

MIXED PLATE PROVED TO BE A DYNAMIC THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S CULTURAL BAZAAR

EXTENDING A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

By LU ANN LEE

2018 Bazaar Co-chairperson

June is upon us and with that came our Annual Cultural Bazaar.

We hope you were able to smell and try the different foods we offered from Sushi, Chow Mein, Chicken Teriyaki, Taco's, Tofu Salad, Strawberry Mochi, Chashu Bao, baked goods, Kintoki and our newest item Furikaki French Fries. The Snow Cones and Iced Green Tea were also popular. It was a mixed plate of delicious and intercultural offerings.

There were so many things to look at like our Mixed Plate Display by Nancy Martinez and Joyce Teague. Our Dharma School students also had a display that showed their take of the meaning of mixed plate. The Silent Auction, Crafts and Treasurers plus the Vendors with their Asian wares were all great shopping spots. Many of you enjoyed our Introduction to Buddhism. Entertainment and demonstrations included a Japanese Fashion Show, Tahitian and Hula Dancing, Judo, Kendo, Shamisen Matsumae kai, Sumi-E, Koto, Harmonica by Reverend Aoyama, San Diego Taiko and our very own BTSD Taiko.

The supportive community groups, Genki Home Care, Japanese Friendship Garden, Japanese Historical Society of San Diego and Yokohama Sister City also added to our event.

As I walked around doing this and that, I saw people laughing, talking with old friends and meeting new ones, families enjoying the games. At one point, it was full in all areas. This is why I think so many of us keep doing this each year because we know we would miss it if it ever went away.

I hope that despite our sore feet, hips, shoulders, etc., we will continue this tradition for many more years to come.

Thank you to all that supported us with your purchases, donations and attendance and to our many dedicated volunteers, we could not have had such a successful event without you.

THE JUNE ISSUE

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REFLECTIONS ON MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

During the weekend of May 26-28, the temple conducted and participated in several Memorial Day services.

On Saturday, May 26, Kenji Sensei conducted services at the Calxico, El Centro and Brawley cemeteries in the Imperial Valley. Thank you to Nancy Martinez for providing transportation, and to Richard Matsumoto, Maribeth "Smitty" Smith and Yukari Williams for accompanying Kenji Sensei to the cemetery visitations.

On Sunday, May 27, following the temple family service, Kenji Sensei conducted a memorial service at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery in Point Loma.

The annual Japanese American Community Memorial Day service at Mt. Hope Cemetery was held on May 28. It was nice to see many members of the Sangha gather with friends from the Pioneer Ocean View United Church of Christ (POVUCC) and the San Diego Japanese Christian Church, combining efforts to stage a very meaningful service.

Thank you to the POVUCC for being in charge of this year's service. In addition, a big thank you is extended to Asian Pacific Post 4851 for covering the fees for the event.

After the service at Mt. Hope, Kenji Sensei conducted a memorial service at the Cypress View Mausoleum.

BTSD PARTICIPATES AT BEER AND SAKE FESTIVAL

On Friday, June 1, BTSD participated in the 16th annual Beer and Sake Festival hosted by the Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana (JSSDT). The event was held at Harrah's Casino and Resort on the Rincon Indian Reservation east of Valley Center.

For the past 10 years, the temple has been a part of the festival with outreach and promoting the temple, while cooking and handing out samples of our delicious taiyaki!

It takes quite a crew of volunteers to prepare, transport equipment, grill the taiyaki and host the temple's informational table.

Many thanks to this year's volunteers Ralph and Avis Honda, Tim and Junko Kajita, Roy Okuhara and Karen Tom, Norman Kiyono, Richard Matsumoto, Glenn Negoro, Yuko Niwa and Laura Yoshida. Thank you very much for all of your efforts. It was truly appreciated!

Hundreds of people attended this year's event that featured vendors representing beer and sake corporations from throughout San Diego, Los Angeles and beyond. Hotel restaurants were passing out samples of Japanese cuisine. There was a tuna cutting demonstration and a Geta Dance performance. San Diego Taiko, led by temple members Bobby and Chelsey Koga, also performed.

BTSD was on hand as a "Food Sponsor" serving up taiyaki and introducing and promoting the temple with its offering of spiritual and social activities to the many attendees.

The Beer and Sake Festival is part of JSSDT's fundraisers that help support community and youth programs.

BTSD is a member JSSDT member and is very proud to be part of such a wonderful event.



Join Us for

Tai Chi

Thursdays from 10 - 11 a.m.

Please Note: No class on June 14