

# Busshin

## Reflections on Half a Century BY REV. HARRY GYOKYO BRIDGE

**I TURN 50 THIS MONTH! PART OF** me finds it hard to believe, another part of me doesn't really feel all that different. Part of me has learned a lot, another part of me still makes the same mistakes over and over. I certainly can't complain! I am very fortunate to be healthy, to have found a profession that fits me and that allows me to help others, to have family and friends around me, and to have a roof over my head.

Even so, I don't think I am alone in sometimes thinking about what we would do differently if we could go back and relive our lives. I can probably think of plenty of shallow answers to this question, but deep down, if I could go back and do it all over again, I would try and learn more from my parents, as well as my various teachers. I missed so many opportunities. My father was good with electronics, I wish he had

taught me how they worked. I remember him trying to teach me to solder once, but without practice it didn't stick (no pun intended). My mother was such a good cook (actually my father was too), but I never learned, I only ate! My music teacher in high school specialized in bass instruments like tuba and trombone, but he also played bass - once, he taught me how to read the

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## President's Message

BY RON NOMURA

**AS WE NAVIGATE OUR WAY** through the year, all of us have gone through numerous events, emotions, and adjustments. I want to remind everyone that if you or somebody you know needs help during these difficult times, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or the church if

we can be of assistance. If you need someone to talk to, **Reverend Bridge** and I are just a phone call away. And even though the church office is closed, all voicemails are forwarded.

In the wake of the recent fires, which added to the stress level put on us by the pandemic, I hope none

of you were impacted other than staying inside to avoid the bad air quality. I'm reminded from past Dharma messages to "accept change", it has helped me get through these times and other life events taking it a day at a time. I hope you all continue to stay safe and healthy. ■

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# With Gratitude for Your Curry Fundraiser Support

BY JON TAKAGAKI

**IN LAST MONTH'S BUSSHIN**, Steve Terusaki recognized the curry rice fundraiser as part of the virtual Obon Festival. I just wanted to provide a follow-up update.

Thanks to the support of our BCO Sangha and friends of the Sangha, we had a very successful inaugural, drive-through fundraiser. **Michael Sensei** and I wish to thank **Mika and Rev. Harry, Ron Nomura, Doris Okano, John Minamoto, Norman Yoshida, Steve and Kathy Terusaki, and Linda Takagaki** for their tireless efforts to plan,

coordinate, and carry out the event.

I wish to thank **Lynne Neishi** for her guidance in preparing the cabbage salad that was included in the curry rice bento. Many thanks to **Lori Neishi-Wong** and **Lanae** for their very generous donation of Girl Scout cookies, which were the perfect addition to the curry rice meal. Thanks to **Keiju Terada** and **Jeff Suda** for their help with purchasing activities.

We are very fortunate to have vendors in our community who continually support us. We wish to

express our deepest gratitude to **To-kyo Fish Market** and **Berkeley Bowl** for their generous support in providing the items we needed to prepare our curry rice bento. We wish to thank them for all they do for us!

It was great seeing many of you at the drive-through when you picked up your curry order. While we can't gather in-person as a Sangha, it's gratifying and important that we keep connected as a Sangha. Thank you so much for your support! ■

## Jr. YBA News

BY MAYUMI NOMURA

**HELLO EVERYONE! WE HOPE YOU** have had a fun and safe summer. My name is **Mayumi Nomura** and I am the new Corresponding Secretary. This year's incoming Jr. YBA cabinet is President- **Alex Lang**, Vice President- **Lanae Wong**, Treasurer-

**Kori Miyamoto**, Recording Secretary- **Cynthia Lee**, and Religious Chair- **Conor Kim**.

We welcome two new members as well: **Garrett Kamita** and **Sean Yoshida**. We just had a virtual conference hosted by Southern

District Jr. Young Buddhist League (SD Jr. YBL). We also had our first meeting for this year with our new cabinet.

Until next month, stay safe! ■

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## Reflections on a Half a Century CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

notes on the bass clef as related to the bass guitar, but I had enough talent and the music we played in the jazz band was simple enough that I just ran with that one lesson - I should have gone back for another one!

