



the Dharma

San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin
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Betsuin Calendar of Events

Every Sunday @ 10:00am - Family Service via YouTube



We're Moving to .ORG!

The San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin's website is making the move from .com to .org to better represent the Betsuin's non-profit online presence. The website address will be www.sjbetsuin.org beginning Aug 1, 2021.

Update bookmarks on your computers, phones, and tablets today and stay connected!

Still Virtual

by: Gerald Sakamoto

This year our Hatsubon and Obon services were once again observed virtually. We have been away from the temple for such a long time; participating in services through Zoom and YouTube. As awkward and unfamiliar as we were with services using these media we adjusted and discovered opportunities that expanded participation. Rev. Rajan Hayashi, our guest speaker for our Obon Service, joined us virtually from his home in Virginia. He was able to speak at our service without having to spend two days away from his temple. The downside of this is we don't get to meet him personally. And he doesn't have the opportunity to see another part of the country.

As we continue to adjust to the precautions the pandemic has caused us to take, we are managing to find ways to continue to keep engaged. During Obon@Home Moichido, families gathered together virtually to dance, play games and eat. In some cases family members were spread out over great distances. Grandparents who could not travel under normal circumstances could watch and enjoy the activities.

We are starting to conduct more in-person services. Often the in-person service is conducted with Zoom. As we conduct the service in the Hondo, other family members and friends can participate through Zoom. Zoom participants can oshoko at their home obutsudan or simply gassho during the service. When possible we place a monitor in front of the family so they can see and interact with remote family members. One of the interesting experiences of virtual services is the remote interaction after the service. I usually leave Zoom open after the service while I clean up and put things away. It reminds me of how we used to gather and spend time catching up. Sometimes I leave the Hondo after cleaning up when I return the families are still chatting and enjoying a good time. Whether for otoki or in front of the Hondo or now virtually people sharing what's going on in their lives.

The convenience of virtual meetings has made attending meetings easier. There is no longer travel time required to attend meetings. If it would normally take fifteen minutes to drive to a meeting a round trip of a half hour is saved. For some attending a Board meeting the round trip time is one hour. We have time now to have dinner before walking into our Zoom rooms and joining a meeting just in time. The BCA Endowment Committee can convene with people from around the country without the travel time and the cost of travel and lodging. The kinds of meetings we participate in have all been affected. Whether study classes or seminars or planning how we think about meetings has changed and how we conduct these going forward will change.

Buddhism reminds us that everything is impermanent and of the deep connection we share with everything and everyone around us. We often think of change as either good or bad. Zoom meetings are convenient but there are more meetings because they are convenient. We can conduct services virtually and meet with family and friends we haven't seen for a long time but it would be better if we could meet in person. Our preferences cause us to think of something as good or bad. The pandemic has killed millions of people but it has caused us to use different means to reconnect with people around us. Those connections can remind us of how important our relationships with others are. Under these circumstances we may be reminded that our lives are supported by the life around us. The virtual call may be virtual but what we experience is a relationship that is real and meaningful. When we realize how much we are truly supported by the life around us we begin to recognize compassion that flows to us.

A special and different No. 1

by: Etsuko Mikame

When Sakyamuni Buddha was still alive, he had many disciples in his Sangha. When he called his disciples, he called them with their individual “No.1” point just like their nickname. For example, since Sariputra was the smartest and one of the top disciples, Buddha called him “Wise No.1.” If the disciple was great at preaching, Buddha called him “Preaching No.1.” These names were not only for the special and smart disciples, but every disciple equally had its own “No.1” regardless of the difference of each ability.

Suddhipanthaka was also one of Sakyamuni Buddha’s most famous disciples because he was known as the most foolish disciple who could not remember any gatha. He was dull by birth, unable to remember even his name. One day, Buddha found him crying and asked him kindly, “Why are you so sad?” Suddhipanthaka lamented, “Why was I born so stupid? I can’t even remember and understand the sutra.” “Cheer up,” said Buddha. “You are aware of your foolishness, but there many fools who think themselves wise. Being aware of one’s stupidity is next to enlightenment.” Then, Sakyamuni Buddha suddenly asked Suddhipanthaka, “what is your most favorite thing to do?” Suddhipanthaka seemed to be a little surprised to hear his question, but Suddhipanthaka answered, “I love cleaning.” Then Sakyamuni Buddha handed Suddhipanthaka a broom and told him that he did not need to attend any gathering or chanting. He just had to sweep the yard everyday while humming just two words, “Sweep and clean.” Although he couldn’t understand the meaning of the phrase, and was almost about to forget the phrase, he continued the task every day for years. One day, he rushed to the Buddha, and said, “I finally understand the meaning of the phrase: “Sweep and clean” means to sweep off the dirt of my mind and clean the dust of my mind.” Sakyamuni Buddha was so glad to hear his words and gave assurance of Buddhahood to him. After he attained Buddhahood, people started calling him “Cleaning No.1” with special respect. Nobody teased him as a foolish disciple anymore.

Sakyamuni Buddha never abandoned Suddhipanthaka as a dull disciple, but Buddha acknowledged Suddhipanthaka’s strong point as his only No.1. Sakyamuni Buddha’s genius was to find someone’s unique ability. Not because Sakyamuni Buddha was enlightened, but he was never hindered by a one-sided perspective.

Nowadays, we have the chance to interact with many people easily through social media. We can freely share pictures of our special moments in daily life and our own thoughts with others. And, at the same time, we can comment about them freely. If it is a positive comment or compliment, that’s good. But there are also a lot terrible words which could hurt someone else. If you look at things that people can’t do or their downsides, it is natural that we will hear or say the words that will hurt them or others.

When you see someone who seems superior to you, you might belittle yourself or sometimes feel jealous. When you see someone who seems weaker or inferior to you, you might be arrogant. As long as you compare yourself to others, your feelings about yourself will swing between good and bad.

There was no disciple who was incompetent including Suddhipanthaka among Sakyamuni Buddha’s disciples. Each one has its No.1 and is acknowledged as a Great, No.1 Disciple by Sakyamuni Buddha.

We are just foolish beings or Bonbu. We can sometimes hurt others unintentionally by our words or behaviors, no matter how careful we are.

So, that is why it is important for us to learn the Buddha’s perspective and imagine how Sakyamuni Buddha sees the world and what kind of No.1 he will see in others and ourselves.

If you see only someone's bad side or you are fed up with everything in this world, remember that We, each other, just may not have realized one's No.1 yet. Buddha's special perspective will help us to see the world and find our own No.1 and someone's No.1 at any time. Buddha equally accepts everyone as one's only No.1. Each one of us is a special and different No.1.

Post Obon

by: Steve Onishi

Hard to believe, but Obon 2021 is in the books! This was only possible because of the tremendous efforts of the Obon committee to conceive of, prepare for and conduct the entire weekend long program. This program consisted of two distinctly separate events. Saturday was our "Sangha Summer" program which consisted of producing about 1,500 take-out bentos and provided an opportunity for a few Sangha members to eat and visit with friends while also viewing some live entertainment. Sunday was our "Obon@Home Mō Ichido" event which was our live virtual online event that could be viewed by everyone. This consisted of live interviews along with pre-recorded videos on many subjects including some of the Sangha Summer entertainment from the prior day.

