

# BUSSEI SCRIPT

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## OBON

By Rev. Kenji Akahoshi, Resident Minister



Obon is a wonderful representation of Jodo Shinshu as a living religion. It exhibits the important Shin teachings by incorporating the body, mind and spirit. Most of our important Jodo Shinshu religious days are observed by a religious Service. Obon includes the activity of a dance to enhance our participation and appreciation for its meaning. The Obon dance is not the

only physical component, as there is much activity, as sangha members tirelessly prepare food and other accommodations for members and others in the general public. It is a time for sharing the practical and spiritual values of our religion. It is a time to dance.

Most members are familiar with the story of Moggallana dancing with joy, after becoming aware that his mother had been released from the sufferings of the after-life to a state of bliss. Thus, the Obon dance replicates this story with an activity that expresses our joyous gratitude to those who have passed on, whose life efforts have made our lives possible. It may seem ironic that this "gathering of joy" is a response to the death of loved ones. But this perspective is one that is engendered if one is able to truly hear the teachings of the Buddha. While our ordinary mind is overwhelmed by the grief and loss of a loved one, the wise and compassionate words of the Buddha supports our hearts with an expanded reality. Our sadness is balanced by memories of love and support given to us by those who have passed on. The sadness of observing the end of a linear life, is balanced by this Obon dance that symbolizes the cyclic nature of all life. Each life must end, but our recognition that our life is the result of the efforts of others, inspires us to continue this perpetual cycle.

The Obon dance is the most obvious display of the Buddhist concept of interdependence. But we might be reminded that all the activity and effort put forth to present the Obon dance for our members and the general public, is also a reflection of this interdependence. If our ordinary, ego-centric mind is troubled with the idea that this work is a burden, then we might be reminded to hear the words of the Buddha. Our efforts in preparing this event, is the same as

the efforts of those loved ones who have passed on. If it were not for their hard work, the words of the Buddha may not be available for us. The sadness of death and the drudgery of work might depress us. But the Buddhadharma reminds us of the joy and gratitude of ordinary life. The Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu, is the constant reminder of this gift received from others. The Obon dance of joy and gratitude is the natural expression of our awakening to this true reality.

I know that visitors to the Obon event are often impressed by the dedicated work of temple members. The tireless effort of the sangha members, are a powerful explanation of Shin Buddhism. Participants of all ages demonstrate the Shin Dharma in their activities. The working is the dance. Here, the teachings transcend philosophy, meditation, Dharma talks and chanting. The whole activity of Obon becomes a living demonstration of Shin Buddhism.

There is sometimes a misunderstood perception that, because of the many memorial services, Shin Buddhism seems to focus on death. Actually, the opposite is true. Buddhism has always emphasized the importance of the present moment. One of the important messages of our memorial services, is the interconnection of all things. On reflecting upon the loss of a loved one, we personally feel and realize the impermanence of life. We acknowledge and express appreciation for the efforts of those others who have contributed to our lives. Thus the teachings become real for us, as we realize that we are still connected to those who have passed on and also to all others who are still alive. We become the instruments to pass-on the melodies of the past to those in the future, just as our grandparents and parents have done for us. This is one reason why we dance with joy.

I recall dancing with my parents at the Hatsubon (1<sup>st</sup> year memorial) of my grandmother. In later years, the dance was for my father or another relative. Although there were tears in my eyes, there was great comfort to have this opportunity to honor them. I recalled the many years of dedicated service they provided the temple as ordinary sangha members. Obon is a special time. A homecoming. A time to feel connected to those who have passed on, and to those who are still with us. It is a chance to meet and greet old and new friends; working, dancing, serving others in a spirit of Oneness. Obon is not just about death, it is about life: a life of Nembutsu.

*Gassho,*  
Kenji Sensei

# AUGUST 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 10 a.m. – Bon Odori Prep	3 8 a.m. – Bon Odori Prep 4 – 9 p.m. 夏祭り盆踊り大会 BON ODORI – Bon Dance Festival Campers return from LABCC Camp
4 NO SERVICE (Temple Closed)	5 Temple Closed 7 p.m. – W&M Mtg. @Conf. Rm.	6	7 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Conf. Room	8 6:30 pm – Board of Directors Mtg. @Conf. Rm.	9	10 9 a.m.-1 p.m. RUMMAGE SALE Preparation
11 NO SERVICE 9 a.m.-1 p.m. RUMMAGE SALE Preparation Taiko Practice @Annex Hall	12 Temple Closed	13 6:30 p.m. – TAIKO Practice @Sangha Hall	14 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Conf. Room	15 4-9 p.m. RUMMAGE SALE Preparation	16 4-9 p.m. RUMMAGE SALE Preparation	17 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. RUMMAGE SALE
18 NO SERVICE 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. RUMMAGE SALE	19 Temple Closed	20	21 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Conf. Room	22	23	24 12 p.m. – YBA Okonomiyaki Cooking Class @Sangha Hall 4-5:30 p.m. – VFW Teriyaki Chicken Dinner @Annex Hall 6-9 p.m. BTSD/VFW BINGO @Annex Hall
25 NO SERVICE (Temple Closed) 8 a.m. – BTSD Golf Tournament @Eastlake CC, Chula Vista Taiko Practice @Annex Hall	26 Temple Closed	27 6:30 p.m. – TAIKO Practice @Annex Hall	28 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Conf. Room 7 p.m. – Fundraising Mtg. @Conf. Room	29	30	31

## A NEW BEGINNING: BTSD

### WELCOMES AKAHOSHI-SENSEI

Starting August 1, the Buddhist Temple of San Diego will welcome Rev. Kenji Akahoshi as its resident minister. Kenji-sensei becomes the 13<sup>th</sup> resident minister in the temple's 87-year history.