Oh well, the past is the past and I can't change it. But I can re-

flect on it. And what I see is a vast web of people and events and causes and conditions that led me to where I am now. Somehow, I was able to encounter the Dharma, and that certainly changed my life. I am FAAAAARRRRRR from perfect, but I can only imagine how things would be if I hadn't heard the teachings

of Shakyamuni and the Nembutsu - they pointed me in a new direction and showed me a new way to live. They also allowed me to see myself in a new way - to see myself more as I really am, all while embraced by the Wisdom & Compassion of the Buddha. ■

# Momiji Kai News

BY NANCY YAMAMOTO

**TO ALL OF OUR MOMIJI AND** church friends, it has been too many months now since the outbreak of the very scary and unwelcome event called the Covid-19 pandemic. It is scarier yet to find out that a virus so tiny that the human eye cannot see it, could create such havoc, travelling the world over and causing so much destruction, killing and sickening so many, many thousands of people the world over. The medical community has been searching for an effective vaccine to combat this unwelcome virus. Some of the pharmaceutical companies have come up with their versions which are being tested presently.

How can these viruses travel so fast throughout the world? After so many, many months we are still being told to keep wearing our masks, which we

will continue to adhere to as long as is necessary, and keep our distance from others when outdoors and indoors in order to protect ourselves. It seems the medical companies are scrambling to make certain the vaccine will be cleared for human use. Much testing seems to be going on and every pharmaceutical company wants to be the first to come up with the correct vaccine. It is a race against time. Everyone, wants to be first.

As this problem continues on, we are all anxiously waiting for the word "start". But there is still much confusion about how this will all happen. The big question is when will the shots begin. What order will they be given? Of course, as is always the case, many families also do not believe in these shots.

We have all been isolated from

our friends for many months now with all the strict rules of keeping one's distance from one another, no visitations, and all the other restrictions enforced upon us. I truly think this stress is taking its toll on us all. I have spoken with a few friends and everyone sounds like they are in a somewhat depressed state including myself. I, myself, have decided to contact friends via the email once a week. We need our friends to converse with, in order to keep ourselves in a normal state of mind. I feel the virus has much to do with our depression. We all need someone other than just family to be able to converse freely. Let us all take care of ourselves and family. Please take care and hope this problem will come to an end soon. Stay well everyone. Gassho. ■

# Dharma School News

BY CINDY SAKAI

**WELCOME BACK TO DHARMA** School! We hope that you have all enjoyed your summer, were able to get in some fun and adventure, and that you and your families were able to stay safe and healthy!

Like your academic school year, we too have had to modify how we will have Dharma School with the COVID-19 restrictions still in place. Although it won't be Dharma School as usual, we are happy to announce that we will have Dharma School lessons once a month! The lessons will vary in delivery format. Lessons might be sent through email, pre-recorded ZOOM sessions, or live ZOOM sessions. The classes will be broken into three groups: preschool/kindergarten, elementary school, and high school (Jr. YBA). The middle school students may

choose whether they would like to attend the elementary school sessions or the high school sessions. **Classes are scheduled for September 27th, October 11th, and November 8th.** The Dharma School format, and time for each class and group will be sent out the week prior to the dates listed above.

We look forward to connecting again and hope to see you soon!

## Happy Birthday

Happy August birthday to **Franklin Anderson** and Happy September Birthday to **Emiko Masamori** and **Noemi Nguyen**.

## Thank you ...

Thank you to **Maya & Gary Lawrence** for your Pet Memorial donation. ■

## DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER 2020 BUSSHIN ARTICLES: September 25<sup>th</sup>:

Articles submitted after this date may not be printed.

## SEND ARTICLES TO:

**Joyce Yokomizo**

email: joyce@yokomizo.com

You can also send articles to the church office.

**BUSSHIN COLLATION: No Busshin collation due to Stay at Home Order.**

# Special Web Links

## BUDDHIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND WEBSITE

<http://www.buddhistchurchofoakland.org/>

## REV. BRIDGE'S SERMONS

<https://www.youtube.com/c/buddhistchurchofoakland>

## BCA SERVICE BOOK

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/18KI4SOj0EyQPmaF9NHeC5m1nLBJL6PDA/view?fbclid=IwAR3eqrppNTgKuuCHCIhxjC4XL-vMQv4t1KVXf7cbZyyxdGrwGCbmEzqx-LI>

## GENERAL/REV. BRIDGE

[www.dharmarealm.com](http://www.dharmarealm.com)

[instagram.com/gyokyo48/](https://www.instagram.com/gyokyo48/)

[twitter.com/gyokyo](https://twitter.com/gyokyo)

[facebook.com/gyokyo48](https://www.facebook.com/gyokyo48)

## AMAZON "SMILE" PROGRAM

<https://amazon.com/smile>



## URGENT! Volunteer drivers and kitchen help needed

If you are available on weekdays and are not in an elevated risk group for COVID-19 we want to hear from you!