So, what did I learn from Obon 2021? I learned that our Sangha remains strong and vibrant...even through this pandemic. When this idea of producing take-out bentos was mentioned, many people stepped up to build upon the idea. This was obviously different from our usual event and required a lot of "thinking outside of the box". There was tremendous enthusiasm throughout the Sangha to volunteer to help in anyway that they could. And then to hear such positive comments from participants, both volunteers and attendees. I know that it brought smiles to many, especially some of our more senior members!

Unfortunately, due to the current conditions, we could not have the "full blown" Obon that we are all used to. But we are getting closer! From a normal Obon in 2019, to no Obon in 2020, to a partial Obon in 2021...we are heading in the right direction. So, continue to do your part to end this pandemic and we hope to have a full blown Obon celebration in 2022!

Once again, many thanks to all of the volunteers that helped to make this a great event!

In Gassho,
Steve

Japanese Article

by: Etsuko Mikame

はづき
葉月だより



*日本語には元をたどれば仏教語に通じ
る言葉がたくさんあります。今月は
「観察」という言葉をご紹介します。

観察く仏教のモニタリングく

「自然を観察する」「子どもの行動を観察
する」「動物の生態を観察する」

「観察力が鋭い」「観察日記をつけよ
う」など、観察は物事をくわしく見て調べ

ること、物事のありのままの現象を
客観的に、注意深く見きわめることを

意味する日常語です。日本のテレビ番組の
中には、普段ではあり得ないような場面を

設定し、その時に人間がどのような行動を
するのか観察する人気番組があります。

仏教では「カンザツ」と読み、仏様の
智慧によって対象を正しく見きわめるこ
とを意味します。

お釈迦さまは、自分を含めた世界を観察思
惟（ありのままにみて深く考えること

を）し、そのあるべき姿を説かれたと言わ
れています。

七高僧の一人、中国の善導大師の書かれ
た『観経疏』には浄土に往生するため
の五種の正しい行い（正行）について説か

れています。その中に「観察正行」があ
ります。一心に浄土の阿弥陀仏や、その

浄土の有様を事細かく心を注いで、それ
を観察して、常に思うことと説明されてい

ます。そのほかにも、観察という語はお
経の中に多く出てきます。

人間の世界に生きている私たちは、「あ
れが好き」「これが嫌い」と物事を自分の

価値観にどうしても偏って観察してしま
いがちです。本来、観察は仏様の智慧の

はたらきに出遇って行うものですから、
物事を見るときには、私情や主観を交えな

いで、あるがままに、観察していくことで
す。私自身もどうして偏った見方をして

しまいます。だからこそ、仏教の教え聞
かせて頂く中で、ご一緒に少しずつ物の

見方や心も整えて頂きましょう。

合掌（三瓶 悦子 拜）



President's Message

by: Steve Onishi

Happy summer everyone! I hope that everyone is enjoying their summer as well as can be expected. This is usually a relatively quiet time around the temple. It's that period of time after recuperation from Obon and before preparation for the Fall once again. That quiet period of time where we can remember and reflect upon family and friends that have passed before us with our Hatsubon and Obon services. I hope that you were able to join us for our Obon service this year as the guest speaker was Rev. Nariaki Hayashi from the Ekoji Buddhist Temple in Virginia. Many of you may remember that he spent some time with us here at the Betsuin when he first came to the US for his initial exposure to life here in the States. He stayed in the "little cottage" across the street from the temple and trained under Rinban Sakamoto. As you may or may not know, the BCA is experiencing a shortage of ministers across the country. It is very exciting to see these new, young ministers come from Japan to help the BCA to continue to flourish. We, here at the Betsuin are extremely lucky to be the recipient of one such minister ourselves....Rev. Mikame!

Obon 2021 was certainly a memorable event! For obvious reasons, we could not hold our normal Obon festival. We had decided to have a much smaller "private" event for members of our Sangha only. This was the only way to ensure the safety of all participants...volunteers and attendees alike. The good news is that the event went off without a hitch (at least major hitches!) and those that were able to attend in-person were treated to a uniquely "Obon" type of experience. The same could be said of the many volunteers that came out to assist. Our Obon@Home Mō Ichido was also a great success! In case you missed it, you can still see it on our YouTube channel. There are some great videos of temple members and their experiences in past Obons, as well as videos of some of our in-house Obon activities from the day before. The skills of the entire video team to be able to create, produce and direct this type of work is quite impressive!

Thanks to everyone that helped to support our Betsuin by participating in both the Sangha Summer and Obon@Home Mō Ichido. This is our single largest annual fundraising event every year. The same is true for most other temples. If you can, I hope that you will help to support these other temples in their own efforts for Obon. Additionally, the Watsonville temple will be hosting the 2021 Coast District Nembutsu Family Conference in October of this year. Please see information in this issue of the Dharma. Remember, we are all part of the same Sangha.

A few weeks ago, I would have assumed that we were headed to a re-opening this Fall. Now, it is not so clear cut with the growth of the delta variant of COVID-19. We will be meeting to discuss re-opening plans soon. Stay tuned. In the meantime, get those vaccines and remain vigilant as you get out and about and enjoy the rest of the summer.

In Gassho,

Steve

Editor's Message

by Sally Idemoto

Another virtual Obon has been successfully put together by our Betsuin experts. Unfortunately, with the continued pandemic, we are having to think of various ways to continue with the church events.

Once again, our two hosts, Dennis Akizuki and Jeff Ota, were very good at presenting the Obon program. They are a good team.

Watching the various events of past Obons, especially the ABA group's Tempura making, brought back memories of standing in a long line waiting to buy their delicious food.

Cooking tempura is not easy. Preparing all of the vegetables and cooking in the heat is hard work. But enjoying the food is so wonderful.

The odori dancing in the gymnasium with Reiko Iwanaga and her dancers were nice and fun to watch.

What was impressive to me were all of the different taiko groups. I guess that a lot of the groups were made up of students in various colleges. The different presentations were interesting with a lot of enthusiasm and action which is what taiko is all about.

It is always good to see Rinban Sakamoto and Reverend Mikame with their short sermons. We look forward to when we can go back to the temple to our normal services.

So, as we continue to do our best in whatever way we can to live each day of the pandemic, let us take good care and enjoy each day the best we can until things are back to normal.

In Gassho,

Sally Idemoto

COVID-19 Update

by: Randy Suzuki

We're continuing to operate more cautiously than the State and County guidelines; the Betsuin is adhering to the following guidelines and capacity limits. We're resuming in person office hours on weekdays and weekends.

Office Hours & Guidelines

- Weekday Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30am-5:00pm
- Weekend Office Hours: Saturday and Sunday 8:30am-4:30pm
- Highly encourage advance notice for in person visits
- You may be asked to wait outside if we're helping other visitors.

