

APRIL 2025

Busshin

VOL 68 NUM 4

What Are We Looking For? BY REV. HARRY GYOKYO BRIDGE

I REMEMBER WHEN I FIRST encountered the Dharma - it was at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple. I was visiting a friend who I had gone to high school with in Tokyo, and his mother asked if I wanted to go to a memorial service. In my head I said "No" but out loud I said something like "Ok" and went without any expectations. Little did I know it would change my life! Rev. Hiroshi Abiko was the speaker - I

wish I could remember what he said! I honestly have very little memory of the actual talk - I vaguely remember he might have said something about chicken teriyaki! But other than that, nothing. I do remember the feeling though. My friend's mother lent me some books, but they were too high-level for me, so I put them on a shelf and forgot them for several years.

Thinking back now, I ask myself,

"What was I looking for?" It seemed like I was primed for the temple visit, although I didn't know it then. I was very shy in high school, but one friend was a Jehovah's Witness and gave me a Bible and some issues of Watchtower magazine. I looked at them and they were mildly interesting, but weren't right for me either. I also had a simple book on quantum physics that suggested that

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President's Message

BY KEIJU TERADA

FEBRUARY WAS A BUSY MONTH at BCO. It started with our Annual General Meeting on February 2. We had some changes with members of the Board of Directors. The Board would like to thank **Michael Endo, Bill Dougherty, Patti Hisaoka, Jeffrey Hisaoka, and Jon Takagaki** for the

many years being on the Board and for actively participating in guidance and direction of the temple. In addition, the Board thanks **Kiyomi Nomura** for being the Recording Secretary this past year. However, she will remain on the Board of Directors. The Board welcomes new members - **Daniel Bisson-**

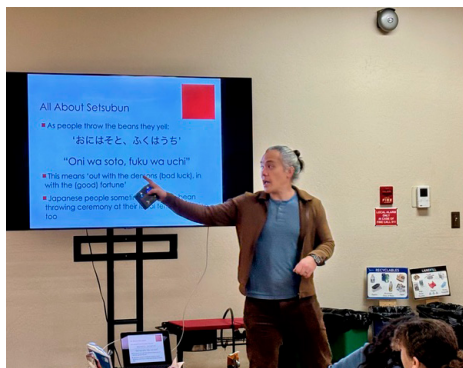
nette and Brian Wong. We look forward to their help on the 2025-2026 Board of Directors.

The temple started the restoration project of the naijin right after our Annual General Meeting and New Year luncheon. Two members of the

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AT THE END OF JANUARY, students met for a group lesson about Setsubun, a holiday in Japan. **Mr. Bissonnette** explained *Setsubun* traditions, like saying loudly, “*Oni wa soto, fuku wa ichi,*” (meaning “Out with the bad luck, in with the good fortune,”) while tossing roasted soybeans at someone wearing an oni (demon) mask. Students made origami boxes and cups to hold roasted soybeans that they joyfully tossed at high school students in *oni* masks. Students were all smiles and excitement when trying to scare the oni away! They then ate soybeans in the amount of their age plus one, another *Setsubun* tradition.

February’s separate class lessons continued this year’s learning theme “Golden Chain: Compassion In Action.” One way that PreK-1st grade students put compassion in action is learning about a different culture and increasing awareness. They learned about Palestinian symbols of resilience and solidarity with a read-aloud of *Homeland: My Father Dreams of Palestine*, by Hanna Moushabeck. Students drew keys and keffiyehs in their homemade “My Palestine” books. They also shared about clothing they wear that makes them feel proud and makes them feel good, building a simple connection that is foundational to compassion that “stretches around the world.”

Students in the 2nd-6th grade

class discussed their community needs and service learning projects that they created in the previous separate class lesson. After a vote, students decided to pursue supporting a local animal shelter as a longer term project. They also decided that they will reach out to local organizations to plan a day of environmental restoration and clean up. Stay tuned for more details to come!

To begin the Year of the Snake, the 7th-12th grade students each created colorful “Golden Chain” snakes from washi paper scrap strips from the OBWA. In each chain link, students wrote a personal reflection that embodies the different ideas in the Golden Chain II, such as “activities, foods, things, people that give you joy or help you feel “bright and strong,” and “Something you can do to help your community, family, school, team (‘pure & beautiful deeds’).” Students also noted something positive about someone they do not get along with (“pure and beautiful thoughts”), as that person is nonetheless another link in the Golden Chain.