Sign up today to help prepare & deliver hot Japanese lunches to homebound seniors in the East Bay

### Contact Kathleen Wong

(510) 654-4000 x16 or [kathleen@j-sei.org](mailto:kathleen@j-sei.org)

Or visit our website [www.j-sei.org/signup](http://www.j-sei.org/signup)

J-Sei, 1285 66th Street, Emeryville CA, (510) 654-4000, [www.j-sei.org](http://www.j-sei.org)

# 2020 October Shotsuki Memorial Service

Service: Sunday, October 4, 2020 ONLINE

Dharma Message by Rev. Harry Gyokyo Bridge

**PLEASE NOTE: For the safety of our members and visitors, the Buddhist Church of Oakland will be closed to the public.**

Family and friends are invited to attend this monthly online memorial service for those listed below. If any errors appear, please direct them to the church office at (510) 832-5988 or officebco@gmail.com at your earliest convenience.

Mrs. Maya Aikawa - *13th year*

Mr. Charles S. Ajari - *13th year*

Mrs. Kane Aochi

Mr. Shigeru Asakura

Mrs. Kane Baba

Mr. Takashi Baba - *13th year*

Mrs. Gloria Bucol

Mrs. Ichi Chiyoda

Mr. Hachiro Endo

Mr. Heitaro Fujii

Mrs. Kikuno Fujii

Mr. Fred Fujii

Mr. Rikizo Fujinami

Mrs. Marie Miyako Fujino

Mr. William Furuta

Mr. Miyao Harada

Mr. Sunao Harada - *50th year*

Mr. Katsuji Harano

Mrs. Seki Hayashi

Mr. Kiichi Hiramoto

Mr. Jitsuro Hiramoto

Mrs. Loralee Tucker Hiramoto

Mrs. Saki Hirao

Mrs. Fumiyo Honda - *7th year*

Mr. Horizo Horimoto

Mrs. Kiyoko Idehara

Mr. Jukiji Igaki

Mr. Tomenosuke Inouchi

Mrs. Fusayo Inouye

Mr. Shokichi Isono

Mr. Seitaro Iwamoto

Mr. Jitsugo Iwata

Mrs. Yuki Kamano

Mrs. Tatsumi Kanada

Mr. Seiso Kanesaki

Mrs. Alice Kaneshige - *7th year*

Mr. Shonosuke Kato

Mrs. Yoshiye Kawabata

Mrs. Hatsu Kawabe

Mr. Tokichi Kawamoto

Mr. Shuichi Kawaoka

Mr. Ichiro Kayatani

Mr. John Kido

Mr. Meiji Kido

Mrs. Teiko Kido

Mr. Takashi Kimoto

Ms. Setsuko Kimura

Mrs. Shige Kisanuki

Mr. Kokichi Kiya

Mr. Tameji Kobori

Mrs. Kathleen Koeber - *7th year*

Mrs. Jane Kosakura - *1st year*

Mrs. Yoshiye Kume

Mrs. Tama Kuritsubo

Mr. Harry Kurotori - *1st year*

Mrs. Tamae Kurotori

Mr. Shoroku Kuwahara

Mr. George Matsutani

Mrs. Grace Masui

Mrs. Sachi Masuyama - *17th year*

Mr. George Matsui - *1st year*

Mr. Gary Matsumoto

Mrs. Misty Minamihara

Mrs. Tomiko Minamoto

Miss Yuki Minamoto - *25th year*

Mr. Tomijiro Miyagawa

Rev. (Rinban) Shoki Mohri

Mrs. Kazue Mori

Mr. Roy Mori - *1st year*

Mr. Gene Tatsuo Moriki

Mrs. Sumiko Murashima

Mrs. Taki Nagafuji

Mr. Shigeji Naito - *3rd year*

Mr. Kohachi Nakao

Mrs. Satsuki Nakao

Rev. Juko Nakashima

Mrs. Tsuneno Nakatani

Mr. Ben Nakaya

Mr. Torataro Nakayama

Mr. Yaichi Nakazono

Mr. Alan Neishi

Mr. Motomu Neishi - *7th year*

Mr. Tsunekichi Niizawa

Mrs. Toshiko Ninomiya

Mr. Keary Nitta

Mr. Sam Hoyo Noma

Mr. Seizo Nomura

Mrs. Tamayo Norimoto

Mrs. Miyeko Okamoto

Mrs. Sei Okawa

Mrs. Fujie Oniki

Ms. Etsuko Onizuka

Mr. Edward Otake

Mr. Ted Hitoshige Sakaki

Mr. Kumamashichi Sakamoto

Mrs. Kikue Sameshima

Mrs. Hisa Sasaki

Mrs. Tomekichi Satake

Mr. Hidemi Seiji

Mr. Shigeru Seta

Mrs. Tomiye Seta

Mr. Yasumatsu Shigaya

Mrs. Ruth Shimada

Mr. Harvey Shinomoto

Mrs. Fumiko Evelyn Soga - *7th year*

Mr. George S. Takahashi

Mrs. Tame Takahashi

