Birth of a Buddha
By Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi

April is the month that we celebrate the birth of Siddartha Gautama, who was to become Shakyamuni Buddha. The significance of his birth is that a human being becomes a Buddha. After his Enlightenment, his glowing aura prompts a passerby to ask him if he is a god. The Buddha replies that he is not a god, but is a human being who is awake. That statement provides the possibility for all humans to enjoy a similar bliss enjoyed by the Buddha. Waking up to the bliss of human life is a form of becoming a Buddha. It also leads us to a birth in the Pure Realm.

The Buddha spent the next 45 years teaching to all classes of people in a way that was appropriate for them. His Teachings are based on truths that can be seen, studied, and experienced. The Two Marks of Existence of “Interdependence” and “Impermanence” are basic to all laws of physics. Everything on this planet and the universe are connected and influence each other. Everything is impermanent in a dynamic state of change. We now have sophisticated methods of observation and detection to validate these truths. Our modern scientific perspective affirms the Buddha’s truths.

The Buddha’s description of the human mind marks him as the first psychologist. His analysis is so accurate that modern transpersonal (spiritual) psychology has followed his lead in the assessing the structure of the psyche (model of the mind). The daily news broadcasts the unfortunate stories that result from hatred, greed, and ignorance. Modern medicine has accessed the Buddha’s practices toward health and well-being by advocating meditation and mindfulness. The human condition and its liberation have remained the same for millennia.

For over 2,500 years, diverse cultures have explained the Dharma in a manner that could be appreciated by their people. Shinran elaborated the Pure Land path so that common, ordinary people could hear and practice the Teachings. We are the recipients of this invaluable treasure. The history of humankind warns us that the material and social trophies that we seek will ultimately fail us. The spiritual path transcends the limits of physics and biology. The Pure Realm of Shinran is not found on a mountain top or in some esoteric ritual. Shinran’s bliss is found in the earthly routine of daily commerce. The heavenly joy of the Nembutsu is experienced in our mundane encounters with each other.

The potential for our awakening is enhanced by the realization that the Buddha and Shinran were humans, just like us. Of course, the Buddha was an extraordinary human. But his compassion for all life inspired him to share the Dharma of Truth so that all people could enjoy an awakening to life. Shinran shared a similar aspiration. His honesty in admitting his limits encourages us to look at ours. Shinran teaches us that regardless of our best personal achievement, our success is really due to the efforts of others.

The literal translation of jiriki may be “self-power” and tariki may be “other-power.” Tariki is used to imply Amida Buddha. But these terms may be better understood if we say jiriki implies self effort and tariki implies the efforts of others. We begin to realize that every human effort is actually a result of the effort of others. Amida Buddha does not have to be experienced as a deity. We realize that every star athlete, musician, CEO, teacher, and myself are the result of the efforts of many others. Shin doctrine and the Nembutsu reminds of this reality.

Namo Amida Butsu is our acknowledgement that I exist because of the efforts of others. It is my expression of gratitude when I realize that my achievements have been supported by unseen others. Amida Buddha, Light and Life, also includes the non-human world of animals, plants, mineral, and gases. Every human and every living being is composed of all these elements. We are all part of Light and Life, Amida Buddha. This realization or awakening process is only afforded to us humans. That is why it is so important that the Buddha is not a god, a being separate from us. We all enjoy the same qualities of the Buddha. This awakening process is a gift from many others: Shinran, the many masters, and the Buddha. Our voicing “Na Man Da Bu – thank you,” is an beginning step in the broader and deeper experience of Namo Amida Butsu. That is the bliss of awakening to the reality of being human in a spiritual world.

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<td>Tai Chi, 10am, AH</td>
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<td>6 SPECIAL BENEFIT DINNER, 4:30-6 pm BTSD/VFW Bingo, 6</td>
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<td>14 HANAMATSURI Guest Speaker, Rev. Quon Potluck Luncheon</td>
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<td>Jr. YBA Mtg., 11:30 am</td>
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<td>17 Crafts, 10 am, DR Minyo, Noon, SH Shigin, 1 pm, CR Taiko, 6:30 pm, AH Buddhism 1-2-3, 7pm</td>
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<td>Minyo, Noon, SH Shigin, 1 pm, CR Taiko, 6:30 pm, AH Buddhism 1-2-3, 7pm</td>
<td>25 Tai Chi, 10am, AH Activities, Mtg., 7</td>
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<td>28 Earth Day Balboa Park</td>
<td>29 Looking AHEAD TO MAY: 4 -- Spring Furniture Sale 5 -- Shotsuki (Monthly memorial), 10 a.m. 12 -- Mother’s Day service, 10 a.m. 19 -- Gotan-E service, 10 a.m. 27 -- Community Memorial Day service at Mt. Hope cemetery, 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>April 2019</td>
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<td>28 Earth Day Balboa Park</td>
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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
By LuAnn Lee, Board President

On March 7-10, Kenji Sensei, Bill Teague and I attended the National Council Meeting (NCM) in Arizona. Although there is a separate NCM report in this edition with the details of the BCA business, I want to share my personal thoughts on my trip(s) to the National Council Meetings.