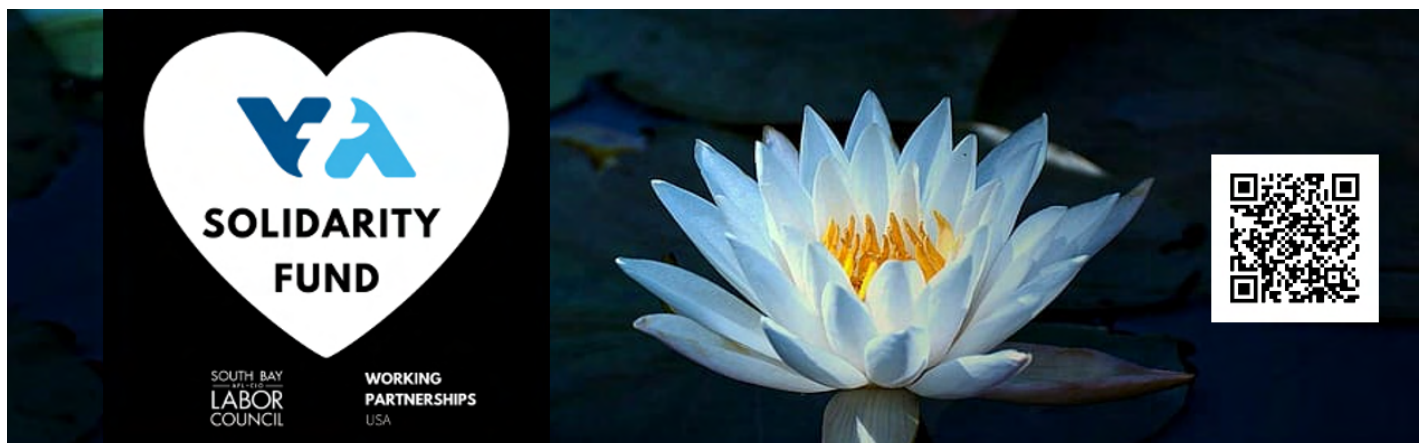
Service/Ceremony Guidelines

- Sunday services and special holiday services will remain virtual through the summer.
- Offering in person Hondo (Temple) weddings, funerals and memorial services limited to 100 attendees plus the officiating minister(s).
- Virtual memorial and funeral services are available as an option or to supplement in person services.
- No contact receiving lines are required.
- No Otoki/Refreshments are allowed at this time.
- The Nokotsudo and Betsuin office is open by advance appointment on weekdays and weekends; we'll do our best to accommodate walk-in visits.

To schedule services or make appointments the office staff can be reached by email (sjbc@sjbetsuin.org) or by phone (408-293-9292). We're here to help as much as we can. If we're not able to answer your phone call, please leave us a message.

We'll revisit our reopening capacity on a monthly basis. We're not completely out of the woods and remember everything we learned during the pandemic. Everyone is experiencing life outside their homes and getting back into the world together. Friendliness and courtesy will make excursions safe and enjoyable. Be safe and well!

In Gassho,
Randy Suzuki



San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin Disaster Relief Fund Partners with Working Partnerships USA for the VTA Solidarity Fund by Joyce Iwasaki

The San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, its members, families and friends extend our compassion and heartfelt concerns to the VTA gun violence victims, co-workers and colleagues, families, and public transit users for the May 26, 2021 tragedy. We join the Working Partnerships USA VTA Solidarity Fund with contributions to help with the needs of those who have been impacted. You can make your donations using the special link, which you will find below. Or you may mail in your contributions using the information also included below.

The San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin Disaster Relief Fund is partnering with Working Partnerships USA (a 501c(3) organization) to donate funds to the VTA Solidarity Fund which was formed after the May 26, 2021 mass shooting at the VTA light rail yard in San Jose.

The VTA Solidarity Fund is governed by an Oversight Committee which includes labor partners, including the victims' unions ATU Local 265 and AFSCME Local 57, and representatives for the victims' families in order to equitably distribute the funds raised. The Oversight Committee will assess the varied needs of those who have been impacted and how the funds will be distributed. There are individual GoFundMe's and funds started by other individuals and organizations, including the ATU Disaster Relief Fund to cover the needs of the victims, families, and other witnesses/workers impacted by this tragedy. The Fund that Working Partnerships manage will not charge an administrative fee for donations (but there is a credit card transaction fee of about 3% for online donations) or use any donated money from the fund for overhead. There is no fee for donations made by check.

During the Betsuin's Executive Board meeting on June 3rd, the Executive Board authorized \$2500 from the Disaster Relief Fund and is appealing to our Sangha and friends to join this effort with personal donations. You may use the special Betsuin donation link below, or you may write a check payable to Working Partnerships USA and mailed to Working Partnerships USA, VTA Solidarity Fund, 2302 Zanker Road, San Jose CA 95131. If sending in a check, please indicate you are part of the San Jose Betsuin's Sangha, families and friends for tracking purposes. Please make your contributions by August 31, 2021.

Special Betsuin Donation Link: https://act.wpusa.org/vta_victims_support_fund?recruiter_id=93345
For questions or concerns, please contact the Disaster Relief Committee at: DisasterRelief@sjbetsuin.org

About Working Partnerships USA

Working Partnerships USA is a community organizing and public policy nonprofit that works closely with the labor movement. We run a program called Union Community Resources that provides financial assistance, information, and support referrals when union members and others in our community face tough times. During crises like this, we scale up the program to provide additional support. After the tragic shooting at the VTA light rail yard, we partnered with the South Bay Labor Council to create this fund.

About the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin Disaster Relief Fund

The Betsuin Disaster Relief Fund was established by the Board of Directors in 2017 with a committee comprised of Sangha members that is guided by processes and procedures. The committee appeals to Sangha members, families and friends to donate to specific disasters or to the program in general. Osaisen (offerings) collected at services are earmarked for this fund as well.

Since 2017, the Disaster Relief Fund has donated to the following:

2017	Santa Rosa City Schools District faculty and staff who lost their homes in the Sonoma County Tubbs Fire.
	Kids Meals Houston where Hurricane Harvey devastated the area.
2018	The Boys and Girls Club of Puerto Rico who incurred devastation from Hurricane Maria.
	Puna Hongwanji Mission of Keaau Hawaii to help rebuilding efforts incurred by the Kilauea Volcano eruption.
2019/20	Two Hongwanji Temples in Chiba Prefecture for the devastation incurred by Typhoon Faxai.
2021	Higashi Hongwanji Temple of Los Angeles for the property vandalism repairs.



<http://www.discovernikkei.org/en/journal/2021/7/13/rinban-kyoshiro-tokunaga/>

The Karma of Nations: the story of Rinban Kyoshiro Tokunaga

By Jonathan van Harmelen / 13 Jul 2021

Flipping through an issue of *Men's Health* magazine, one usually expects a combination of articles and advertisements on healthy living and positive thinking. As part of my previous research on Buddhist Reverend LaVerne Sasaki, I couldn't help but notice a headline from the November 1999 issue of *Men's Health* that stood out. It was entitled "Holy High Roller Wins! Big Buddhist payoff!" I eagerly leafed through the pages of the article to see what the payoff of Buddhism was said to be, expecting to find a long article on the benefits of mindfulness and Buddhist teachings. Instead, I found something completely different: an interview with San Jose Rinban Kyoshiro Tokunaga, eighty-one years old, who had won \$27,000 at the Reno slot machines.

The article began by commending Reverend Tokunaga on his past luck, which his family contended was born out of karma accumulated by virtuous actions over the years (though selective memory may have played a role in it). It then turned to an interview with the aged Tokunaga, who stated that he was less successful on his latest visit, but added, "sometimes you win by losing." In offering justification for this aspect of Buddhist philosophy, he told a particular story from his own life:



Photo courtesy of Tetsu Tokunaga.

A: I'll tell you a story. Friday, March 13, 1942, was a very lucky day.

Q: Why?

A: That's when the FBI came after me. I went home to my apartment in Los Angeles and was opening the door with my key when the door opened from the inside. All my books were scattered on the floor. "Are you Mr. Tokunaga?" they asked. It was the first time anybody had asked my name in my own house. I got shipped to the county jail and then to a relocation camp in New Mexico. But they treated me fairly.