Mr. Shinobu Tani

Mr. Masayuki Terada - *33rd year*

Mr. Loren Teramura

Mr. Eiya Ugai

Mrs. Misao Watanabe

Mr. Wataru Watanabe

Mrs. Ruth Miyoko Wong

Mrs. Dai Yamabe

Baby Yamamoto

Mr. John Yamamoto

Mrs. Miyuki Lois Yamamoto

Mrs. Tatsuyo Yamamoto

Mrs. Chizuko Yamanaka - *17th year*

Mrs. Michi Yamane

Mr. Kuhachiro Yamaoka

Mrs. Tsuya Yamashita

Mr. Choshiro Yokoyama

Mrs. Yoshino Yokoyama

Mrs. Ino Yoshida

Mrs. Misa Yoshida

Mr. Yozo Yoshida

Mrs. Grace Yoshioka

Mr. Shosaburo Yoshioka

# Connections Between Traditional Okinawan Music & Buddhism

With Live Sanshin Performance

PRESENTED BY

## Dr. Wesley Ueunten

Professor of Asian American Studies at SFSU, member and officer of the San Francisco Okinawa Kenjinkai, performer and teacher of Okinawan music



[Register Here](#)

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH  
4PM TO 6PM PST**

A Live Zoom Online Video Presentation

Registration link:  
[www.buddhistchurchofOakland.org/registration/](http://www.buddhistchurchofOakland.org/registration/)

For details or questions:  
[programs@buddhistchurchofOakland.org](mailto:programs@buddhistchurchofOakland.org)

A FREE ONLINE EVENT MADE POSSIBLE BY THE-NAKASHIMA MASUYAMA FUND  
AND PRESENTED BY THE BCO LIFE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

## BCO Golf Fun Day Outing 2020\*



The Buddhist Church of Oakland will be holding a fundraising Golf Fun Day Outing. This outing is an opportunity for golfers to get out for a day of fun and golf after 7 months of sheltered in place. This will not be a tournament but rather just a day of fun in the sun.

**Monday, September 28, 2020**

**11:00 a.m. (shot gun start)**

**Berkeley Country Club** (Formerly Mira Vista Golf & Country Club)

7901 Cutting Blvd., El Cerrito CA 94530

**Donation: \$150.00 per person\***

(includes golf and \*cart, box lunch, raffle) – payment by credit card/PayPal is preferred. If paying by check, please make check payable to Buddhist Church of Oakland and mail to: 825 Jackson Street, Oakland, CA 94607.

**Contact:** Keiju Terada

[BCOGolf@BuddhistChurchofOakland.org](mailto:BCOGolf@BuddhistChurchofOakland.org)

[Register Here](#)

Registration link:  
<https://buddhistchurchofOakland.org/golf/>

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

\* For event details, rules and COVID regulations, please visit:  
<https://buddhistchurchofOakland.org/golf/>

# OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<b>HOST 4: Leader: Gail Taniwa-Ryujin</b> <b>Temple tentatively closed to public events in October</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Dharma Family Service YouTube Shotsuki Memorial & Adult Dharma Service YouTube	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Board of Directors Meeting Online 7:00 PM	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Dharma Family Service Keirokai Zoom/YouTube	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Dharma Family Service YouTube Eshinni/Kakushinni/Lady Ohtani Memorial Service, 10:45-11:30 am	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Busshin Articles Due	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Dharma Family Service YouTube	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>