost has increased a little.

**8.** Update on investment on BCA Endowment custodial account with Angeles Investments. Managed by Angeles Investments. Dennis Akizuki will start meetings with CAW next week, but he does not know how much available cash he will need to have ready. Withdrawal from the custodial account is very quick so that should not be a problem to get urgent cash. Need to find out which are restricted funds and which are unrestricted funds and the amount. Paul Endo will speak to Diane Fujioka to find the numbers and accounts. Dennis recommends Randy Suzuki write a written report on the process of how stocks are handled by the office Amy Lin-Furukawa recommends we establish a system where members could donate stocks directly that will be beneficial to both the donor and the temple. Amy thinks we should revisit this process. E-trade is an easy way to donate.

Committee was formed to research the funds for Generation II that can be invested with BCA Endowment: Paul Endo, Ed Nodohara and Steve Onishi

**9.** Mikame Sensei One Year Anniversary: Etsuko Mikame Sensei thanked the Board for making her first year anniversary at the Betsuin very special.

**10.** Ministerial: Rinban Sakamoto/Mikame Sensei -

a) Rinban said there will be a special service with guest speaker Reverend Giei Sasaki, who will speak on Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, speaking from Japan. Translation from Japanese to English will be by Reverend Adams from the San Mateo Church. The service will begin at 5:00pm. Mikame Sensei is coordinating this joint effort. Open to everyone. We will continue to have the 10:00am Sunday service.

b) Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, Saturday from 11:00am to 1:00pm (PDT): "Finding the Spiritual Heart in Turbulent Times: Naikan Self-Reflection" – Guest speaker, Gregg Krech, ToDo Institute

c) Morgan Hill revitalization: Mikame Sensei, Rinban Sakamoto, Lisa Usuki and Julie and Howard Watanabe (webmaster) met to discuss ideas to strengthen the Morgan Hill temple. Rinban would like a monthly service to be held at the Morgan Hill church with possible Zooming. No WiFi...hot spots?

**11. Special Events:** Joyce Iwasaki updated on the Keiro Kai. Joyce said the Keiro Kai will look different. She will contact Lisa Usuki to find nurseries to purchase houseplants. A meeting with Jacque Yamaguchi, Joyce and Emi Tsutsumi is planned for the near future. Keiro Kai may be in October or November.

**12. Budget and Finance:** Paul Endo.....compared to last year there was a drop of about \$9,000 for August in membership dues. Spreadsheet numbers (use the numbers as trend) are not in tied in with what Diane has sent him. If you are curious about the numbers, send Paul your concerns and he will send you his numbers. Net proceeds from Obon@Home - \$207,682.

**13. BWA:** Karen Akimoto says BWA is having a get-together. There is nothing in their constitution about virtual meetings so a chat time will be held to get consensus on things they want to do. BWA will meet on Google Meet on either September 12<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>.

**14. BCA/Coast District:** Joyce Iwasaki attended a CD meeting along with our two ministers, Ed Nodohara, Dennis Akizuki and Steve Onishi on Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>. Update on COVID-19 presented by John Arima and how the SIP is affecting our organizations. Rotation of presidents. Gary Hongo from San Luis Obispo will preside in 2021. In 2023 CD will host the National Council meeting. Rev. Shinseki is taking the lead and helping Larry Oda. CD will host the 2022 Fuken with Jay Shinseki supervising. Next Zoom meeting 11/19/20

**15. BCA** is forming a music committee across the USA. Bishop Harada has \$5,000 to start this program. CD representatives are Paul Endo, Elaine Jones and Michael Yoshihara. They are working on a choir festival for 2022. Open Mic will expand Buddhism beyond choir to include odori and taiko also non-service music. Reiko Iwanaga will be the historian as well as odori consultant.

### **C. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. FDSTL conference by Mt. District 1-4 on Oct. 10
2. Mikame Sensei will be speaking in Japanese at the Seattle Betsuin via Zoom on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>
3. Next Board Meeting scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 on Zoom.