I’ve been lucky to attend meetings in Visalia, San Jose, Sacramento and this year, Arizona. They all provided workshops, dharma talks, interesting and sometimes heated meetings, nice banquets with inspiring keynote speakers, wonderful hospitality rooms and so much more but what I look forward to each year is talking with other people from the different temples and churches. They share ideas that work for their temples and helpful hints on what didn’t. We talk about membership, fundraising, how much we charge for chicken teriyaki (many of us are making some version of teriyaki chicken) and how our Sangha’s are aging and wonder how to get our young people to come back to the temple again. We may not have solved all our issues or answered all the questions but I realize that many of us are dealing with the same things. I’m hopeful that we will continue to think of ways to improve and share it at the next meeting which will be in Seattle.

Southern District hosted this year’s conference (meetings) and it was a success thanks to Arizona Buddhist Temple along with 12 temples and led by Terri Omori and Arleen Miyas. One person that I want to thank and remember is the late Chuck Matsumoto. He was not only a dedicated member of Arizona Buddhist Temple but was their President and Junior YBA advisor for many years. When it came time for Southern District to host, Chuck stepped up for the challenge but unfortunately didn’t make it physically to see what a truly wonderful job his family and friends did in his memory. When I walked into the hospitality room at the hotel, I saw his mom and it brought back my memories of him. He always greeted me and others with a quiet hello but always a smile. Chuck’s wife Liz, their kids and his mom were introduced at the banquet, and thanked for carrying on his legacy. Also, thank you to Ralph and Avis Honda, special friends of Chuck’s, for taking time out of their busy schedule to volunteer at the conference. Their behind-the-scenes help was greatly appreciated and I know Chuck would be proud of how it all turned out.

Thank you to the Board and the Sangha for encouraging and supporting 2 representatives plus Kenji Sensei attendance at these valuable meetings. I’m very grateful that Bill Teague was able to go this year. He has dedicated so much time with redoing the website and hopefully he is able to use some of the information we received to enhance our local outreach efforts. Kenji Sensei was a presenter at the workshop BCA Propagation and Membership Committee and as usual did an excellent job conveying his ideas.

In closing, I hope to encourage other temple leaders and members to represent the temple in the future at these meetings and or conferences.

In Gassho, LuAnn Lee

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Summary of the March 14th Board of Directors meeting:
1. The Board was updated on the work and activities of the temple Standing Committees and the Affiliated Organizations.
2. Our temple representatives to the BCA National Council Meeting reported on the work of the Council. Our Board of Directors had made recommendations for the Ad-Hoc Committee action items addressing the BCA financial situation and those recommendations carried. Representatives also talked about the workshops they attended. It was reported that the BCA Archives are now housed at UCLA.
3. The Board approved funds to support the BWA members with their participation in the World BWA Conference.
4. The security alarm system now covers all three buildings – additional funds were approved to insure proper coverage.
5. A CPR/AED training class will be sponsored on April 20th.
6. Additional funds were approved for the cost of parts for the replacement mochi machines – the purchase of 3 machines was originally approved in November 2018.
7. Currently the temple parking lot has lighting from two SDG&E poles and are billed at an unmetered rate. The Board approved discontinuing the unmetered service and providing lighting from our metered service.
8. Funds for a camera monitoring system were approved. The system will enhance security for office staff and the temple property.
9. The Board was informed of the resolution of the JA(CL/Kiku Gardens lawsuit.

BWA NEWS

March has been a busy month. Aki went to the Southern District BWA meeting at Senshin on March 2. Again, we would like to encourage our members to attend the Southern District Conference at Senshin on June 8. There is deadline of May 1 for registering for the conference. A sign-up sheet is in the temple office. The registration fee is $65. Rev. Kodani will be the keynote speaker.

Suz Moribe led a group of us in serving lunch at Garden Villas on Friday, March 15. She served Shoyu chicken for lunch and Kinako mochi for dessert. Both were delicious.

The craft group is working on various projects in anticipation of selling at the Bazaar. One of our newest members, Vicky, has joined us with much enthusiasm for sewing the knot bags. The group is dedicated to working for a few hours and sitting down to a potluck lunch. We look forward to new and continuing projects that Ruby has planned for us.

The next meeting will be on Sunday, April 7th at 11:45 am. Group C will be hosting.

Craft Days 1st AND 3rd WEDNESDAYS, 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.  Dining Room
Join us for some crafty fun, good conversation and great memories! Bring a dish to share for the potluck
DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

On Sunday, March 31, we are looking forward to our visit to the Vista Buddhist Temple beginning at 10 a.m. Rev. Wondra will be give the Dharma message. A complete report will be provided in the May edition.

We will be coordinating floral decorations of the han-ami and hondo for Hanamatsuri on Saturday, April 13 at 1 p.m. in the dining room. Dharma School students, parents and the Sangha are encouraged to participate. Dharma School is accepting monetary donations for the purchase of flowers. You also bring flowers from your garden.

Lisa Umekubo and I will attend the Federation Dharma School Teachers League Conference April 26-28 in San Jose. The theme is “I Am a Link... Heal Ourselves, Heal The World” and is being hosted by the Coast District. Gregg Krech of the TōDō Institute will be the guest speaker.

On May 19, we will observe our Hatsumairi service. It is a ceremony in which infants or young children are presented to Amida Buddha for the first time. Please complete the form inside this issue and place it in the Dharma School box in the office or hand deliver it me by May 12. We ask that the participants be there in the Hondo at 8:30 am.

Bring you sleeping bags and join the Dharma School Camping trip May 24-26 at Paso Picacho campground at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park.