If you’d like your **pet to be honored in the April 13, 2025 Pets Memorial Service**, and your pet has not been previously recognized, please email a completed Pets Memorial form (page 3) and a photo of your pet (optional) to officebco@gmail.com by March 30, 2025.



If you know a class of 2025 graduating high school, college, or graduate program student who would like to be recognized at the **June 1, 2025 Graduation Service and party**, please email the graduate’s name, the name of the school from which they are graduating, and the name of the school they are planning to attend in the fall of 2025 and their major (if applicable), to DharmaSchoolBCO@gmail.com by May 11, 2025.

Upcoming **2025 Dharma School dates** are **3/9, 3/16, 4/6, 4/13, 5/4, 5/18, and 6/1.**

Happy Birthday

A very Happy Birthday to Haru B., Izzy S.F., Yoko I.W., Toshiro K., Hana H., Akira N., Finley M. And Hazel H.!



Pet Memorial Service

April 13, 2025 • 10am

Our pets are very important members of our families. In remembrance of our beloved family pets, we will have a Pets Memorial Service on April 13 at 10:00am as part of the Dharma Family Service. We also want to show appreciation to the animals who give their lives for our sustenance. Please complete the form below and we will have a card made in your pet's memory. If you wish to have your pet's photo appear during the service, please send it digitally to officebco@gmail.com.

Please submit your name, address and your pet's name to the office by March 30, 2025 to have a memorial card made.



Your Name:

Your Address:

Your Pet(s)'s Name & Year She/He/They Passed Away:

Additional Pet(s)'s Name & Year She/He/They Passed Away:

Additional Pet(s)'s Name & Year She/He/They Passed Away:

Additional Pet(s)'s Name & Year She/He/They Passed Away:





ON JANUARY 31ST THROUGH February 2nd, the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) held its annual Leadership Workshop at the Jodo Shinshu Center (JSC) in Berkeley. BCO member **Betty Magome** attended and had this reflection on her experience:

“As a new member of the Buddhist Church of Oakland, I am an active attendee and volunteer. I gained many valuable insights from attending the Leadership Workshop. Firstly, un-

derstanding the substantial benefits provided by the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) highlighted the crucial role our membership dues play. Secondly, connecting with dynamic leaders from other Buddhist Churches broadened my perspective and opened up opportunities for collaboration with the BCA. By uniting to tackle shared challenges, together we can explore effective strategies to support one another, amplifying our collective impact within our communi-

ties and beyond. The weekend was an informative, collaborative, connecting, and inspiring experience. I highly recommend BCO members to plan to attend this annual program if they can.”

Attached are pictures of **Betty** at BCO, as well as with the other attendees (and leaders). Note that BCO members **Gayle Noguchi** (BCA Executive Director) and **Steve Terusaki** (BCA President) are in the front row. ■

Jr. YBA News

BY MADISON IKEDA

GREETINGS SANGHA,

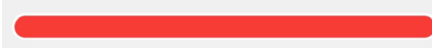
The Jr. YBA would like to thank everybody who contributed donations to the January Food Drive that was in partnership with the Alameda County Food Bank. The goal was to raise 1,000 dollars with the entire Bay District combined, and we exceeded the goal by raising a total 2,911 dollars. In addition, thank you to all who made donations of non-perishable foods.

Your contributions truly make a difference, and we are very grateful for all the support! We hope that everyone enjoys their Spring and to see you all at church soon.

In Gassho, The Jr. YBA ■

\$2,911.18

raised of \$1,000 goal



DEADLINE FOR MAY 2025

BUSSHIN ARTICLES:

MARCH 21ST

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.



REV. BRIDGE WAS UNABLE TO join us at our Feb. 6th meeting. After the church announcements, we were led in Yoga by our long-time instructor and friend, **Patty Hirota-Cohen**. This was her last class with us before taking permanent residency in Spain. We are grateful for her many years of guidance. We will surely miss her



but we definitely won't forget her or how many bones are in our feet and our spinal column, or how many types of abdominal muscles we have. Thank you, **Patty**, and please be sure to visit us whenever you come to the Bay Area.