---

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

---

Another month of living with the pandemic....doing all of the necessary things like sheltering in place, washing hands, social distancing and wearing a mask.

Along with the virus, we had a rash of fires up and down the state of California, along with Oregon and Washington. The fires we had are mostly down to just a few, and while we had bad air for some time, the skies are fairly clear and we are able to enjoy the sunshine without the haze and smoke.

The fires started by the lightning storm affected many different areas including the Santa Cruz area and one near Mt. Hamilton on the other side of our hills almost to Hwy. 5 on the other side.

The fire on the other side of our hill, which is close to our home, created a warning for those of us in the area to prepare to evacuate. So, we had to decide what to take in the event of an evacuation.

As I began to put together things to take with us, including one suitcase containing our personal items, I felt an overwhelming sadness knowing that I could not take all of our belongings.

Thankfully, we did not have to evacuate, thanks to the firefighters who did a tremendous job of controlling the many fires. It was such a relief.

It is a strange and unsettling time.

Last month, with the fires and the pandemic, the office staff felt that I should stay at home and Deborah was able to put the Dharma newsletter together. I thank her for doing a great job.

Times like this makes us appreciate the good times when we are able to go about doing things normally....shopping, dining out, traveling, visiting relatives and friends, etc.

It still is a puzzle to me that there are people who behave like nothing bad is happening. They refuse to accept the reality of the pandemic dangers by going about their lives....gathering in crowds, not wearing masks, etc.

As of the current numbers, we are now over 200,000 deaths in the entire country from the Covid19. How long this situation will go on is unknown. The vaccine that are being discussed and worked on seem far from being developed and available to the public.

Let's continue being careful. We can still do many of the things we did like keeping in touch with family and friends through the phone and the internet. When going out to do your errands, make sure that you are extra mindful and careful. Stay safe and well.

In gassho,

Sally Idemoto

---

## ADVICE FROM FIRST HAND EXPERIENCE

---

In July, we received an e-mail from one of Tom's sister Berdi's friends that no one had been in contact with her for almost a week. She is single, independent and travels a lot. As it turned out, she had had a brain aneurysm on July 1 or thereabouts and we found her in her bathroom on the morning of July 9, after some construction workers helped us by climbing in an upstairs window that was slightly ajar, and opening the front door. Of course, an ambulance was called and she was diagnosed with a stroke and eventually sent to Redwood City Kaiser.

As we pieced together the story and had to hurdle many problems, I realized that we all should have a plan in place for emergencies, even moreso if you live alone. I also have some suggestions for friends, neighbors or family as to when to call for a welfare check on someone.

For calling for a welfare check

1. Yes, the police or fire department will have to break in to see if anyone is inside in distress but better safe than sorry, especially if you feel like something is off.
2. If the newspapers are stacking up outside the door for many days and your phone calls or knocking don't meet with success, call the police for welfare check. Her neighbor was calling her without success as he



picked up her paper everyday for 8 days and set it inside the gate.

3. If you feel uneasy about a phone call or face to face conversation with someone and you subsequently get no answer on the phone, call for welfare check. The last conversation Berdi had was on an evening about Wednesday or Thursday, July 2 or 3, where she was reported to not "sound like herself." Subsequent phone calls went unanswered so finally the round about email to contact her family. We are all reluctant to bother the resident, but it could save their life.

Suggestions to prepare for emergencies:

1. Set up a daily phone-buddy system with friends, neighbor, anyone so that someone knows that you are safe.
2. Leave a set of house keys with a trusted person not living in your household,
3. Let someone know whom to call in an emergency, even if it is an out of town relative. In this case, a neighbor could have called us sooner when getting no response to phone calls or knocks.
4. Have a method set up with someone to leave your computer passwords, user names, etc. We could not access any of the financials until she recovered sufficiently to give permission to include into banking information, We had no financial information so we were concerned about her taxes, her bills, her whole financial situation as the bills started coming.
5. Place someone close as a secondary on your bank account, a sibling, a child.
6. We all treasure our privacy, but in this case, it was stressful and an added burden to your loved ones who will have to help you if you are incapacitated

I hope that no one ever needs these suggestions and your family is not faced with an emergency situation, but please do take care of these safety precautions just in case.