Bring your own dinner on Friday and get ready for an evening of group desserts, good fun and fellowship. On Saturday, enjoy group meals, kid crafts, more activities and topped off with a campfire and desserts at night. Saturday will be the suggested day if you wish to visit for the day. A morning service, group breakfast and nature hike will round Sunday’s activities.

Please feel welcome to let us know if you are interested and would like to team up with another family for equipment and supplies. Cost will be $40 per registered BTSD Dharma School family and $50 non-registered Dharma School families. The fees include campsite fee, food (with the exception of Friday dinner) and crafts. It will be a lot of fun, hope to see you there!

The next teachers and staff meeting will be on Sunday, April 7 at 9 a.m. in the Conference Room.

Gassho, Avis Honda, Superintendent

SCRIP NEWS

Mother’s Day and Father’s Day are just around the corner. So, it’s time to buy gift cards for your parents’ favorite restaurant, their favorite sporting goods store or home improvement store. We’ve got you covered with gift cards for restaurants, favorite department stores, Home Depot & Lowe’s. If you want flowers, we have gift cards for that too. Order your cards soon and we will have them for you with plenty of time to pick out the perfect card to go with your gift.

BTSD MAKING PLANS TO HOST LEADER OF JODO SHINSHU SCHOOL

The Buddhist Temple of San Diego is pleased to announce the privilege of hosting a very important dignitary later this summer.

His eminence, OHTANI, Kojun, Monshu (head priest) of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-Ha school of Buddhism will make an official visit to San Diego on September 4. The entire Sangha and friends are encouraged to welcome the Gomonshu on this historic occasion.

The Gomonshu is the 25th head priest of the Shin sect, headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, and is a direct descendent of Shinran Shonin.

Visiting San Diego will be somewhat of a homecoming for the Gomonshu. In 2008, the then Shinmon-sama (heir apparent) and his wife Ruzumi-san, lived in the Little Italy neighborhood. For one year, the couple explored the comforts of American life.

Prior to his visit to San Diego, the Gomonshu will preside over the 16th World Buddhist Women’s Convention, August 30-September 1 in San Francisco. He will then visit BCA temples in the Pacific Northwest before arriving in San Diego.

Details on the Gomonshu’s visit will be forthcoming. The temple has a committee making plans for his visit. Please check the upcoming issues of the Busse Script for updates.

Please make plans to welcome the Gomonshu to San Diego.

JR. YBA NEWS

Hi everyone! On behalf of the Jr. YBA, I’d like to thank everyone who came out to our Udon Luncheon Fundraiser last month, which was a success. We were incredibly happy and appreciative that so many people were able to attend. April is not that busy a month for us, but we are looking forward to Southern District Basketball at OCBC, which will be a fun way to bond with Jr. YBA members from other temples throughout Southern California. Coming up in May, we have the Mother’s Day Breakfast before service on May 12, and we hope you all can make it to celebrate all the hard-working moms at our temple. Thanks to everyone again for continuing to support the Jr. YBA!

In Gassho,
Zoe Yamamoto
A screening of Sharon Yamato’s MOVING WALLS: The Barracks of America’s Concentration Camps, will take place Monday, April 29 at 6:30 pm in the Main San Diego Public Library auditorium.

Co-sponsored by the San Diego Public Library and the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego, the free event will include a discussion with individuals who were among the San Diegans of Japanese ancestry incarcerated at Poston Relocation Camp during World War II. Professor Susan Hasegawa of San Diego City College will moderate. Yamato has also written a book of the same title featuring photographs by former San Diego Union-Tribune staff photographer and native San Diegan Stan Honda. His father was among those who acted to save our temple from sale during the incarceration years so that the Sangha would have a place to return to after the war. Yamato and Honda will sign books and DVDs following the discussion.

The Temple is an event co-presenter and invites your participation. The library, at 330 Park Blvd., offers two hours free parking in its underground garage. Email or call the temple if you are interested in ride sharing with other Sangha members.

CPR training
- Description: 5-6 hour class will include CPR, AED and First Aid.
- Date: Saturday, April 20, 2019
- Start Time TBD: Morning start time
- Location: Temple
- Cost: $50 per person, if a certificate is desired, an additional cost of $15.

We need 10-15 people to hold the class, so please sign-up in the office, call or email us at info@btsd.net.
MEMBERSHIP NEWS
Bill Teague, Membership Chair

Over Seventy Percent
Seven out of ten of our 2018 members have formally re-newed for 2019! Some of you have been paying late each year for financial planning but we ask you to confirm your pledge early so we can count you as a current member. We’ll send you a letter to make it easy for you to do so. In the meantime you can check our bulletin board listing of 2019 members if you need information as to who is a 2019 member.

April and May for Member Focus
In April and May this year your Membership Committee has a number of activities planned and some announced here.

New Members Breakfast on April 28. If you are thinking about joining the Temple at any membership level, please do so soon to be part of the New Members Breakfast, planned for 9 a.m. on Sunday, April 28, hosted by the Membership Committee and the Board of Directors. Members who have joined over the last three years will meet and greet Temple Board members. Invitations will be sent out early this month. April.

Outreach to Sangha Friends and Temple Families. In April and May we will be sending out letters to family members and friends who are almost members already in their love and support for the Temple. Did you grow up in the Temple by parents and grandparents but aren’t a member yet? We invite you to join in April and May.