Our Feb. 20th meeting started off with *Juseige* led by Rev. Bridge. He showed pictures of our *Naijin*, before and after the background screen of the Amida Buddha statue was removed and sent to Japan for refurbishment. With just a temporary cloth background, details of the statue, showing Amida Buddha standing on the lotus pad, were more definitive.

Robert Noguchi filled us in with the latest temple activities and announcements.

Then it was time to welcome our new Yoga instructor, **Norma Hoshide**. We have been fortunate to have had **Norma** teach us as a sub for **Patty** in the past. **Norma** gave us a short narrative of how old the teachings of Yoga are, being codified by a scholar in India, 200 BC.

For lunch we enjoyed hamburgers and fries from In-N-Out Burgers. Thank you **Karen** (custard treats) and **Judy** (cake with pineapple frosting) for the yummy desserts! ■

Come for Hanamatsuri April 6th!

SPRING IS QUICKLY APPROACHING, and once again it's time to celebrate Buddha's birth by pouring sweet tea over the small statue in BCO's *hanamido* at our annual Hanamatsuri service on **Sunday, April 6th**. This is one

of the most well-attended services and we look forward to seeing you there. The HOST 3 team (chaired by **Jon Takagaki**) will have coffee and breakfast treats ready before service. Please plan to stay for a deli-

cious otoki lunch! If you haven't been to Church in a while they'll be happy to share with you what's been happening at BCO (lots!) and the fun, exciting activities coming up. We look forward to seeing you there! ■



Trip to the Stupa & Luncheon

What: Service at BCSF, Tour the Stupa, & Luncheon



When: Sunday, April 27, 2025 – 9am-2pm
(includes lunch afterwards @ BCO)

Who: Anyone Interested

Description: This is an opportunity to see the relics of the Buddha, housed in the Stupa (pictured above) atop the roof of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco (BCSF). We'll take a bus to BCSF to attend the roam Sunday Service, followed by an introductory talk by **Resident Minister Rev. Melissa Opel**, before proceeding to the roof and entering the Stupa in small groups. We will then return back to BCO for lunch and fellowship.

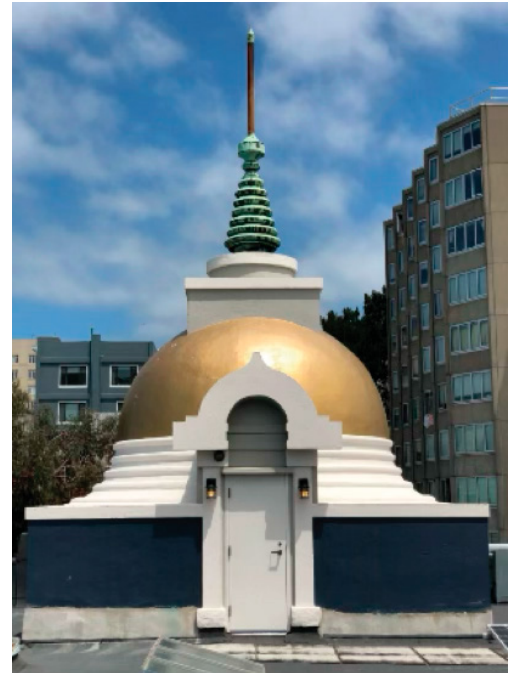
Cost: FREE – space is limited.

Questions: Email officebco@gmail.com

Sign-up: Contact BCO Office (510)832-5988 or click QR code by 4/1/2025.

This event is being made possible by the BCO Nakashima/Masuyama Fund

PLEASE NOTE: There is a steep, narrow stairway from the BCSF lobby up to the rooftop (not wheelchair accessible). Please consider this when signing-up for this trip.



AT THE LADY TAKEKO KUJO

and Members' Memorial Service on February 16, new OBWA officers were installed. They will serve a one year term. They are:

President:

Kathy Terusaki

Co-Vice Presidents:

Patti Hisaoka & Carol Thunen

Treasurer:

Judy Kano

Recording Secretary:

Peggy Takahashi

Corresponding Secretary:

Karen Hashimoto

New Bay District Buddhist Women's League (BDBWL) Officers are:

President:

Kathy Terusaki

Co-Vice-Presidents:

Patti Hisaoka & Carol Thunen

Treasurer:

June Masuyama

Recording Secretary:

Peggy Takahashi

Corresponding Secretary:

Sabrina Shepard

Auditor:

Joanne Makishima

Publicity & Historian

OPEN

They will serve a two-year term and the OBWA hosts the BDBWL meetings.