The journalist was puzzled to find any sense of "fairness" in such a story, but Reverend Tokunaga constantly emphasized that the tribulations of his own life, and his eventual success, demonstrated that karma would repay in the end.

While this story seems out of place for *Men's Health* Magazine, it captures a rare glimpse of one of San Jose's most revered Buddhist leaders and starkly reveals the tribulations faced by him and other Japanese Americans during internment. As a minister at San Jose's Betsuin and one of the lone Issei plaintiffs on the NCJAR's lawsuit that influenced the 1988 Civil Liberties Act, Kyoshiro Tokunaga's life story and philosophy on karma are important lessons for scholars and activists.

Kyoshiro Tokunaga was born in Tokyo, Japan. His birthday is unknown, though he gave his official birthdate as November 2, 1905. At age 13, he immigrated with his parents to the United States, and settled in Denver, Colorado. He attended the University of Denver, and taught Sunday school and Japanese language at the Denver Buddhist Church. He then moved to Southern California, later working for the San Diego Buddhist Church in 1938 and continuing his language studies. From 1939 to 1940, the young Tokunaga embarked on a tour of Japan and Japanese-occupied Manchuria, visiting family and seeing part of the Japanese empire.

Because he taught Japanese language and visited Japan on multiple occasions, the FBI arrested Tokunaga on March 13th, 1942. From there, he was sent for internment in numerous Department of Justice Internment camps, starting in the Los Angeles County Jail, and cycling through the Tuna Canyon Detention camp near Los Angeles, Santa Fe and Lordsburg Camps in New Mexico, and ultimately the Crystal City Internment Camp in Texas. Reverend Tokunaga later described his time in camp as having felt the experience to be "incredulous and inhumane." For four years, Tokunaga endured numerous hardships and near-death experiences that would shape his world views. He later shared his reflections on the camp years in another article, this time for the *San Jose Mercury* powerfully titled "There is a Karma for Nations." While on the train from Tuna Canyon to Santa Fe Detention Camp, he recalled one of a few silver linings from his internment:

When I was on the train, I felt very uncomfortable because I was ill and had a high fever. A black porter on the train, he came up and saw I was ill. He sort of squatted down near me and said in a very low voice, 'I can understand how you feel. We have been through this for hundreds of years.' Those few words were very comforting to me.

Despite these comforting words, for most of the war years Tokunaga feared for his life. Shortly after his transfer to the Lordsburg Camp near the U.S. - Mexico border in July 1942, two internees walking *en route* to the camp were shot by army guards on the grounds of "trying to escape." No autopsy was performed on the victims, and the local Lordsburg community raised money for the legal fees for the two accused soldiers' court martial.

Most of Tokunaga's sentence, however, was marked by assignment to labor details and finding ways to pass the time. While in camp, he developed a reputation as a home-run hitter on the camp's baseball team, according to fellow inmate Reverend Junjo Tsumura. When the internees were forced to clean the soldier's dance halls and latrines, Tokunaga joined a labor strike, resulting in confinement to barracks. Similarly, he was ordered to do menial labor while at the Santa Fe Camp, an experience that inspired another of Rev. Tokunaga's stories on karma for *Men's Health*:

One day, I was assigned to clean the officer's quarters. I was alone. So I took a screwdriver to the metal swivel chair. I loosened every screw so that it would collapse when the next person sat on it. I came back the next day and found that somebody - probably an American - had tightened every screw tighter than before. So I loosened them up again and eventually achieved my goal. I was young then.

Even after the conclusion of hostilities in September 1945, Tokunaga remained behind barbed wire. After stating in a hearing that he thought of returning to Japan, the Department of Justice sent him to the Crystal City Internment Camp in May 1946, where he remained for months until his final release.

The kindness from the black porter from his first trip had a strong impact later on him in life. When he was sent away from camp on a train to Denver, he recalled the cars being segregated between blacks and whites. Out of a sense of solidarity, he chose to sit in the black car. A conductor told him to sit in the white car, which immediately led him to think, "this is over for the Japanese but for the black people, they must come back from the war front, and they must return to different cars and different waiting rooms and different latrines."

Upon being freed from camp, he returned to Denver. The shadow of the war lay on him. "When I came back from the camp," he noted. "I found that all my books were gone from my apartment." He then moved to Los Angeles, where Tokunaga enrolled at the University of Southern California as a graduate student in the Philosophy Department. It was in San Jose that he met his future wife, Marietta Ando, in 1950. They were married a year later in San Jose.

In 1951, Tokunaga received an offer to work with the San Jose Buddhist Church as executive secretary, with the opportunity to become minister. Although he started religious studies at Stanford University, Tokunaga eventually dropped out (he later claimed Stanford lost his master's thesis). In 1959, Kyoshiro Tokunaga was appointed as a minister of the San Jose Buddhist Church. For years thereafter Reverend Tokunaga worked to both expand the congregation of the San Jose Church and to coordinate with other Buddhist churches in the Bay Area. In 1971, Reverend Tokunaga presented the opening benediction at Norman Mineta's inauguration ceremony as the first Nisei Mayor of San Jose, an act that Mineta would remember well.

Five years later, the San Jose Buddhist Church received the honorific title of 'Betsuin,' designating it as a head church for a region. Following the retirement of Rinban Ejitsu Hojo in 1977, Tokunaga was graced with the title of Rinban. As Rinban, Tokunaga served as the leading Buddhist leader for the larger city of San Jose, advisor to other Buddhist churches in the area, and as a diplomat for the Buddhist community to other religious denominations. After twenty two years as a minister at the San Jose Betsuin, Rinban Tokunaga retired in 1981. In celebration of his retirement, then-Representative Norman Mineta presented a tribute to Tokunaga before the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., calling him "a most respected clergyman among the Buddhist ministers in the United States and...a picture of man of compassion and humility."

Despite his retirement, Tokunaga remained active in the public sphere. One of his most noted achievements was serving during the 1980s as a visible supporter of William Hohri's National Council for Japanese American Redress (NCJAR). He later situated the redress movement in Buddhist terms: "As a Buddhist I believe there is a karma for nations as well as people. The American karma is the actions and deeds of the past. It is something we cannot escape." William Hohri, in turn, looked to Rinban Tokunaga for both spiritual guidance and for help in establishing better dialogue between Christians and Buddhists. Hohri described Rev. Tokunaga, like famed Manzanar activist Harry Ueno, as in their "Confucian prime: their seventies."

In 1986, Tokunaga agreed to be one of the plaintiffs listed on the NCJAR's class action lawsuit. Tokunaga was the only plaintiff who had been confined in the Department of Justice Camps. Although by then he was already eighty years old, Tokunaga felt that he still needed to speak out



Norm Mineta's tribute to Tokunaga on the House floor.

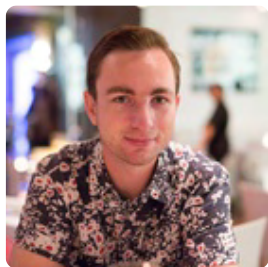
against injustices like those he had experienced at the hands of the Department of Justice. His part in the lawsuit earned the attention of the *San Jose Mercury*, who profiled him as a leader of the San Jose Japanese American community.