In Gassho,

Terry Oshidari

---

# ORGANIZATION NEWS

---

## BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION BARBARA SASAKI

---

BWA welcomes new member Janet Chou. Hope you will enjoy your time as a member and become involved in the activities.

Karen Hironaga, Social Welfare co-chair sent 2 cards last month. If you know of anyone that would benefit from receiving a card, please let Karen know.

Diane Fujioka, membership chair, reported 134 paid members. If you have not paid your dues for 2020, please so do as soon as possible.

The BWA Board decided to donate to Obon at Home.

Eshinniko/Kakushinni/Lady Ohtani/Past BWA Members' Memorial Service will be on Sunday, November 15, 2020 on the Betsuin's YouTube channel and will be combined with the 10:10 AM Service. Reverend Dr. Mutsumi Wondra from Orange County Buddhist Church will be the guest speaker at this service. A reminder will be sent to all members in mid-October. Hope to you see you online.

Because of the pandemic and shelter-in-place, our activities are currently either cancelled or postponed. Our BWA board members have agreed to extend our terms for another year and to continue in our current positions. However, long time board member, Hisako Tao, will not be able to remain on the board. We thank her for being an active, generous, and fun-loving member of the board for an impressive 22 years! We wish her well. Mrs. Tao, we hope to see you at some of our events when we can meet and socialize again!

We welcome new board member, Moschel Kadokura. For years, Moschel has been our liaison with the county health department and Aemtek Labs, testing the pH both for our chirashisushi fundraiser and Obon. Because of her efforts, we did not have to worry about refrigerating our sushi.

Unfortunately, there will be no General Meeting this year due to Covid-19, social distancing, and the current ban on large indoor gatherings.

Joyce Iwasaki is organizing our annual See's Candy fundraiser and will have more details soon. This fundraiser will benefit members attending the 2023 World Buddhist Women's Convention in Kyoto, Japan. See her flyer elsewhere in the Dharma.

BWA gives a big thank you to Lotus Preschool for the drawings, video and well wishes to BWA members. It brought smiles and sunshine into our lives on a day when there was no sun—only orange/gray skies.

BWA would like to acknowledge and give a grateful thank you to the generous donations received this past month:

1. Linda Iwasaki and Isao and Hanaye Baba in memory of Mollie Nakasaki
2. Linda Iwasaki in memory of Alyce Morita
3. Phyllis Sugimoto and Elaine Sugimoto Jones in memory of Mary Sugimoto.

JR YBA  
KAYLEE OKAMOTO

---

On September 6th we participated in the 70th Annual Southern District Conference, which was held virtually this year. We combined with the members from Mountain View and Salinas chapters. We also met other young Buddhists from Southern California and Hawaii. Guest speaker Rev. Jon Turner was invited to come speak about the theme of the conference, "Sharing the Dharma Virtually." A highlight event was participating in a scavenger hunt that took place from August 31st-September 4th. During the scavenger hunt, members worked together to brainstorm and complete a list of 9 different activities. Members from our Coast District team got to know each other better by making pillow forts and recreating Disney scenes together.

College Prep Workshops will begin starting in mid-September. Seniors had their workshop on September 19th. The Juniors workshop will be on October 17th, and Freshmen/Sophomores will have theirs on November 7th. A big thanks to Mrs. Gerry Watanabe for volunteering to lead the College Prep Workshops again this year!

---

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

---

A special Thank You to Michiko Itatani and Carolyn Itatani Walhler for their generous monetary donation to the Archive Committee.