Obutsudan (Home Buddhist Shrine) Tune-up Workshop. Informational workshop on how you can set up your home Buddhist shrine with coverage of formal and informal approaches. TBA in April.

Obutsudan Sale. Work being done now on refurbishing older Obutsudan will allow us to hold our first offering of Obutsudan in several years. TBA in May.

Free Summer Obutsudan Clean and Shine. Bring in your Obutsudan to be cleaned and polished to a shine to bring your shrine to a beautiful luster by our own Obutsudan Club. Even if your shrine has faded, we will use the same safe, natural wax used in antique restoration. (This wax is all-natural, composed of carnauba wax and bee’s wax.) Event details to follow. TBA in June and July.

Questions? Contact the Temple or Bill Teague, btcomms@cox.net / 619-248-3749.

HUMAN NATURE
within BUDDHA NATURE
WAKING UP TO A PATH OF HARMONY
Buddhist Retreats since 1998
June 21-23, 2019

Shin Buddhism, the largest branch of Buddhism in Japan, is emerging in America. Shin offers a compelling process of approaching life challenges with effective results. By incorporating simple daily habits of gratitude, Shin followers are able to appreciate life, regardless of their material circumstance. Introspection, discussion, and insightful activities will bring alive a deep philosophy to a personal experience. Come experience the perspective that makes ordinary life, an extraordinary reality. Human nature inspired by Buddha nature, provides a proven path of harmony, amid the challenges of contemporary life. Wake up to American Shin Buddhism.

The Yokoji Zen Mountain Center:
A rustic retreat near Idyllwild in the San Jacinto Mountains. www.zmc.org

Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi
Shin Buddhist minister with a background in transpersonal psychology, wilderness vision quests, personal growth and body-mind-spirit disciplines.
For a registration packet contact the office

PLEASE NOTE: Rev. Mukojima
is taking some time off until September.
He greatly appreciates our understanding.

BTSD Tai Chi
Our Tai Chi instructor is easy to follow and patient, so come and check it out.
Thursdays, April 4, 11, 18 & 25 10-11 a.m. in the Annex Hall or If it’s cold, the dining room.

Sycuan Casino
Join Us Wednesday, April 24th at Sycuan
The Bus will Leave BTSID by 8:00 a.m. and De-part from Sycuan at 2:00 p.m. $20 Donation
Sycuan BINGO at 9:30 & 11:45-$5 Buy In
You’ll Need Players Card: Min. $15
Buffet Hours: 11-2 -- Grill Open 24/7
Sign Up in the Office - Min: 15 - Max: 40

11th Japanese American Student Program
for this summer is accepting applications with April 15th deadline. Visit: https://www.la.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/2019_JASTudentsInvitationProgram.htm
Hatsumairi

Hatsumairi (Infant Presentation Ceremony) is a ceremony in which your child or grandchild is presented to Amida Buddha for the first time. In Japanese it is called Shosan–shiki, “The First Visitation.” This year, Hatsumairi will take place on Sunday, May 19 at 9 a.m., preceding the Gotan-e Service. If you would like to have your child and/or grandchild take place in this ceremony, please complete the form below and return it by Sunday, May 12, 2019 to either Avis Honda (Dharma School Superintendent) or to the temple’s office. We ask that the participants be there at 8:30am.

Hatsumairi Ceremony Participation Form
May 19, 2019

Participant’s Full Name: __________________________________________________________

Participant’s Date of Birth: ______________________________________________________

Parent’s Name(s): ______________________________________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip _______________________________________________________________