Rinban Kyoshiro Tokunaga passed away on June 27, 2001 at the age of 95. As a minister and Rinban, Reverend Tokunaga went beyond the call of duty as a servant of the community. As an individual, Kyoshiro Tokunaga was someone filled with charm who confronted the tribulations of life with jest. When I asked Reverend LaVerne Sasaki about his friendship with Reverend Tokunaga, he recalled that Rinban Tokunaga's lifelong dietary preference was daily San Jose tofu with Sake, and that he enjoyed Tanqueray Gin. Reverend Sasaki further recalled fondly their times golfing together, in particular Tokunaga's ten attempts of swinging from a sand trap, and what he called their contribution to the Buddhist community's role in supporting the Reno economy—the activity that so enthralled *Men's Health*.

Special thanks to Frank Abe, Susan Hayase, Curt Fukuda, LaVerne Sasaki, Gerald Sakamoto, Naomi Sims, Ken Tokunaga, and Tetsu Tokunaga for their help with this article.

**This article was originally published in the Nikkei West in May 2021 and updated for Discover Nikkei.*

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Author
Jonathan van Harmelen

 jonathan

Jonathan van Harmelen is currently a Ph.D student in history at UC Santa Cruz specializing in the history of Japanese-American incarceration. He holds a BA in history and French from Pomona College and an MA from Georgetown University. He can be reached at jvanharm@ucsc.edu.

Updated February 2020

Buddhist Women's Association

by: Barbara Sasaki

Karen Hironaga, Social Welfare Co-Chair, sent well wishes to 3 people since the last Dharma article.

Hope you were able to enjoy the Sangha Summer bento box. In it was some delicious tsukemono which was Kathy Sakamoto's recipe. BWA gives a special thank you to Kathy Sakamoto (aka Mrs. Rinban) for leading a small group of BWA members to make her Nappa Tsukemono and sliced oranges for the Sangha Summer bento boxes. Thanks to Kathy and others for the snacks and Janice Doi for the delicious beef curry.

Karen Akimoto, BWA President, sent us advance notice of the 2021 CD Nembutsu Family Conference which will be held via Zoom on Sunday, Oct. 24, 2021, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM with guest speaker Reverend Harry Gyokyo Bridge of the Oakland Buddhist temple.

At the conference there will be a one-hour breakout workshop for BWA members, "Buddhist Women in Leadership Roles". The panelists for this workshop are Rev. Naomi Seijo Nakano of the San Luis Obispo Buddhist Church and Guadalupe Buddhist Temple, San Jose Betsuin Rev. Etsuko Mikame, Janice Doi, San Jose BWA First Vice President, former Santa Clara County Deputy District Attorney and various leadership positions for the Federation of Buddhist Women's Association and Mountain View Mayor Ellen Kamei, former Girl Scout at the Betsuin. If you have any questions, for the panelists, please send them to Karen Akimoto at kakimoto@pacbell.net or to Sumi Tanabe at atanabe@hotmail.com. With all the leadership experience of the panelists, it should be interesting and educational workshop.

BWA gratefully acknowledges the generous donations from the following people:

- Michiko Itatani, Emi Tsutsumi, Leo Uchiyama, Linda Iwasaki, Janice Doi, Iyoko Katsuyoshi, George and Shizuka Hanada, Toyo Inouye, Robin Shinagawa and Lillian "Lee" Uyeda in memory of Irene Uchiyama
- Sharon Uyeda, Robin Shinagawa, Lillian "Lee" Uyeda, Hanaye Baba and Fred Kanzaki in memory of Lillian Kanzaki
- Michie Kimizuka in memory of Scott Kimizuka
- General donations from Karen Akimoto, Eileen Moriya, and Linda Iwasaki

Cadette Troop 60782

By Ann Chavez

Our troop spent the year meeting online, and our girls worked towards earning their Bronze awards all while navigating shelter-in-place, online meetings and distance learning in school. Our 6th grade girls kept positive attitudes, built resiliency and maintained their friendships.

I liked doing all the cooking projects. -Addison

This (virtual) year, we did many activities that were still very fun! For example, we did Thinking Day virtually, but it was still great with the activities that were sent home and we could explore independently and together on Zoom. -Ellie

I liked how the leaders could make everything fun and cool despite it being online. I loved all the art projects we got to do. And it's cool that the leaders could organize all the fun plans they had for us this year! -Jordyn

Although it was tough being in pandemic, I am thankful that I could still be with my Girl Scout troop online. -Kalea

During the pandemic, I liked doing the ramen badge and doing fun crafts, along with talking to some of my friends in breakout rooms. -Kasey

Something I enjoyed well doing Girl Scouts online was being able to do my Bronze award. Me and my partner found it very accessible to meet online versus in person. Being online has taught us how to use online resources and know what is a trustworthy source. Being online has made me closer with my Girl Scout sisters. -Kylie

Doing Girl Scouts virtually was a bit difficult at first, but after a few months, I think everyone got the hang of it. Though we weren't in person, it was still fun to do activities with friends. -Lexie

One thing I enjoyed about doing Girl Scouts virtually was that it was a new opportunity for us to persevere and learn more things as a Girl Scout! - Madisen N.

Although we unfortunately couldn't meet in person, I still had tons of fun with all our crafts. I especially enjoyed cooking ramen over Zoom with my troop. This year was challenging, but the leaders did the best they could and made this year the best they could. - Mikayla

I learned that even through Quarantine and Covid-19, bonding with your friends over it made maintaining friendships online easier. -Sara

This year I learned a ton about how to communicate online, and how to keep myself accountable for my own Girl Scout projects. Some of my favorite activities that we did this year include going on a night walk and debating my friends about things like the best Girl Scout cookie! -Summer

San Jose Jr. YBA

By Cassidy Yoneda

This summer we celebrated some exciting special events. In June, we said goodbye to our graduating seniors at the Baccalaureate Luncheon, which was held in person this year. It was so great to be able to see each other face to face and celebrate. We wish them luck in college and all their future endeavors! In July, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the board members, we all got to come together as a community and celebrate Obon in person, for the first time in 2 years! This year's Obon celebration, entitled Sangha Summer, was not quite like pre-Covid times, but some semblance of previous years and we are so grateful to gather with our friends and family. YBA volunteers participated in many areas such as chicken cleaning, beef skewering, imagawayaki making, construction, bento packing and distribution, table service, and more. The bento was delicious and we can't wait til next year where we can hopefully return to the Obon that we all know and love. Thank you to our YBA members that helped out and congratulations to our seniors!



Sangha Crafters

By Betty Kinoshita and Tomi Imokawa

Crafters remain on their break until September. It has been a hot summer and we hope everyone has been able to stay cool. The next gathering will be on Friday September 3rd at 11 a.m. Crafters will continue to exchange completed and to be done items in the parking lot. Will wait till the Temple reopens before going inside. Better to be safe than sorry!!! Hope the summer has gone well for you and yours. Does the Friday schedule work out? Let me know what you think?

Next gathering: Friday September 3rd, 11 AM parking lot.

Any questions, ideas, comment, suggestions: bettysjc@sbcglobal.net or GeorgeTomi@yahoo.com

EcoSangha

By: Rebecca Sparks

American's consumer culture conditions us to prioritize new over old. As technology continues to evolve at a rapid pace and planned obsolescence is built into our everyday lives, the disposable nature of items has only escalated. But that is not the only way we relate to objects. Hand-me-down or heirloom? Old or vintage? What makes the difference between an object that loses value or retains or even gains value as it ages? It comes down to two values; the condition of the object and our attitude toward it.