Another thank you to the volunteers who are redoing the gardens in front of the Betsuin office. A special question was asked; is there any photos of the garden right after the building was completed a few decades ago? Stepping stones were found when pruning the bamboo next to the statue of Shinran and no one could remember them ever being there.

A special thanks to Sus Ikeda who I see many mornings by himself pulling weeds from the garden in front of the Nokotsudo. I'm sure many other people also quietly help out at the Betsuin. To them I also give a thank you.

While we all are spending more time at our homes, please look at your family albums and identify the people and events. Will your children and grand children know who or why they are in the pictures?

Bob Nakano for the Archive Committee

---

SANGHA CRAFTERS  
BETTY KINOSHITA/TOMI IMOKAWA

---

Last time we had a gathering was 7 months ago. Hope things will improve in the next few months. Picked up some completed fleece from Joyce Morihiro, she has moved to her childhood home near the Temple. Hope I can pick up in November from all of you who have completed projects. Project Linus has opened up a little. Thanks for your diligence during this trying time. Stay well !!

Any comments, suggestions, ideas, recommendations: [Bettysjc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Bettysjc@sbcglobal.net) or [GeorgeTomi@yahoo.com](mailto:GeorgeTomi@yahoo.com)

GIRL SCOUT TROOP 61302  
RINA, MARISSA, LAUREN, ASHLEY, HAILEY, AND HANNAH

---

**Food... Sow What?**

We are Girl Scouts (Ashley H., Hailey H., Lauren G., Rina M., Hannah K. and Marissa P.) from Troop 61302 and we chose the Sow What Journey as our second Journey to complete in order to be able to begin our Gold Award. During our Journey, we volunteered at Sacred Heart, toured the Shuei-Do Manju Shop in Japantown, and had a video conference with a food scientist to learn more about food waste, planting seasons, eating locally, food labels, and nutrition. We have all learned so much in this Journey and if we can change the way 1, 5, 10, or 20 people think about food, we feel we have been successful. Please enjoy our information pamphlet on the San Jose Buddhist Church website.

<http://www.sjbetsuin.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Troop-61302-Sow-What-Take-Action-Project-FINAL.pdf>

CUB SCOUT PACK 611  
WES TAO

---

Cub scouting this past year has been a challenge due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As of March, all of our physical meetings and events were cancelled. Despite Sheltering in Place and not being able to meet physically, scouting continued with virtual Den and Pack meetings. The Scouts did a great job completing their rank advancement requirements at home. The year concluded with a Virtual Arrow of Light Awards Ceremony for seven of our outgoing Cub Scouts.

We are still faced with challenges as we begin a new year of scouting. Despite having to start the year virtually, we are up to the task of creating an engaging program for the kids. Our first Den Meetings are scheduled to start on Sept 11, 7 PM. It's not too late to join! We are currently accepting youth from K - 5th grade. If interested in learning more about Pack 611, please contact [pack611cubmaster@sjbetsuin.org](mailto:pack611cubmaster@sjbetsuin.org)

Our annual Popcorn fundraising drive is happening now! Popcorn sales help to support pack activities, such as Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Dinner, Scout Olympics, etc. Cubs would normally be doing "Show and Sells" in front of the Buddhist Church during Dharma service, but due to COVID-19 that is no longer an option. Instead, Pack 611 is offering ONLINE orders of Popcorn with **FREE drop-off delivery** courtesy of the Cub Scouts. If you would like to place an order, please click on the following link. <https://bit.ly/3hrEKj8>. We appreciate your support!



## QIGONG CLASS OF OCTOBER

---

As we continue to shelter in place, Masa will continue his Zoom Qigong classes. Here is his October, 2020 schedule, offered Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, from 9:30-10:45 AM. His fee is \$5. per person, per class. You can pay through his PayPal link or by check to his office. There is still room for family & friends so feel free to share his Zoom link.