Phone Number: _______________________________________________________________

E-mail Address: _______________________________________________________________

Due by: Sunday, May 12, 2019.
DONATIONS

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

BUDDHIST TEMPLE
Alroy, Evelyn
Sakiyabu, Robert
Yoshida, Laura - Taiko
Goodrich-Haworth, Marianne
Yamamoto, George and Friends
Jensen, Richard
IMO George Yamamoto
Sato, Steve
Ikeda, Miyoshi - Honorarium
IMO Mrs. Emiko Ikeda
Tomiyama, Akie
IMO George Yamamoto
Yanez, Martha
Estes, Toshiyie
IMO Michael Kawamoto
Yasuhara, Paul - Offering
Sasaki, Brian & Lorin
IMO George Yamamoto
DeMatteo, Steven and Kristine
Sasaki, Brian & Lorin
IMO Michael Kawamoto
Yasuhara, Paul & Mildred
Mitchell, Jonathan
Hasegawa, Gene
Sasaki, Sharon
Tsui, Masako
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
GENERAL MAINTENANCE
Ochi-Watson, Shirley
Yamanishi, Alan
Kasubuchi, Naoye
Ohara, Ann
Ohara, Kisaen
Nakamura, Jake K.
Honda, Mikiye
Yoshida, Laura
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, David
Asakawa, Masato (Bruce)
Isakari, Henry & Marcia
Kida, Katsumi
Ong, Mike
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Ken Muraoka
Nakatani, Fred
Tokunaga, Ron T.
Hidinger, Holly
Smith, Maribeth “Smitty”
Honda, Margaret
Baker, Carol
Sakai, Jeffery
Mitchell, Jonathan
Yasuhara, Paul
Hasegawa, Gene
Sasaki, Sharon
Tsui, Masako
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
GOLF
Sato, Steve
HANAMATSURI
Ryan, Mani and
Yamaguchi, Laura
Coppock, Roger
HO-ONKO
Hara, Ruby
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, David
Baker, Carol
MAP (Ministers Assist)
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, David
Ong, Mike
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Ken Muraoka
Nakatani, Fred
Tokunaga, Ron T.
Hidinger, Holly
Smith, Maribeth “Smitty”
Honda, Margaret
Baker, Carol
Sakai, Jeffery
Mitchell, Jonathan
Yasuhara, Paul
Hasegawa, Gene
Sasaki, Sharon
Tsui, Masako
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
FLORAL OFFERING
Ochi-Watson, Shirley
Yamanishi, Alan
Kasubuchi, Naoye
Hosaka, June
Ohara, Ann
Ohara, Kisaen
Nakamura, Jake K.
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, David
Asakawa, Masato (Bruce)
Kida, Katsumi
Asakawa, Masato (Bruce)
Isakari, Henry & Marcia
Ong, Mike
Muraoka, Ken
Nakatani, Fred
Tokunaga, Ron T.
Hidinger, Holly
Smith, Maribeth “Smitty”
Honda, Margaret
Baker, Carol
Sakai, Jeffery
Mitchell, Jonathan
Yasuhara, Paul
Hasegawa, Gene
Sasaki, Sharon
Tsui, Masako
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
NIRVANA DAY SERVICE
Hara, Ruby
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, David
Baker, Carol
O HIGGAN SERVICE
Shigehara, Wilbur
Ohara, Fumiko
Kashima, Sara
Otsuji, Dennis
Sumida, Floyd
Hara, Ruby
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, David
Baker, Carol
Tomiyama, Steve
Hidinger, Holly
Spear, Margo
Yamanishi, Alan
Sasaki, Jeffery
Baker, Carol
Honda, Margaret
Smith, Maribeth
Hidinger, Holly
Tokunaga, Ron T & Kris
Hasegawa, Gene
Sasaki, Sharon
Tsui, Masako
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
MEMBERSHIP PLEDGES
We thank these individuals/families for their renewals:
McGrath, Freda
Ochi-Watson, Shirley
Yamanishi, Alan
Williams, Yukari
Kasubuchi, Naoye
Amano, Takeko
Ohara, June
Ohara, Kisaen
Nakamura, Jake K.
Taira, Yuriko
Nakashima, Sumi
Honda, Kichi
Poquoc, Claudia
Sumida-Johnson, Ann
Yoshida, Laura
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, David
Asakawa, Masato (Bruce)
Honda, Ralph
Kashima, Jeanie
Isakari, Henry & Marcia
Kida, Katsumi
Hendrix, Hiroko
Ong, Mike
Omori, Shirley
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Uchiyama, Tissa
Muraoka, Ken & Sharyn
And Family -- 18
Nakatani, Fred & Nancy
Tokunaga, Ron T & Kris
Hidinger, Holly
Honda, Margaret
Mitchell, Jonathan
Yasuhara, Paul & Mildred
Hasegawa, Gene & Arlene
Sasaki, Sharon &
Robert Yamamoto
Tsui, Masako
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
NEW YEAR’S DAY
Hara, Ruby
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Iwashita, David
Baker, Carol
Nagata, Yuriko
Suyenaga, Irene
Monji, Yoshiko
Morikawa, Kazuiko
Hendrix, Hiroko
Tsui, Masako
Ong, Mike
Yamamoto, Kengo
Ogasawara, Anaku
Morinaka, Asako
Tomoi, Irene
Yamamoto, Sachio
Himaka, Michio
Sugiyama, Yukiko
Moriyama, Chieko
Gladis, Julie
Oto, June
Aoyama, Rev Tesshi
Honda, Ralph
Moncrief, Mayko
Donations Cont. Pg. 9
ANNUAL SOUTHERN DISTRICT BUDDHIST CONFERENCE IS JUNE 8 AT SENSHIN TEMPLE

I Am Jiriki is the theme for this year’s Southern District Conference. The event will take place on Saturday, June 8 at the Senshin Buddhist Temple. Rev. Masao Kodani, BCA Minister Emeritus, will deliver the keynote address. Through his dharma message, Rev. Kodani will convey his thoughts on “Why I Think Jodo Shinshu Will Disappear,” and other situations attendees will encounter during the course of the conference. Delegates will examine and experience the meaning of jiriki (self-power) and tariki (other power/Amida power).

Registration fee is $65 per person, which includes lunch. The deadline to register for the BTSO Sangha is April 30.

On the day of the conference, registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the SDBWA general meeting will be from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Opening service begins at 10:15 a.m. Rev. Ryuta Furumoto, resident minister at the Senshin temple will provide an introduction and the SDBWA general meeting will be from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

On the day of the conference, registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the SDBWA general meeting will be from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Opening service begins at 10:15 a.m. Rev. Ryuta Furumoto, resident minister at the Senshin temple will provide an introduction in Japanese, followed by Rev. Kodani’s presentation.

There is a signup sheet located in the temple office, or call to place your reservation. BTSO will arrange for carpools to the conference.

Please contact the temple for more information.

SUPPORT THE JUNE BAZAAR EARLY!

This annual Japanese Cultural Bazaar (June 3) is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and funds go directly to the maintenance and improvement of our Temple. It takes a lot of small repairs and upgrades to make the temple look so nice!

Gregg Yonekura and Bill Teague help solicit prizes for the benefit drawing each year, and they are asking for your help either for the raffle (especially for high-end items) for their Dharma friends who organize the Silent Auction.