At our first meeting of 2025 on February 16, our treasurer, **Judy Kano**, reported that the funds in the OBWA checking account increased thanks to generous donations and sales from Bazaar and Obon, a big THANK YOU for everyone's contributions!

Please remember to make checks out to *Buddhist Church of Oakland - OBWA* to ensure funds are correctly allocated.



Please mark your calendars! OBWA meetings dates for 2025 are:

February 16

April 13

May 18

July 13

September 14

November 16

All meetings are over a potluck lunch and begin after Sunday services ~ 11:30. We look forward to seeing you.

Please mark your calendars with the following BDBWL meetings:

February 22

May 17

September 13

December 6

Meetings are on Saturday mornings starting 10:00 at the BCO. The OBWA would appreciate volunteers to help with set up and/or provide light refreshments. Please plan to be at church by 9:30 to help. We hope you'll be there.

SAVE THE DATES

March 30: OBWA Spring Luncheon after church service. Details to follow.

Bazaar 2025: June 14 Volunteer schedule will be in the May Busshin

FUTURE EVENTS TO CONSIDER

OBWA will be hosting the BDBWL Conference in spring, 2026. If you have any ideas for a theme or keynote speaker, please share them with us. Please contact Kathy Terusaki at kkterusaki@gmail.com.

Federation of Buddhist Women's Association (FBWA) conference will be **October 2 - 4, 2026 in San Diego**. If you're interested in helping organize, please contact Kathy.

World Buddhist Women's Conference (WBWC) conference will be held in **Hawaii from September 11 - 12, 2027**. For planning purposes, WBWC organizers would like to know how many attendees there will be. If you are interested in attending and/or planning this event, please contact Kathy. ■

Our Belonging Project & Buddhist Church of Oakland

present



OAKLAND FILM PREMIERE

+ Educator Curriculum Workshop

Teaching Local Japanese American History

Saturday, March 22, 2025 | Screening 1:00pm | Doors 12:30

Oakland Museum of California Theater, 1000 Oak Street, Oakland



OUSD Teachers can earn Professional Growth Units
or be compensated up to 4 Professional Development hours!

Scan
for tickets
& details!

Proceeds will benefit a PreK-12 Asian American
Studies Institute for Bay Area teachers to include
diverse local histories in curriculum.



BUDDHIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND (BCO)

presents



Hanamatsuri

Sunday, April 6, 2025

9:30am: Kambutsu (pour sweet tea over baby Buddha)

10:00am: Dharma School Hanamatsuri Service

10:20am: Adult Dharma Hanamatsuri Service

11:30am: Otoki Lunch

Hanamatsuri (Flower Festival) is a day of great joy and significance. Come see the baby Buddha in Lumbini's Garden (hanamido) and pour sweet tea over him, like the gentle rain that fell 2,500 years ago. Join us for this special service on April 6th.

Guest Speaker:

Rev. Michael Endo

Assistant Minister

Buddhist Church of Oakland



*This event is free and open to the public - Limited free parking is available
Coffee, juice and breakfast treats available from 9:15am*

Buddhist Church of Oakland

825 Jackson Street (at 9th St.), Oakland CA 94607

Phone: 510-832-5988 – e-mail: officebco@gmail.com

Check our website for upcoming services and events:

buddhistchurchofoakland.org

2025 April Shotsuki Memorial Service

Service: Sunday, April 13, 2025 at 11:00AM PDT In-person & Online

Dharma Message: Rev. Harry Gyokyo Bridge

The Shotsuki Memorial Service will be held both in-person and streaming online at 11:00 AM. These arrangements are subject to change in correspondence with safety guidelines – please consult the website for updates.