PayPal link - [Qigong Class](https://paypal.me/pools/c/8obqTn8gSh) (<https://paypal.me/pools/c/8obqTn8gSh>)

Masa's office address: 1157 Saratoga Ave # 206, San Jose, 95129

Questions about Qigong movements can be directed to the instructor,

Masa Naito, [kikoh4000@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kikoh4000@sbcglobal.net)

Other questions or concerns can be sent to Jeanne Nakano, [jmnakano@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmnakano@sbcglobal.net)

Stay healthy! Enjoy Qigong!

Masanori Naito is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Qigong Class of October

Time: Oct 2, 2020 09:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Mon, Wed, Fri, until Oct 30, 2020, 13 occurrence(s)

Oct 2, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 5, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 7, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 9, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 12, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 14, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 16, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 19, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 21, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 23, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 26, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 28, 2020 09:30 AM

Oct 30, 2020 09:30 AM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZwvdO2vrjkiGN1NmycpOOU8NwQwJ7UUM0sI/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGgrDguHdSXuBuORpw-AljCLO3ziHpHjY0MshL8ADB8TTauGPVzJZgoJe39](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/88234702829?pwd=VlltQVpjNHFMYms3VzRMRWNxa2lJdz09yKuGgrDguHdSXuBuORpw-AljCLO3ziHpHjY0MshL8ADB8TTauGPVzJZgoJe39)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88234702829?pwd=VlltQVpjNHFMYms3VzRMRWNxa2lJdz09>

Meeting ID: 882 3470 2829

Passcode: 692290

## Not ready to go vegetarian?

Try committing to a meat-free diet one or two days a week to decrease the resources you use up. According to [worldwildlife.org](http://worldwildlife.org), it takes about 750 liters of water to produce 1 kilogram of wheat, and it takes 100,000 liters of water to produce 1 kilogram of beef. That's a huge difference.

---

## GENERATION PICKERS - OCTOBER UPDATE

MIKE MORI

---

Thank you to all that have donated items to the Generation Pickers project. We've received a variety of items that are Picker's worthy. We've sold close to \$4000 of donations so far and we're just getting started! Here's what's sold:

Canon Digital Camera & Lenses

Stihl Chainsaw

Professional Microphone

Vintage HP Calculator from the 70s

Old Apple II Computer Accessories

Rare LEGO Professional kit new in the box

Heathkit Tube Stereo Amplifier

Excess Electronics Inventory from a Silicon Valley Tech Company

**And** we have a bunch of items that are ready to go, including:

Designer Handbags

Ladies Gold Rings & Necklaces

Fabulous Designer outerwear

Hollywood Collectables

Designer watches

Industrial Electronics

We're off to a good start, but we need a lot more "stuff" to reach our goal. Remember all proceeds benefit the

Betsuin's Generation Project. Check our flyer elsewhere in this newsletter. Help spread the word. Let's cleanup our closets, garage and drawers to help build facilities for the next century. **Don't wait - call, email or text us today!**

## GENERATION PICKERS

Call or text 408-316-4903

Email - [gophervalley@gmail.com](mailto:gophervalley@gmail.com)

---

## HELP WANTED

---

"We are seeking a nanny for our 15-month-old boy. Hours would be Monday through Friday, 7am to 4pm, in our house in San Jose (95117). Applicants should be fluent in English, CPR-certified, and have their own vehicle. Prior experience as a nanny is required. Our household (Mom, Dad, 15-month-old boy, and 12-year-old girl) is mindful of the current health and safety concerns, and we ask the same of those who visit our house. Vacation and PTO provided; salary commensurate with experience. For more information or to apply, please feel free to email ([tkubose@gmail.com](mailto:tkubose@gmail.com)) or call (650.539.8211)."