Collectables gain value because of their popularity, rarity, and condition. For example, the original Detective Comics Issue 27, the first appearance of Batman, sold for 10 cents in 1939. In 2020, one of the estimated 68 existing copies sold for 1.5 million dollars.

Family treasures are less concerned with popularity and more about family memories and connection. My collection of cake and pie tins were originally purchased by my grandmother. They were what my mom used to teach me to bake with and were passed along to me in good condition, and what I hope to pass along to my own son.

These are just two examples of attitudes that prioritize reusing instead of purchasing new things. What other attitudes can you think of that help take pressure off always buying new things?



Aloha Club

By: Kathy Sakamoto

A 'ohe lana nui ke alu 'ia

No task is too big when done together by all.”
(‘Olelo no ‘eau-Hawaiian Proverbs)

Aloha kākou~

The world is so big and yet not to someone who has seen it from the moon.
We are so small, but not to a baby who has to look up from crawling on the floor on hands and knees.

The world is smaller than we think. And, at the same time it is much larger than we think. There is so much more knowledge held in the roots of the trees, than in the hands of studied horticulturalists. They learn from the trees, not the opposite.

How fortunate we are that we can do things like plan trips or weed our plants. And maybe even plan a luau in the future? We have the means and if we are careful and lucky, we may be able to meet in person and cook, make music, and talk and eat! What the pandemic did bring was appreciation for the things we used to take for granted – like going to buy toilet paper and it being in stock. Like hugging your friends and family. Like having an in-person Obon Matsuri.

But what is the same are the basics of cause and effect, of life and death, of ego and humility. If I chant ‘E ho mai’...sincerely, will I be able to understand what I should do to do the right thing and follow the guidance that is surely there?

Just as we believe we are right or correct, the earth knows whether we are or not. Climate change is a reaction to we humans and the way we use the earth as we live. The human element is as bad as it is good. If we ask for guidance, will we get it? In Buddhism, the guidance has been given to us, 2600 years ago. Shinran told us that all we must do is be sincere and understand correctly and even then, despite ourselves, we will be okay. Amida Buddha assured everyone birth into the Pure Land.

But we are stubborn humans. Just like the ants that I battle in the kitchen or the cockroaches that swarmed the train wall that I slept next to on a pilgrimage to Lumbini, Nepal decades ago, I am stubborn. I will grow the ti plant even though our city water has fluoride in it and turns it yellow. I will search the internet to find the solution to the problem. As it turns out, calcium will counteract the fluoride. My organic tomato fertilizer contains calcium and helps the ti plant. I brought the ti plant here, so it is my responsibility to try my best to help it to live and thrive, right? It’s my kuleana. It’s a small kuleana, so it’s amazing how serious it seems it can be. But it’s huge when I see the bone of the ti plant leaf turning green again. In a very real way, it is as breathtaking as seeing the aurora borealis. Okay. Maybe not that breathtaking. My parents saw the aurora borealis, and they’d grown a lot of plants, and they said there was nothing to compare with the sight they saw in the sky. It was beautiful.

So, I will look at my ti plants and continue to think they are beautiful in my small life in the big world. And one day, we may have a luau and I may be able to bring real ti leaves for it. And one day, I may even be able to see the aurora borealis as my parents did so long ago and be amazed once again at how big the world can be to an insignificant human.

Mālama Honua
Namo Amida Butsu
~Aloha no~

Kathy

Generations Pickers

By: Mike Mori

Generation Pickers July 2021 Update

Generation Pickers is as busy as ever listing and selling donations on Ebay. Thanks to all that have donated or inquired about the program. If you're not familiar with the program. Generation Pickers accepts donations of high value items to resell on Ebay or other online venues. Ebay generously supports charities by eliminating most fees. That means that 97% of the monies received by selling your items go directly to the Betsuin's Generation campaign to replace the aging education building. So far this program has raised over \$22,000.00 for the Betsuin's second phase of the Generation campaign.

Here's some examples of what's been sold in the last few months. Akai tape deck, Fisher 500T receiver, Fendi purse, Dual Turntable, Apple II computer, Nahoku jewelry, Sony Beta recorder, Nakamichi tape deck, Pioneer laserdisc player, Seagate hard drive, Nikon FM film camera, Nikon lenses, Stihl chainsaw, Vintage video games/software, Snapon tools, brand new orthopedic shoes, and more.

So as you can see, we'll try to sell almost anything with a value of over \$100. The best items for this program should be in good condition and easily shippable. If you have any stuff of value laying around the house, just shoot us an email or give us a call. We'll be happy to discuss any item that might be good for our program. Please call/text Mike Mori at (408) 316-4903 or email at gophervalley@gmail.com.

I would like to thank the following people for their generous donations to Generation Pickers:

Nancy Mori	Emi Tsutsumi
Leslie Mune	Scott Asakawa
Evalyn Huynh	Fred Kawahara
Alvin Hironaga	Kaye Masatani
Gloria Yamauchi	Venture Crew 611
Jim Nagareda	Ji Rieden
Amy Mori	Phyllis Sugimoto
Norman Tanaka	

Qigong

By: Jeanne Nakano

Qigong classes via Zoom will continue thru August & September, 2021. During the pandemic, the Betsuin Board of Directors & Ministers have been careful to protect our safety and health. To help for our eventual safe return to the Betsuin, please be fully vaccinated.

Our Qigong instructor says, "It looks like Zoom's security has changed. You may be asked for your passcode." Passcode: 392360.

Masa's classes are 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 with a check to his Union City address. Feel free to invite your family & friends to try the class!

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

Masanori Naito's address: 33721 10th St., Union City, CA. 94587

Questions about Qigong movements can be directed to the instructor Masa Naito, kikoh4000@sbcglobal.net
Other questions or concerns can be sent to Jeanne Nakano jmnakano@sbcglobal.net

Passcode: 392360

Topic: Qigong Class 8/01 - 9/30

Time: Aug 2, 2021 09:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Mon, Wed, Fri, until Sep 29, 2021, 26 occurrence(s)

Aug 2, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 1, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 4, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 3, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 6, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 6, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 9, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 8, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 11, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 10, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 13, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 13, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 16, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 15, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 18, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 17, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 20, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 20, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 23, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 22, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 25, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 24, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 27, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 27, 2021 09:30 AM
Aug 30, 2021 09:30 AM	Sep 29, 2021 09:30 AM

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

Weekly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZU5fuCp2kpkHd3nPnDPNsrrTa1OzuZ-ay/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGprzljG92Xsx6ORpwcBYr4XevxmHpegqcOki_kDQRjTBDkPPB2M-NQCs3q

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81199192379?pwd=Y0dNWDZWaDZK3ZZeHowTUtRMVNEZz09>

Meeting ID: 811 9919 2379

Passcode: 392360

Donations

The San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin gratefully acknowledges your generous support.
June 19, 2021 to July 22, 2021

Donation

Shirley Kodani
Landon Yamaoka
Mineishi Trust
Yoko Fujita
Janice Oda
Nicholas Bridger
Terabe & Torrey Family
Gary Fujiura
Mike Kaku & La Donna Yumori-Kaku

In Honor of our 95th and 96th Birthday

Sus & Sadako Ikeda

In Honor of 2021 Golf & 2021 Obon

Anonymous

In Honor of Kevin Amemiya's College Graduation from University of California, San Diego