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

Mrs. Kinoe Adachi
Mr. Shigetaro Adachi
Mr. Matsuo Ernest Akaba – *1st year*
Mrs. Shima Akiyoshi
Mrs. Beatrice Akiko Bunna
Mr. Heisaku Fujii
Mr. Sakichi Fujii
Mrs. Tsue Fujii
Mrs. Takano Fukuda
Mr. Hiroshi Fujikawa
Mr. Kikuhei Fujimoto
Mrs. Mary Fujimoto
Mr. Tsuneji Gonda
Mrs. Shige Harada
Mr. Takashi Hatakeyama
Mr. Alan Hayashida
Mrs. Ruth Reiko Hirabayashi – *17th year*
Mr. Yoshio Hiramoto
Ms. Ichiko Hirao
Mr. Akira Hirota – *13th year*
Mr. Tadao Hisaoka
Mrs. Hamae Hori
Mr. Kijiro Hori
Mr. Misaku Horiuchi
Mrs. Toshiko Ikeda – *50th year*
Mrs. Matsu Ishikawa
Mrs. Toku Kamano
Mr. Harry Kanada – *17th year*
Mr. Jim Kanada
Mr. Sanzo Kanagaki
Mrs. Kitoe Kaneko
Mrs. Kimiko Kaneshige
Miss Pamela Kaneshige
Mr. Tadashi Kaneshige
Mr. Paul Kanzaki
Mrs. Ise Kato
Mr. Charles Kawata, Jr.
Mrs. Tora Kido
Mr. Kikutaro Kimura
Mr. Kunio Kisanuki
Mrs. Ruri Kitabayashi
Mr. Joe Kiyota
Mrs. Kiku Kobayashi – *50th year*
Mrs. Sono Kobayashi

Mr. Kenso Kobori
Mrs. Yasue Mae Kodani
Mrs. June Hisako Kuge
Mr. Sannosuke Kurotori
Mrs. Pati Ritsuko Lomas
Mrs. Jane Matsui
Mrs. Takeko Aline McVicker
Mr. George Isamu Misaki
Mrs. Kiyomi Miyagawa
Mr. Isao Mizusaki
Mr. Miyako Mori
Mr. Toshio Mori
Miss Takako Murakawa
Mr. Shozo Nagai
Miss Ellen Naito
Mr. Mitsuharu Naito – *25th year*
Mr. Shigeo Naito
Mrs. Alyce Nakagawa
Mrs. Jeanette Nakagawa
Mr. Fred Nakagiri
Mr. Toshiyuki Nakamura
Mrs. Asano Nakano
Mr. Yoshio Nakano
Mr. Wasaburo Nakano
Mr. Yonezo Nakatani
Mrs. Bernice Nakaya
Mr. Kiyoshi Nakaya
Mr. Takenori Nakayama
Mrs. Jane Nishi
Mr. Hideaki Noda
Mrs. Ayako Nomura
Miss Kazue Nomura
Mrs. Junko Nomura
Mrs. Kikuko Nomura
Mr. Shunso Norimoto
Mr. George Okai
Mr. Taigi Oniki
Mr. Tokuzo Otaguro
Mrs. Doreen Otsuka – *7th year*
Mr. Matsutaro Otsuka
Mrs. Etsuko Ryuji
Mrs. Kimi Sakai
Mrs. Isa Sata
Mrs. Sayoko Satake

Mr. Jukichi Seta
Mrs. Shizu Seta
Mrs. Fuji Setaka
Mr. Tetsuo Shigematsu
Mr. Iwao Shigemoto
Mr. Tsugio Sugimura
Mrs. Kita Sumimoto
Miss Keiko Takahashi
Mr. Takeshi Takahashi
Mr. Yozo Takahashi
Ms. Cynthia Takemoto
Miss Pam Tamori
Mr. Shoji Tamori
Mr. Shinnosuke Tamura
Mr. Ichitaro Tanabe
Mrs. Nancy Tanaka
Baby Tanaka
Mr. Carl Tani
Mr. Kyuzaburo Taniguchi
Mrs. Yakuye Terada
Mrs. Iku Tsuchiya
Mrs. Grace Tsujimoto
Mr. Reiichi Tsukimura
Mr. Seiichi Umemoto
Mrs. Kyo Watanabe
Mr. Chujiro Watanabe
Miss Mary Wehara
Mr. Katashi Yamabe
Mr. Minezo Yamamoto
Mr. Risaku Yamamoto
Mrs. Ruth Yamamoto
Mr. Toyotaro Yamanashi
Mr. Henry Yamashita
Mr. Fred Yokoyama
Mr. Sam Yoneyama – *7th year*
Mr. Jerry Yoshida
Mrs. Yone Yoshioka
Mr. Henry Yoshisato
Mr. Kiyoshi Yoshiura
Mr. George Yuto
Mrs. Kei Yuto
Mr. Risaburo Yuto