---

## FOR SALE

---

Oak Hill Memorial Park

Family plot in Japanese Garden area for sale (4 coffins or 8 urns) \$125,000 obo

Contact: [mikeyosh@gmail.com](mailto:mikeyosh@gmail.com)





San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin

# Keiro Kai at Home

Keiro Kai is a celebration to honor our elders.

Honor their contributions.

Honor their wisdom.

Honor their strength.

Please join us in celebrating  
this important part of our community.

**Saturday, November 21, 2020**

Online Presentation  
and  
Gift Delivery to Our Honorees

**Honoring all Betsuin members born in 1940 and before.**

We will be delivering gifts (no meal) to all registered Honorees on November 21 between 10am and 4pm.  
And we hope to include photo(s) of each Honoree in our Online Presentation posted on the church website.



**Honoree Participation Registration**  
**RSVP by November 7, 2020**

**RSVP (register) by email to [sjbc@sjbetsuin.org](mailto:sjbc@sjbetsuin.org) with all information listed in the form below**

**OR by mail (form below) to 640 N. 5th Street, San Jose, CA 95112**

**Please include photo(s), print or electronic, when replying.**

*Note: your choice of photo(s) is up to you; we suggest your favorite activity or family/friend memory.*

Name of Honoree: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I am not an Honoree but would like to donate towards this event: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Please fill out form with all contact information; checks made payable to San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin*

*You may also donate online through the Betsuin website: [www.sjbetsuin.org](http://www.sjbetsuin.org) and include 'Keiro Kai' in notes.*

**For more information, please call the church office at (408) 293-9292**





**JR. YBA WILL BE HOSTING COLLEGE PREP  
WORKSHOPS WITH MRS. GERRY WATANABE**

# **COLLEGE PREP WORKSHOPS**

**THE WORKSHOPS WILL BE ONLINE WITH  
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

**HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19  
1:00PM-3:00PM**

**HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17  
10:00AM-12:00PM**

**HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORES  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7  
10:00AM-12:00PM**

**PLEASE RSVP TO ASHLEY HASHIGUCHI  
(ashleyhashiguchi04@gmail.com)  
WITH YOUR NAME, PHONE #, # OF  
STUDENTS & # OF PARENTS**



# FREE Electronic Waste Collection Event

Community service event held by:

## Venturing Crew 611 Scouts BSA

When:

**Saturday  
October 17, 2020  
9am to 3pm**

Location: **note: NEW location**

**A&J Electronics Recycling  
763 Mabury Road, Unit 30  
San Jose, CA 95133**

**Due to county restrictions, we cannot  
accept donations at the SJ Buddhist  
Church Betsuin at this time.**

**All Wire and Cabling, Desktop PCs, Laptops, PDAs, Servers, DLP/CRT/Plasma/LCD/LED Monitors, Televisions, Printers, Mice, Keyboards, & Accessories, Copy & Fax Machines, All Audio & Video Players, Cell phones & Accessories, Electrical household appliances, and much more!!! (please, no large appliances or large office equipment)**

**\*\*\* Please review the list of acceptable items \*\*\***

Event Hosted By



Venturing Crew 611  
San Jose, CA



**[www.ajelectronicrecycling.com](http://www.ajelectronicrecycling.com)**

For more recycling information contact **A&J Electronics Recycling**  
At 408-490-4516 or email [ajelectronicsrecycling@gmail.com](mailto:ajelectronicsrecycling@gmail.com) CA#115816



**A&J Electronics**  
Recycling E-Waste

## Item we accept for recycling...

### • E-waste Items

- Monitors
- Televisions
- Desktop Computers
- Servers
- Laptops
- Hard Drives
- Flat Screens, LCDs, CRTs
- Cell Phones/Accessories
- Video Cameras
- Video Game Systems
- Clocks
- Stereos
- Satellite Boxes
- Cables, Ribbons, Wire
- Christmas Lights
- CD Drives
- DVD Drives
- Laptop Batteries
- Speakers
- Fax Machines
- Pagers
- Sound Cards
- Network Cards
- Paper Shredders
- Power Tools
- Scanners
- Sound Systems
- Telephone Systems
- Fans
- Radios/Receivers
- Vacuum Cleaners
- Small Printers
- Heat Sinks
- Typewriters
- Digital Cameras
- Keyboards
- Media
- Modems/Cards
- CD, DVD & MP3 Players
- Amplifiers
- RAM Chips
- PCI Boards
- Power Supplies
- Video Cards
- PDA's
- Mother Boards
- UPS Batteries
- Vehicle Batteries