If you have a special item you would like to donate, or are able to make a cash donation to support the grand cash prize, please let Gregg and Bill know via the Temple. Check out the advertisement on page 5. Thank you very much!

JCC KEIRO KAI IS APRIL 28 AT BTSD

The Japanese Coordinating Council (JCC) will host its annual Keiro Kai (Pioneer Group) luncheon on Sunday, April 28 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Annex Hall. Doors open at 11 a.m. Temple members, 80-years-young and above, will receive an invitation letter from JCC announcing the luncheon. Members who are of this exclusive age group, and have not received a letter of invitation, are urged to contact the temple.

Activity during the party will include receiving a nice o bento (box) lunch, entertainment from community organizations and gifts.

The temple also has tickets on sale for the event. Donation is $25 for the under-80 attendees. Deadline to purchase tickets is April 12.

BTSD is proud to be a co-sponsor with this annual community event.

SPRING CLEAN UP 2019

Please look for the Spring Clean-up advertisement on page 1.

JCC BUSSEI SCRIPT

Earth Day!

Sunday, April 28

Winter showers have ended our long drought and festooned the hills and valleys with an abundance of flowers. April brings the beginning of Padres baseball and Earth Day. The Balboa Park Earth Day event is being held on this day, and we encourage you to visit Balboa Park and consider all the ways we can conserve. We are the custodians of this Earth and it’s up to us to do everything we can to insure it is in the best shape possible for our children and all of those that will come after them.

In Gassho,

EcoSangha Committee
2019 MINISTER’S ASSOCIATION AND
NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

LuAnn Lee, Board President & Bill Teague, Membership Chair

Last month we caught up with Kenji Sensei to attend the BCA National Council Meeting (NCM) held on March 5-10 in Phoenix, Arizona. Thirteen chapters of the Southern District hosted 60 temples/churches and two Hawaiian delegates at this year’s conference. It was a baseball theme “Major League Buddhism”. The Ministers attended a spring training baseball game as a “team” and enjoyed the outing.

Our meetings were all day Friday and on Saturday morning. The voting results for the Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations ended up with just one motion not passing which was the selling of the BCA Parsonage (Bishops residence) in Belmont, California.

All the following motions passed:

1. Report progress on each of the following items to the National Board and the National Council.
2. Renegotiate payment of the Jodo Shinshu Center loan with the Endowment Foundation.
3. Support the launch of a new capital campaign to raise funds to pay off the Jodo Shinshu Center debt and other needed endeavors.
4. Support the BCA Budget and Finance Committee to have a yearly budget for maintenance of the three BCA properties.
5. Begin a campaign to raise $1 million for deferred maintenance needs at the three properties.
6. Without any obligation, BCA may enter into negotiations for sale of the BCA headquarters in San Francisco with any BCA-related organization, including the Jodo Shinshu International Office and/or Buddhist Church of San Francisco.

Now that the motions have passed, the work will begin to plan and implement. There was good discussion (up to 3 pro’s and 3 con’s allowed to talk with a 2 minute limit) on many of the motions.

Other motions passed

1. Raise the assessment 3 percent (COLA) to $143.06 per member.
2. Raise the guidelines for Minister’s base pay from $3,000 to $4,000.
3. Voted in 3 new National Council Directors-at-large, Glenn Inada, Tyler Moriguchi and Steven Terusaki
4. Budget and Financial Reports (details available on request)

We also heard reports from IBS (update on the accreditation process), CBE (upcoming events), Social Welfare Committee donated $25,000 to Big Island to help with relief of Volcano disaster, Affiliated Organization Reports and BCA District Council Reports.

There were four workshops on Friday night.

Bill attended BCA Ministerial Affairs Committee “Assisting our Ministers for Retirement” and BCA Propagation and Membership Committee – Explore How to Become “A Face in Your Community,” part of which was led by Kenji Sensei talking about our experience in San Diego.

I attended BCA Archives and Historic Preservation “Preserving your Temple’s History.” The workshop talked about the BCA Pre-War/WWII/Post-War Buddhist Artifacts and the housing of BCA Collection housed at UCLA, Special Collections. The move of the archives to UCLA is saving the BCA approximately $30,000 yearly. The collection will be available to the public in the near future.

Our temple will continue to look through our pictures and items so we can also preserve our treasured goods.

I also attended the BCA Endowment Foundation “Planning For Your Temple’s Financial Future”. Fundraising program overview was discussed as well as planned giving and required minimum distributions for IRAs. An updated BCA Foundation Investment and Custodial Account Performance report was presented. This will be taken back to the Ways and Means committee for consideration in future investment possibilities.

Saturday afternoon, there was a mandatory hour-long harassment training seminar conducted by Camile Pating and a CBE workshop on Perspectives on Shin Buddhism & LGBTQ Community with CJ Dunford (Minister’s Assistant at Berkeley Buddhist Temple (BBT) and IBS Ministerial Student), Akiko Rogers (Minister’s Assistant at BBT and Senshin and IBS Ministerial Student) and Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara (Supervising Minister, Berkeley Buddhist Temple and Program Coordinator, Hongwanji Office). Both workshops were informative and these topics will be discussed at our temple as well.