Donations

BCO would like to acknowledge the donations from our members and friends. We are very grateful and appreciative of your continued generosity and kindness. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Abrahamson, Norman & Susan
Allen, Keiko
Aochi, Lorraine
Eastly, Nii-Eastly, John & Stacy
Endo, Diane
Fujimoto, Kayoko
Fukawa, Fukawa, Diane & Haruko
Futaba, Pahta, Pati & Jon
Garten, Minamoto, Tom, Melyssa
Hamamoto, Jun
Harada, Sharon
Hayashida, Joanne
Hirabayashi, Steven
Hirahara, Carle
Hiramoto, Koyama, Stacie, Kenneth
Hisaoka, Patti
Horii, Brian & Thea
Hoshide, Norma
Ikeda, Tokiko
Inada, Rick & Gayle
Isono, Richard & Gail
Isono, Kiana
Isono, Kelani
Isono, Steve & Liz
Kano, Judy
Kaplan, Harvey & Gay
Kitabayashi Leaf, Sharon
Kong, Tina
Kurotori Family
Makishima, Dennis & Joanne
Matsuno, Jan & Akashi
Minamoto, John
Minamoto, Ed & Mabel
Mitsuda, Mary Hatsuko
Miyamori, Elaine
Miyasaki, Cathy
Miyouchi, Soumei
Morimoto, Aki & Marge
Murakawa, Katsuyo
Nagafuji, Akemi
Nakano, Rumiko
Nakaso, Peter & Lynn
Neishi, John
Neishi, Lynne
Nobori, George
Okano, Susan
Oniki, Christeen
Oto, Steven
Otsuka, Valerie
Otsuka, Mar, Lorraine, Stanley
Ryujin, Taniwa-Ryujin, Gail, Gail
Scott, Megan
Seiki, Richard & Tsuneko
Sekigahama, Janet

Taniguchi, Gary & Teresa
Terada, Lily
Tsuboi, Ken
Utsurogi, Louise
Wong, Larry & Janie
Yamamoto, Bruce & Cindy
Yokoyama, Eddie & Terry
Yoshida, Fusae
Yoshida, Kristina
Yoshida, Gloria
Yoshida, Kenji & Sharon
Yoshisato, Reiko

OBWA

Endo, Michael
*OBWA Member's Memorial Service
in memory of Chieko Endo*

SPECIAL

Anderson, Davis, Yamaoka Family
*Rev. Seigen Yamaoka 1-year
memorial*
BCO Dharma School
Office Supplies 2025
Bergland, Masuyama, Harry & June
*Rev. Seigen Yamaoka 1-year
memorial*
Buddhist Church of San Francisco
*Appreciation for use of mochi
steamers*
Hashimoto, Karen
Kim Nasu Best Appreciation
Hashimoto, Karen
*Rev. Seigen Yamaoka 1-year
memorial*
Kawata, Jean
*Rev. Seigen Yamaoka 1-year
memorial*
Kuritsubo, Ruby
*Rev. Seigen Yamaoka 1-year
memorial*
Nagata, Brian
Memorial Service for Jane S. Nagata
Oakland Buddhist Women's Association
*Altar Flowers, Lady Kujo/Members
Memorial Service 2/16/25*
Ryujin, Taniwa-Ryujin, Gail, Gail
General Donation
Yedlosky, Yaeko Kami
Mem of Robert Sekigahama