### • Small Home Appliances

- Toaster
- Slow cooker
- Rice cooker
- Griddle
- Bread machine
- Pressure cooker
- Electric kettle
- Deep fryer
- Waffle iron
- Coffee maker
- Pasta maker
- Juicer
- Blender
- And More!!!

### Unacceptable Items

- Microwave
- Ovens
- Household Batteries
- Furniture
- Refrigerator
- Household Batteries
- Paint
- Video VHS Tapes
- Floppy Drives/Disks/CDs
- No Appliances
- Fluorescent Tubes
- Light bulbs
- Printer Cartridges
- Wood
- Washer and Dryer

# Support Cub Scout Pack 611



## Delivering Popcorn to your Doorstep!

Unfortunately due to Covid-19 Cub Scouts are not able to do “Show and Sells” in front of the Betsuin. As a way to get the delicious popcorn to families, Pack 611 is offering **LOCAL ONLINE** orders with **FREE delivery** courtesy of Cub Scouts.

Popcorn sales help to support pack activities, such as Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Dinner, Scout Olympics, etc.

To place an order, please click here: <https://bit.ly/3hrEKj8>

**Cheese Lover's Collection**  
Over \$25 to local Scouts\*  
Comes in a gift box.  
• White Cheddar Popcorn  
• Blazin' Hot Popcorn

**Salted Caramel Popcorn**  
Over \$17.50 to local Scouts\*  
Comes in a gift box.

**Blazin' Hot Popcorn**  
Over \$15 to local Scouts\*  
Comes in a gift box.

**White Cheddar Popcorn**  
Over \$15 to local Scouts\*  
Comes in a gift box.

**Unbelievable Butter Popcorn**  
Over \$10 to local Scouts\*  
Comes in a gift box.

**Popping Corn Jar**  
Over \$10 to local Scouts\*  
Comes in a gift box.

**Caramel Corn**  
Over \$7 to local Scouts\*  
Comes in a gift box.

**SUPPORT SCOUTS WITH A DONATION TO OUR AMERICAN HEROES!**  
Send a gift of popcorn to our first responders, military men and women, their families, and veteran organizations.

**Donation Levels**  
\$50 \$30

We appreciate your Support!!

San Jose Buddhist Women's Association

**See's  
CANDIES**



2020 See's CANDIES Fundraiser

*Just in Time for Winter Holiday Gifts*

More details and opportunity to buy from BWA members coming soon

All proceeds will go towards members to attend  
the 2023 World Buddhist Women's Convention in Kyoto Japan

Thank you for supporting the SJ BWA!





## **In-kind donations to benefit the San Jose Buddhist Church Generations Campaign**

This is the Betsuin's version of the American Pickers show. We're looking for those lost treasures...things that you've kept for years that no one in the family really wants but are too good to toss, sell at garage sales or donate to the Goodwill. Donate these treasures to the Generation Pickers campaign and have our team of experts clean up, list, sell and ship your item on Ebay. All proceeds will help fund our Generations Education Building and Campus.

### **How it works:**

1. Contact our Generation Pickers team and let us know what you have. We will give you an honest evaluation of what we think your item is worth. If we determine that it's something we can handle, you can drop off at the church office or we can pick up the item(s).  
*Note: determination is based on estimated value (\$100+) and ability to ship.*
2. We will list the item(s) on the online marketplace - primarily Ebay.
3. When sold, all proceeds go directly into a Generations Education Building and Campus account.