Deborah Amemiya

In Appreciation of their visit

Rev. Takashi & Kaori Miyaji

In Honor of Colin's Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Derek & Mari Fujikawa

Funeral

In Memory of Sakae Rose Yuki

Sakae Rose Yuki Family
Margaret Paylow
Tom, Carol, Mariko & Jason Yuki
The Penny Morimoto Family

In Memory of Roy Murotsune

Emi Tsutsumi
Alice Kadonaga
Fred & Miwako Yamada
Allan & Nancy Hikoyeda
Esther Murotsune & Family

In Memory of Sumiko Ichinaga

The Family of Sumiko Ichinaga

In Memory of Haruyo Nishimura

Iwao & Miye Shintani
Lois Matsumoto
Reiko Iwanaga & Ryan Iwanaga
Family of Haruyo Nishimura
Daniel & Josie Perez

In Memory of Warren Hanamoto

Shoso Hanamoto

In Memory of Lillian Nishimatsu

The Family of Lillian Nishimatsu
Joyce Wakayama
Gene, Lori, Bryan & Eric Nishimatsu

In Memory of Sumiko Santo

Sachi Ikeda
George & Shiz Hanada

Memorial

In Memory of Joan Ikeda Wilson

Cammie, Gary, Kylie & Kellen Uyeda
Dani Matsushima
Rosie Tokunaga
Miyo Shigemoto
Mary Tokiwa

In Memory of Uncle Bruce Kaita

The Abad Family

In Memory of Thomas Yamada

Mutsuko Yamada, Jason Yamada & Family,
Ann Yamada-Gotuaco & Family

In Memory of Minoru & Frances Higashi

Paul & Norma Uenaka

In Memory of Polly Sakamoto

Craig Sakamoto

In Memory of Irene Uchiyama

Stan Satake
Fred & Miwako Yamada
Reiko Iwanga

In Memory of Lillian Kanzaki

Robin Ohara
Teruko Sato
Kay and Glen Wada
Emile & Patricia
Steve & Janice Doi
Bob & Karen Miyamoto
Ronald & Pauline Sakamoto
Aki & Linda Iwasaki
Emi Tsutsumi
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Emiko Yamate
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Tomi Imokawa
Hisako Ando
Naomi Oda
Ken Furukawa & Joyce Yamamoto
Toyo & Ernest Inouye
Mary Tokiwa
Reiko Iwanaga
Cecil & Gloria Green
Gloria & Arthur Imagire
Tom & Carol Yuki
Joyce Morihoro
Dan & Dorothy Izumi
Grace Kobata
Carol Setoguchi
Rick Oka
Glenn & Caroline Kurimoto
Kevin & Dan

In Memory of Rose Iso

Christine Iso
Bob & Louise Hayamizu

In Memory of Raymond Tsutsumi

Robert Nishimura
Aki & Linda Iwasaki
Aiko Sato
Robert Y. Okamoto

In Memory of Shig Tokiwa

Mary Ando

In Memory of Ted & Tamako Kubota

Kubota, Wakatsuki, Jackson Families

In Memory of Ted K. Kubota

Margaret Kubota

In Memory of Terrie Mayeda

Allan & Nancy Hikoyeda
Michie Kimizuka

In Memory of Tsutako Tada

Joe Tada

In Memory of Stan & Ginger Tanaka

Michie Kimizuka

In Memory of Art Yotsuya

Ronald & Barbara Asai

In Memory of Yoshiko Ozawa

Steve & Susan Yamamoto & The Ozawa Families

In Memory of James K. Chizuye Dobashi, Isao Baba, Naoharu & Mary Satake

Amy Dobashi

In Memory of Marvin Aoki

George & Shiz Hanada

In Memory of Mits Hayashi

George & Shiz Hanada

In Memory of Kohta Takahashi

Atsuko Takahashi

In Memory of Jamie Mayeda

Sara Kashima and Kevin Chang and Family

Special Services

2021 Obon Service
Allan & Nancy Hikoyeda

In Honor of Obon Hondo Visit
Emiko Yamate

Hatsubon

In Memory of Chiyoko Nerio
Brit & Yoko Berglund

In Memory of Irene Uchiyama
George & Shizuka Hanada

In Memory of Mary Sugimoto
Diane Ikegami
Michael & Elaine Jones
Phyllis Sugimoto
Arthur & Robin Shinagawa
Richard & Lynne Sugimoto

In Memory of Wendy Tsutsumi
Glenn, Tracy & Kelly Tsutsumi

In Memory of Roy & Stella Tsutsumi
Glenn, Tracy & Kelly Tsutsumi

In Memory of Ray Tsutsumi
Glenn Tsutsumi

In Memory of Shig Tokiwa
Mary Tokiwa

In Memory of Keith Onishi
Steve & Linda Onishi & Family

In Memory of Tom Hoshida
Steve & Linda Onishi & Family

In Memory of Sakae Rose Yuki
Cathy Yuki
Joann Yuki

In Memory of Setsuko Hane
Grace Yamakawa

Disaster Relief Fund
Terry Oshidari

Generations Capital Campaign

Donations Received:
May 26, 2021 to June 18, 2021

Donations

Ronald and Barbara Asai
Kaye Masatani
Generations Pickers
Reid Hironaga

In Memory of Itsuo Uenaka
Gwen and Robert Nakamae
Stuart & Julie Inouye

In Memory of Joan Ikeda Wilson
Arthur, Robin & Richard Shinagawa
Lily Hayashimoto

In Memory of Mary Sugimoto
Bonnie Kurimoto-Kobayashi
Arthur, Robin & Richard Shinagawa

In Memory of Lillian Kanzaki
Terry Oshidari

In Memory of Roy Murotsune
Michiko Itatani

In Honor of Obon
Alvin & Karen Hironaga

Join Cub Scouts!



OPEN HOUSE

Interested in Cub Scouting? Parents and prospective scouts are invited to attend Pack 611's orientation and join event. There will be fun activities for the kids to participate in. The Pack is open to youth K - 5th grade.

Date: Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Time: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

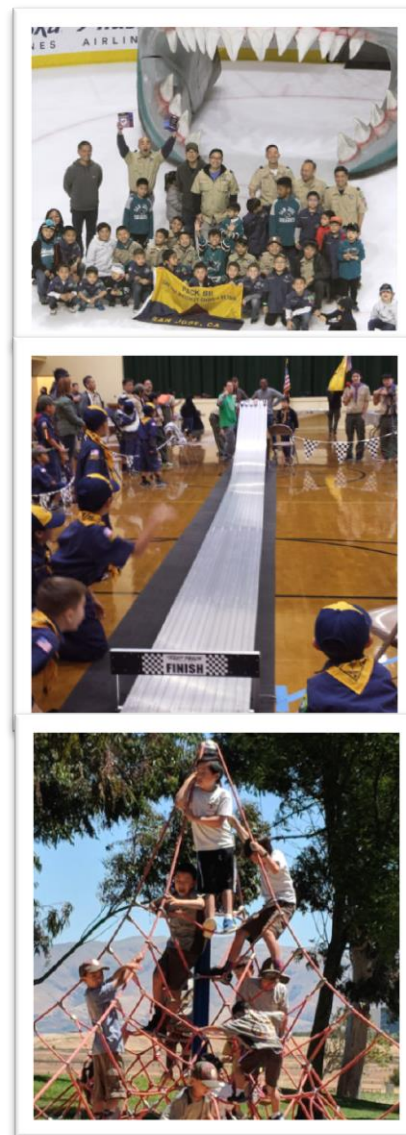
Place: 639 N 5th St, San Jose, CA 95112

(Gravel Lot next to Education Building)



Learn more and register @
<https://bit.ly/3kDvqxd>

Questions? Email: pack611@sjbetsuin.org



GENERATION PICKERS



Turn your forgotten treasures into cash donations to the Betsuin *supporting* the **Generations Education Building and Campus**

We're looking for those 'once-treasures but now left in the back of the closet'...donate these forgotten items to the **Generations Pickers** campaign and have our team of experts clean up, list, sell and ship your item. All proceeds will help fund our **Generations Education Building and Campus**.