NOKOTSUDO

Kurotori Family

NIRVANA DAY

Hashimoto, Karen
Hisaoka, Patti

SHOTSUKI

Aochi, Lorraine & Aochi, Justine
Mem of Hiroji Aochi
Davis, Patricia
Mem of Kazuichi Oseto
Endo, Diane
Mem of Hatsuko Nomura
Fujimoto, Kayoko
Feb. Shotsuki
Grohl, Renie
*Mem of Kiku Fujii, Eiichi Yoshida,
Kino Yoshida*
Hayashida, JoAnne
Mem of Jean Kido
Hisaoka, Patti
Mem of Linnsey Akemi Hisaoka
Ikeda, Tokiko
Mem of Hisashi Ikeda
Imazumi, Sharon
Mem of Shiro Aochi
Kaneshige, John
Mem of Fred Nakamura
Kaplan, Harvey & Gay
*Mem of Sataro Hirai,
Jisaku Minamoto, Tokio Minamoto*
Kawaguchi, Scott
Mem of Mitsugi Neishi
Kawata, Jean
Mem of George Tsuboi - 3rd year
Makishima, Dennis & Joanne
Mem of Miyo Shigemoto
Minamoto, John
Mem of Tokio Minamoto
Minamoto, John
Mem of Jisaku Minamoto
Minamoto, John
Mem of Sataro Hirai
Minamoto, Ed & Mabel
*Mem of Sataro Hirai,
Jisaku Minamoto, Tokio Minamoto*
Miyouchi, Soumei
Feb. Shotsuki
Narasaki Family
Mem of Alvin Narasaki Sr.
Neishi, Lynne
March Shotsuki
Nomura, Sumiko
Mem of Shelley Yuto, Toshiyuki Yuto
Nomura, Ron & June
Feb. Shotsuki Service

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Special Web Links

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND WEBSITE

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

ONLINE SERVICES AND DHARMA TALKS

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

BCA SERVICE BOOK

<https://buddhistchurchofoakland.org/servicebook/>

REV. BRIDGE

www.dharmarealm.com

twitter.com/gyokyo

instagram.com/gyokyo48/

facebook.com/gyokyo48

BCO Buddhist Education Study Classes

A REMINDER THAT BCO BUDDHIST

Education Study Classes have resumed and scheduled for **Saturdays, March 15th, April 12th and May 10th from 1-3pm**. Everyone is invited to attend! ■

Donations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Otsuka, L.

Feb. Shotsuki

Sekigahama & Family, Janet

Mem of Yoshiko Hashimoto

Shimizu, Larry

Mem of Taizan Shimizu

Shohara, Janet

Mem of Hatsumi Shohara

Takagaki, Jon & Linda

Mem of Jeffrey Takagaki,

Tsurue Yoshisato

Takagaki, Jon & Linda

Mem of Don Yoshisato

Takagaki, Jon & Linda

Mem of Toshiharu Kimura

Tsuboi, Tom

Mem of George Tsuboi

Umemoto, Yasuko

Mem of Miss Fumiya Umemoto,

Sachiko Umemoto

Wong, Roger & Nancy

Mem of Nihachiro Sakaki

Yoshida, Fusae

Mem of Yoshida Family

Yoshiura, Kay

Mem of Kimie Yoshiura

Mark your
calendars &
SAVE THE
DATE

Buddhist Church of Oakland

BCO Bazaar & Food Festival

Saturday, June 14, 2025

12 Noon - 6pm

A Day Filled with
Great Food
and Family Fun!

Look for More
Information in the
Coming Weeks.



825 Jackson Street, Oakland, CA 94607

2 blocks from Lake Merritt BART Station

For more info: call 510-832-5988, buddhistchurchofoakland.org

What Are We Looking For? CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

the miracles of Jesus and the enlightenment of Buddha might have been due to their tapping into the quantum foam and accessing alternate realities...

I guess some of the bigger questions were related to living life. How could/should I live my life? Maybe I could see myself and become a better person? Now that I think about it, in high school I took a psychology class and realized that I had been traumatized in 2nd grade and had

erased an event from my memory. This event seemed to have a lot to do with who I was – maybe Buddhism could help me work with it?

Hanamatsuri is the celebration of the birth of the Buddha. He experienced several dimensions of life – the great fortune of being a prince, then giving it all away in the search for something bigger. Because he embarked on this quest, he was able to bring a multitude of teachings to us

to help us live our lives as best we can – not a life of perfection but a life of appreciation and awareness. Is there something you are looking for?

Our guest speaker for our Hanamatsuri Service is our very own **Rev. Michael Endo!** Come early on **Sunday, April 6** to do *Kanbutsu/bathe the baby Buddha (starting at 9:30 am)*, then join us for service to honor Buddha's birth and listen to the Dharma! ■

President's Message CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE



Taking down Amida's Palace

Wakabayashi Butsugu, with help of our Sangha members, carefully took apart the base and “palace” of the Amida Buddha statue, and a similar palace for Shinran Shonin (on the right side of the *naijin*). The disassembly and preparation continued until the following day when the shipping container arrived. The disassembled sections of the *naijin* were carefully secured in the container. We anxiously watched the shipping container leave the temple grounds. (You have to picture a semi with a container maneuver around our small parking lot.) We anxiously await the return of the refurbished parts next year, fully restored in time for our **125th anniversary celebration in October 2026**.