### **What are good items to donate?**

**Newer Smartphones** - for example, Apple Iphone 7s or later, Samsung Galaxy S8 or newer

**Cameras and lenses** - High-quality film and digital cameras like Nikon, Canon, Leica, Hasselblad, etc.

**Audio/stereo equipment** - Marantz, Phase Linear, MacIntosh, AR, SAE, Scott, B&O, tube equipment and more

**Collectibles & Vintage items**

**Vintage Technology** - Pre 1980 computers, 1st Generation Iphones, vintage video games, HP calculators, etc.

**Sports Memorabilia** - baseball/collector cards, autographed balls, autographed photos, etc.

**Jewelry** - High quality, collectable, gold and silver.

**Watches** - High-end or vintage

**Fashion accessories** - vintage or designer handbags, coats, wallets, etc.

**Collectible shoes** - Shoes in unused to excellent condition. Sneakerheads clean out your closets!

**Professional Tools** - Pro engineering, scientific, construction, technical, manufacturing, and more

**Professional Audio Equipment** - Microphones, rack equipment, quality musical instruments, etc

### **Questions?**

Contact **Mike Mori** at **(408) 316-4903** (call or text) or via email to **[gophervalley@gmail.com](mailto:gophervalley@gmail.com)**

**Watch for Generation Pickers updates every month in The Dharma!**

**Note: We cannot accept unscheduled drop-off of items.  
Please contact our team via phone or email prior to donating.**

# WE SHINE WE VOTE



<https://sccshine.eventbrite.com>



This election season, the County of Santa Clara Office of Women's Policy and the Japantown Community Congress of San Jose invite you and your family to join us for an all ages virtual event as we launch into early voting. Streaming straight to your screen for one hour of community solidarity in the time of Covid-19, we ask that you bring a light and join us as

## *We Shine ~ We Vote*

Shining the light on those who came before us as we continue fighting forward, we honor the lives of those who fought for our right to vote by exercising the hard-won right to vote.

We vote because we can. We vote in protest. We vote to protect our present. We vote in honor of the past. We vote to protect our rights. We vote for a future. We vote as allies.



**When:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020

**Time:** 7pm – 8pm

**Where:** Zoom, link will be sent to registrants

**Registration:** <https://sccshine.eventbrite.com>



Silicon Valley Asian Pacific Film Festival

# Re-Connect *Online*

[svapfilmfest.eventive.org](http://svapfilmfest.eventive.org)

**October 2 - October 10, 2020**

*In these challenging times the urgent call to re-connect with others is vital to the wellbeing of our community. The Silicon Valley Asian Pacific FilmFest is committed to connecting – to share, support and comfort - by offering up a potpourri of films, dialogue, music and cultural entertainment that showcases the rich diversity and cultural contributions of Asian Americans.*



### **3 Premieres**

*I Will Make You Mine - Opening Night  
Challenged – International Division  
Evergreen – Young Artist Division*

### **70 + Films**

*Features • Documentaries • Shorts  
33 Women Directors*

### **20+ Categories**

*Visit website for topics, titles,  
genres, ethnicities*



### **4 Live Panels**

*Opening Night – I Will Make You Mine  
Stories with Power  
Health & Wellness in the Time of Covid  
Evergreen*


### **Encore Film Series with Q&A**

*2019 Sold Out Shows, Past Favorites*



### **CATS Artists Interview Series**

*Food • LGBTQ+ • Health/Youth •  
Health/Caregivers • Get Out the AA Vote  
(Weekly Series Preceding Festival)  
Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, Oct. 1*



*While we are not in a theater this year, we still have the opportunity for you to meet the filmmakers, artists and musicians in our virtual, online festival.*

Silicon Valley Asian Pacific Filmfest is a Production of  
Contemporary Asian Theater Scene (CATS),  
a 501 (c) (3) non-profit.