How it works:

1. Send us a short description of your item(s) and we will give you an honest evaluation of its value. If we determine that it's something we can handle, you can drop off at the church office or we will pick up the item(s) from your home.
Note: determination is based on estimated value (\$100+) and ability to ship.
2. When sold, **100% of the proceeds** go directly into a Generations Education Building and Campus account and is **acknowledged as a cash donation**.
Note: If an item takes longer to sell, you may ask for an acknowledgement of your donation listing the actual item in the letter without a value (becomes an in-kind donation).

What are good items to donate?

Newer Smartphones
Photographic Equipment
Audio/stereo equipment
Collectibles & Vintage items
Vintage Technology
Professional Audio Equipment

Sports Memorabilia
Collectible Trading Cards
Designer Jewelry/Watches
Collectible shoes
Professional Tools
...and more!

Donate or Ask Questions

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

Watch for Generation Pickers updates in The Dharma!

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

JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL

日本語学校

LET'S STUDY JAPANESE IN SAN JOSE JAPANTOWN

Apply for 2021-2022 school year

Beginning to Intermediate Classes

For Students 1st through 12th Grade and for Adults,

Schedule From September 11th, 2021 to May 14, 2022
Saturdays 9:00 am -12:00 pm

Registration sjbetsuin.com/programs/japanese-language-school
2021-2022 priority registration ends on July 16th, 2021

Contact jls@sjbetsuin.org
408-293-9292 (payment / tuition inquires only)



San Jose Betsuin Japanese Language School

640 N. 5th St. San Jose, CA 95112





感謝

COAST DISTRICT NEMBUTSU VIRTUAL FAMILY CONFERENCE

KANSHA

GRATITUDE

OCTOBER 24, 2021 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

(Recommend login early between 9:15am-9:45am)

GUEST SPEAKER: REV. HARRY BRIDGE

OAKLAND BUDDHIST TEMPLE

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE VIA ZOOM

Registration: \$20 (adults) | \$10 (students age 12-18) Free (under 12 yrs)

SIGN-UP DEADLINE: OCTOBER 10, 2021

For any questions, email buddhist@wbtemple.org | Phone 831-724-7860



COAST DISTRICT VIRTUAL NEMBUTSU FAMILY CONFERENCE

"KANSHA (Gratitude)"

Sunday, October 24, 2021 Watsonville Buddhist Temple

10:00 am to 1:00 pm

(A zoom link will be emailed to all attendees prior to the conference)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Harry Bridge from Oakland Buddhist Temple

Reg. fee: **Adults \$20 Family rate \$50**
 Students \$ 10 (age 12 - 18)
 Children (Under 12) Free

Circle one Fee

Name _____ Japanese/English \$ _____

Check one: ☐ Adult ☐ BWA ☐ YBA ☐ Dharma School

Email address _____

Temple: _____

Contact #: Area Code (_____) _____ Age (if 18 <): _____

Name _____ Japanese/English \$ _____

Check one: ☐ Adult ☐ BWA ☐ YBA ☐ Dharma School

Email address _____

Contact #: Area Code (_____) _____ Age (if 18 <): _____

Name _____ Japanese/English \$ _____

Check one: ☐ Adult ☐ BWA ☐ YBA ☐ Dharma School

Email address _____

Contact #: Area Code (_____) _____ Age (if 18 <): _____

Deadline: October 10, 2021

Total \$ _____

Return this form with check payable to:

Watsonville Buddhist Temple (re: Nembutsu Conference)

423 Bridge Street; Watsonville, CA 95076

OR You may pay through Watsonville Buddhist Temple website (PayPal): www.wbtemple.org

If questions, please contact the Temple Office at (831) 724-7860.

BCA VIRTUAL ART EXHIBIT SUBMISSION FORM

For BCA Artists of All Ages

BCA is hosting an online virtual art exhibit. This is a wonderful chance to share your art with our BCA community. Please click the link below to submit digital photos of your art. Submissions are due by 8/15/21 and will require approval by the committee. Questions: bkmizushima@bcahq.org

REGISTER HERE:
<https://tinyurl.com/4urhwz4x>

SEPTEMBER 19 - 26, 2021
www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org

2ND ANNUAL BCA VIRTUAL OBON DANCE

SUN 8/15/21 @ 1pm (PST)



Join us on Zoom for an Obon Dance program featuring different temples throughout the BCA

Please register here to receive the zoom link:
<https://tinyurl.com/2j3m73jw>
questions: cbe@bcahq.org or 510-809-1460

UPDATED REGISTRATION SITE



Kenko (Healthy) Living Series
Presents



Reimagining Centers for Older Adults: The Yu-Ai Kai Model for Empowering Healthy Aging

Guest Speakers:

Nancy Hikoyeda, DrPH, MPH
YAK Wellness Advisor in Aging, Health, & Ethnicity &
Jane Kawasaki, MS
Yu-Ai Kai Board President

Wednesday, August 11, 2021
10:00 to 11:30 am
via Zoom Video Conference

Zoom access information for this presentation
will be sent to you via your email the day before

Please register online at:

UPDATED SITE yuaikai-kls-reimagining.eventbrite.com
For questions: Staff@yuaikai.org or (408) 294-2505

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- ≠ Identify several ways that senior centers help older adults to stay healthy.
- ≠ List Senior Center activities/resources that help meet emotional, spiritual, intellectual, social, physical, occupational, safety, and/or advocacy needs.
- ≠ Describe several specific ways participants will utilize senior centers, such as YAK, to improve their personal health and well-being.
- ≠ Identify some barriers/opportunities that senior centers face and promising solutions.

There is no cost for this workshop; however, donations to Yu-Ai Kai are welcomed. Should you not have a device or WiFi and would like to participate in this workshop, please contact us (408) 294-2505

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Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute
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Suzeume no Gakko

100% of the Boutique proceeds go to the Midori Kai, Inc. Foundation for our grant recipients



For more information please contact

Phyllis Oaki (925) 596-1770 or Marika Baird (510) 579-1518
poaki@management.com or marikabaird@mc.com

www.midorikai.com



Japanese Telephone Dharma Message

The San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin is now offering a Japanese Dharma Message using your telephone. To listen to the message, you will need to call (408) 293-9292.

If you call between the hours of 8:30am to 5:00pm the Betsuin office staff will have to transfer you to the extension to listen to the Dharma Message.

If you call after 5:00pm, follow the message prompts and select the appropriate number to get you to the Japanese Dharma message.

2021 Memorial Service Schedule

Please schedule a service if your loved ones passed away in the following years:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Service</u>
2020	1 st Year
2019	3 rd annual
2015	7 th annual
2009	13 th annual
2005	17 th annual
1997	25 th annual
1989	33 rd annual
1972	50 th annual
1922	100 th annual