Saturday evening was the banquet and in lieu of a keynote speaker, our tables worked as a “team” and made up words to songs like “Ring around the Rosie”, Mary had a Little Lamb, Row your Boat and more. We sang on stage with 5 tables singing in order (one verse per table). It was a fun way to get everyone involved and to build camaraderie.

The BCA meetings and workshops provide a venue for temples/churches to share ideas and problems with others that have similar issues. BCA often times casts a negative vibe to some, but hopefully we see the good it does to bring us together, provide education, support future minister’s and do more outreach in the future that will benefit us all.

Bill and I were in awe of the hard work of Arleen Miya (Gardena Buddhist Church) and Terri Omori (Vista Buddhist Temple) who spent several years in the planning and execution of the NCM plans. Boosters Ralph and Avis Honda really rolled up their sleeves to assist in the personal attention and greeting of every delegate.

Next year’s meetings will be hosted by the Northwest District in Seattle.

In Gassho, LuAnn and Bill
The April Shotsuki Hoyo (MEMORIAL SERVICE) will be held **Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 10 a.m.** Families and friends of anyone who passed away during the month of April are urged to attend and offer incense. If there are any errors in the list, please notify the temple at (619) 239-0896 or e-mail info@btsd.net.

The Temple and Sangha offers sincere condolences to the family of:  
**Mr. Robert Masayoshi Sakiyabu** who passed away on February 28, 2019

**DECEASED** 

Toyosaburo Yanagihara (4-23-1930)……Yanagihara Family  
Saburo Sugiyama (4-10-1936)……………Sugiyama Family  
Seihachi Tsurudome (4-2-1943)……………Tsurudome Family  
Shizuko Kasubuchi (4-27-1947)…………Naoye Kasubuchi  
Masaichi Kuroda (4-30-1948)……………Tosho Kuroda  
Yoshitaro Matsumoto (4-19-1952)……Eiji Matsumoto  
Yukichi Okuma (4-16-1953)……………Okuma Family  
Yohichiro Torio (4-24-1954)……………Betty Torio  
Hiromi Moribe (4-26-1954)……………Lee Moribe  
Mansaku Shinohara (4-6-1956)…………Shinohara Family  
Yoshiko Haseyama (4-5-1958)……………Noboru Haseyama  
Saburo Oyama (4-5-1963)……………Rodney Oyama  
George Kozuma (4-9-1966)……………Tomiko Kozuma  
Shinzaemon Fuji (4-28-1967)…………Katsumi Kida  
Shizuyo Izumo (4-1-1970)……………Yanagihara Family  
Ume Inouye (4-10-1970)……………Inouye Family  
Iwaguma Tsuneyoshi (4-9-1973)…………Motoo Tsuneyoshi  
Buheiji Tanaka (4-12-1975)……………Yoko Ozawa  
Hajime Kyutoku (4-10-1978)……………Tamio Tsurudome  
Ryoei Tsujimura (4-5-1980)……………Roy Tsujimura  
Kuzo Sugiyama (4-23-1980)……………Sugiyama Family  
Magoichi Hamano (4-3-1983)……………Toru Hamano  
Isao Imaizumi (4-27-1983)……………Imaizumi Family  
Kazumi Sugioka (4-29-1985)……………Sugioka Family  
George Yukio Kodama (4-19-1986)……Vivianne Jones  
Chiyō Yamagata (4-27-1987)…………Harold Yamagata  
Mike Hagio (4-7-1988)……………Quimico Hagio  
Frank Tachiki (4-6-1989)……………Les Tachiki  
Terry T. Doi (4-28-1989)……………Patrick Doi  
Mine Takeshita (4-27-1991)……………Takeshita family  
Zenbei Ishawashi (4-11-1992)…………Ishawashi Family  
Benso Tsuji (4-6-1993)……………Laura Katsue Tsuji  

**MEMORIAL SERVICES** 

MEMORIAL SERVICES allow us to pay homage to loved ones who have passed away. In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, family members hold a service at certain intervals following a relative’s death to express gratitude for and acknowledge their influence in our lives. If you wish to schedule a memorial service for a loved one, please call during weekly office hours.  

**2019 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Memorial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Year</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Year</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Year</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For families and friends of anyone who passed away during the month of April are urged to attend and offer incense. If there are any errors in the list, please notify the temple at (619) 239-0896 or e-mail info@btsd.net.*

**DECEASED** 

Setsugo Taniguchi (4-14-1993)……………Sumiko Taniguchi  
Yoshiko Sueyoshi (4-2-1995)……………Sueyoshi Family  
Shizuko Yanagihara (4-30-1995)……………Yanagihara Family  
Ai Yamada (4-27-1996)……………Kaisuke Yamada  
James Kasubuchi (4-12-1998)……………Naoye Kasubuchi  
Muneo Torimaru (4-30-1998)……………Ricky Torimaru  
Hazel Ito (4-13-2000)……………Ito Family  
Shigenori Tsurudome (4-30-2000)……………Tsurudome Family  
Taro Matsui (4-29-2001)……………Imori & Curtis Family  
Kenshi Tachi (4-30-2001)……………Lewis Tachi  
Haruko Muraoka (4-27-2004)……………Emi Ochi  
Toshio Hayakawa (4-11-2005)……………Emiko Hayakawa  
Yoshiko Miyazaki (4-29-2005)…………Madoko M. Miyazaki  
Armando Leal (4-11-2006)……………Rubio Family  
Kaneko Houdek (4-09-2006)……………John Houdek  
Kikuo Uyeji (4-21-2006)……………Chieko Takeguchi  
Katie Magotsugu Uyeji (4-15-2007)…………Masako Uyeji  
Hidetoshi Akiyama (4-25-2007)…………Terry Akiyama  
Masao Santohigashi (4-06-2008)…………Kiku Graeber  
Judie Shigeko Shinohara (4-18-2009)…………Janice Shinohara  
Shimako Uda (4-26-2009)……………Georgiana Uda  
Setsuko Himaka (4-24-2011)……………Lynn Fuchigami  
Earl Isoko Osaki (4-21-2013)…………Gail Furuya  
Robert C. McDonald……………Bruce McDonald  
Kazuo Kiyono (4-6-2014)……………Norman Kiyono  
James Noboru Nakashima (4-7-2014)…………Sumire Nakashima  
George Tachi (4-22-2014)……………Miyako Tachi  
Hiro Tsurudome (4-19-2015)…………Joanne Tsurudome Garcia  
Mildred Pocock (4-20-2016)……………Claudia Poquoc
HANAMATSURI: Commemorating the Birth of the Historical Buddha