The next step was to make the *naijin* presentable for services. The *naijin* has been enhanced by adding black and golden fabrics as table coverings and backdrops. On the following Sunday, Feb. 9, for Nirvana Day Service, the *naijin* was beautifully displayed. The Amida Buddha statue, originally planned to be temporarily stored, was back in its usual place as a temporary base was found on which the statue could stand.

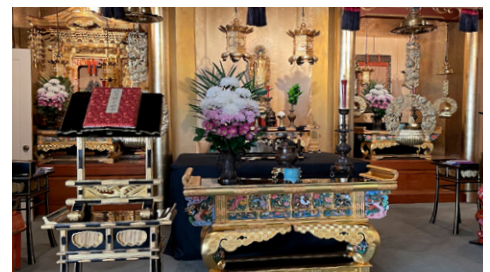
We thank the many people who helped with this restoration project. A big thank you to **Rev. Harry Bridge, Rev. Michael Endo and Ron Nomura** who provided oversight on this project. We thank **Rev. Bridge, Rev. Endo, Mika Bridge, Ron Nomura, Norm Yoshida, Jon Takagaki, John Minamoto, Ed Minamoto, Eric Masamori, Peggy Takahashi, Keiju Terada, Carlo Manaois, and Phil Li** for their help in the disassembly and assisting the **Wakabayashi Butsugu team**. In enhancing the appearance of the *naijin*, thank you to **Rev. Michael Endo, Ron Nomura, John Minamoto, Mika Bridge, and Ruth Terada**. We greatly appreciate the time and effort of these volunteers. Our hands together in *Gassho* and gratitude. ■



Eric Masamori, Jon Takagaki, Phil Li



Loading the shipping container



The new temporary *naijin*

APRIL 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 PM	3 10:00 am Momijikai	4	5 9:00 am Japanese Language School
6 9:30 am Kanbutsu 10:00 am Hanamatsuri Service Dharma School & DFS In person & online Luncheon	7	8	9	10 11:00 am Concord Howakai	11	12 9:00 am Japanese Language School 1:00 pm Study Class Ikebana Issei Kaikan 1:00 – 4:00 pm
13 10:00 am Pets Memorial Service Dharma School & DFS In person & online 11:00 am Shotsuki Memorial & Adult Dharma Service	14	15 Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 PM	16 FOMC (Facilities Operations & Maintenance Committee) Meeting 7:00 PM	17 10:00 am Momijikai	18	19 9:00 am Japanese Language School
20 10:00 am Dharma Family Service In person & online	21	22	23	24	25	26 9:00 am Japanese Language School
27 10:00 am Dharma Family Service In person & online Trip to BCSF & Stupa	28	29	30	HOST 3: Jon Takagaki For HOST details, please check with your HOST leader.		

MAY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
HOST 4: Donald Endo For HOST details, please check with your HOST leader.				1 Momijikai 10:00 am	2	3 9:00 am Japanese Language School
4 10:00 am Dharma School Service In person & online Shotsuki Memorial Service 11:00 am In person & online	5	6	7 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm	8 Concord Howakai 11:00 am	9	10 9:00 am Japanese Language School Study Class 1:00 pm Ikebana Issei Kaikan 1:00-4:00 pm
11 10:00 am Dharma Family Service In person & online	12	13 Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 pm	14 FOMC Meeting Facilities Operations & Maintenance Committee 7:00 pm	15 Momijikai 10:00 am	16	17 9:00 am Japanese Language School
18 10:00 am Gotane / Fujimatsuri & Infant Presentation Service incl. Dharma School In person & online	19	20	21 Busshin Articles Due	22	23 Memorial Day Weekend Cemetery Visitations	24 No Japanese Language School Memorial Day Weekend Cemetery Visitations
25 Memorial Day Weekend Cemetery Visitations Office Hours: 1:00-4:00 pm Memorial Day Service 4:00 pm	26 Holiday Office Closed	27	28	29	30	31 9:00 am Japanese Language School