Hanamatsuri, or flower festival, commemorates the birth of the historical Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama.

The temple is privileged to have Rev. Kory Quon, resident minister of the Venice Buddhist Temple as our guest speaker.

During the weekend of April 13 and 14, the temple will observe Hanamatsuri with the following activities:

Saturday, April 13

Dharma School will conduct the flower decoration of the Hanamido (miniature floral altar) for the baby Buddha, depicting the beauty of Lumbini Garden where he was born, starting at 1 p.m. in the dining room. Everyone is welcome to help decorate the hanamido and hondo with beautiful flowers. Dharma School invites families to bring flowers and welcomes monetary donations.

BEC-sponsored presentation: For our Hanamatsuri observances, Quon Sensei will present an informal lecture on some of the issues raised twice a year when we contemplate the Other Shore and how that is seen within our Jodo Shinshu tradition. The presentation will take place at the Sangha Hall and is expected to run approximately 90 minutes. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

Sunday, April 14

The Sangha will have the opportunity to offer Kambutsu (sweet tea bathing of the baby Buddha) beginning at 9 a.m. in the hondo. The sweet tea offering symbolizes sweet rain that fell on the baby Buddha when he was born.

The Hanamatsuri Service begins 10 a.m. Rev. Quon will deliver messages to the Dharma School and adult Sangha.

Luncheon: Following the service, everyone is welcome to share their favorite side or rice dish or salad for the potluck luncheon. The Board of Directors will provide main dishes.

BWA Bake Sale: Support the BWA Bake Sale and have dessert with your lunch! The luncheon is a traditional gathering that will conclude wonderful celebration.

An envelope is provided in this month's issue of the Bussei Script for your Hanamatsuri donation. Please contact the temple for more information with the various activities associated with Hanamatsuri.

Introducing Rev. Kory Quon

Rev. Kory Quon is the Resident Minister at Venice Buddhist Temple located in Culver City, California, where he is known for his youthful energy, gratefulness and inspiring Dharma messages. A product of a Shin Buddhist family, Rev. Quon’s great-grandfather served as a kaikyoshi minister in the United States over 100 years ago. Rev. Kory, as he is affectionately known, grew up participating in the Dharma School and YBA programs at the Los Angeles Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (Nishi Betsuin) where his parents are members.

Rev. Kory received a degree in Buddhist Studies from the Institute of Buddhist Studies in Berkeley, earned Tokudo, then later, Kyoshi level of ministry in 2015.

Since his assignment to the Venice Temple in 2015, he has become a popular speaker. Sangha members who attended the 2016 Southern District Buddhist Council and SD BWA Conference (held in San Diego) will remember his Dharmathon message. Jr. YBA members have enjoyed his presentations at conferences, seminars, religious retreats and workshops. See Rev. Kory’s selected Dharma messages at vhbt.org/category/quon/

More Buddhist Education Opportunities in April

Bill Teague, Buddhist Education Committee

Buddhism 1-2-3 and Fourth Sunday

Fourth Sunday: Single-session overview of Buddhism and our temple, great for college students and first-time visitors, led by Kaytee Sumida. On April 28, at 9:00 a.m. in the Sangha Hall (one-story building located at south end of parking lot).

Buddhism 1-2-3: Open-ended weekly session for chanting, meditation, and Dharma in an informal setting, at 7 p.m. in the Sangha Hall, led by Kenji Sensei and Sangha members (April 3, 10, 17, and 24).

Chicken Katsu Benefit Dinner

April 6  4:30–6 p.m.  Donation: $10.

All proceeds from the dinner will assist with medical and living expenses for Rev. Carol Himaka.

Rev. Carol grew up at the Buddhist Temple of San Diego and has made her career as a Jodo Shinshu minister serving the BCA. She now needs our help.

Please support the dinner for Rev. Carol. Checks can be made payable to BTSD. Your contributions along with the temple’s donation to Rev. Carol will be deeply appreciated. Thank You!

BINGO

Following the dinner, stay for the monthly BINGO that will be conducted by the VFW and BTSD. The session begins at 6 p.m. Buy-in is $10 for 12 fun-filled games. Winners will receive cash prizes. There will be a drawing with a chance to win more prizes. Purchase pull-tabs, daubers and refreshments from the VFW.

Please support both activities.