Rev. Akahoshi first visited BTSD on May 12 as a guest speaker when he delivered two messages – one to the Dharma School students and a second to the adults. He was very well-received by the Sangha. On June 9, Kenji-sensei and his wife Karen visited BTSD and sites around San Diego. With the recent departure of Rev. Mukojima, Kenji-sensei traveled to San Diego to officiate the Hatsubon and O Bon services on July 28

Officially, the first big event involving Kenji-sensei, and his wife, will be the temple's Bon Odori on Saturday, August 3. Prior to the odori, sensei will conduct an Introduction to Buddhism presentation in the hondo. The event is open to the public.

Kenji-sensei brings to BTSD a rich and dynamic approach of experiencing Shin Buddhism and the Nembutsu teaching that affect personal experiences in today's world.

With BTSD being his first ministerial assignment, Kenji-sensei will serve as a kyoshi minister, a status designated by the Buddhist Churches of America. He will be mentored by Rev. Marvin Harada of the Orange County Buddhist Church.

Kenji-sensei is originally from San Jose where he practiced dentistry for over 30 years and was an active member of the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin. His background with the Betsuin included membership on the Board of Directors and serving as church president (1995-96). Kenji-sensei conducted study classes under the Betsuin's BEC program and was involved with Dharma School. He received a master's degree in trans-personal (spiritual) psychology. He attended and graduated from IBS in 2010, while he was transitioning out of dentistry. Kenji-sensei was ordained in the tokudo ceremony in 2010 and received kyoshi status from the Hongwanji in Kyoto in December 2012.

Karen Terao Akahoshi is the daughter of the late Rev. Eiyo Terao who started the Spokane Buddhist Church and also served at the Alameda Buddhist Temple. Karen wrote a five-part series that appeared in the Wheel of Dharma chronicling her life growing up at the Spokane church. Her series was part of a speech presented at the Northwest District Buddhist convention. The Akahoshis have two adult sons, Garrett and Kirk.

Please extend a warm San Diego welcome to Rev. Kenji and Karen Akahoshi, and becoming part of the BTSD Sangha. *Gassho,*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Glenn Torio, Board President

The weather this summer has had us searching for that shady area under a big tree, with a nice cool breeze blowing

in our faces. Somehow, spending time in the Hawaiian Islands early this June made it okay to be in the 80's and low 90's! We are spoiled and lucky to live in San Diego. Reverend Kenji Akahoshi, and wife Karen, are just beginning to experience our bit of paradise as they begin their tenure here, as our new Resident Minister and Okusan beginning on August 1. They will be living in Chula Vista at the temple residence. They spent a little time exploring the area near the residence on their last visit. I am sure we will all be giving them advice on where the best restaurants and shops are in San Diego County! Until Dharma School and Family Services resume, they will have a little time to get acclimated.

I would like to thank you all for your patience during this process we have been going through to obtain a new minister. With the shortage of new incoming ministers throughout the BCA, we are fortunate to have been able to obtain a replacement. As a representative of the Temple Board of Directors, we will continue on our path to continue to grow and do what is best for our Temple and Sangha, with the spiritual guidance of Reverend Akahoshi. I encourage you all to attend our Obon Festival on August 3 and meet the Akahoshis, if you missed them at the Hatsubon/Obon service on July 28. *Gassho.*

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

*On Thursday, July 11, 2013, the Board of Directors met and the following items were acted on or discussed.*

1. Rev. Mukojima thanked the Board of Directors and the BTSD Sangha for their support during his tenure. Board President Glenn Torio thanked Rev. Mukojima for his guidance, and for helping the Sangha grow these past eight years.
2. Rev. Mukojima's last day in San Diego will be July 20; new Resident Minister Glenn Kenji Akahoshi, will begin his duties on August 1.
3. Condolences to the family of the late George Masumoto, who passed away on June 25.
4. The Treasurer is projecting a positive account balance for the 2013 Fiscal Year End. This is based on increased income from all planned 2013 fundraisers.
5. Seed money was approved for the November 16 Dinner-Dance fundraiser.
6. Monies were approved for required painting and other maintenance work at the Minister's residence.
7. The Board approved a Farewell Gift for departing Resident Minister, Rev. Mukojima.
8. The Board approved covering travel and other expenses for Rev. Akahoshi, who will officiate the Hatsubon and Obon Services.
9. The Board approved covering moving expenses for Rev. and Mrs. Akahoshi.
10. The Board approved expenditures for hardware necessary for setting up a PayPal account to accept Credit Card purchases at events.

11. The Board recommended that Michael Kinoshita continue to serve as one of the two BTSD representatives (the other is Steven Tomiyama) on the Kiku Gardens Board. Michael's term expires in 2013.

## ABA NEWS

July started out with a dinner meeting at Kanpai restaurant. Rev. Mukojima and his family were able to join us, as this was our last time to enjoy their company before their departure. All who attended enjoyed their dinner. We thank Motoo and Angie for the delicious Manju for dessert.

On July 14, we all attended the farewell luncheon for Sensei and his family. We will miss them, and wish them the best as they travel to Mountain View.

The next event will be Obon Service on July 28 and Bon Odori on August 3.

Our next meeting will be a Breakfast meeting at Island Style Café on Saturday, September 7 at 9:00 a.m. Please let Motoo or Tsune know if you would like to attend.

## BWA NEWS

July was a month of reflection and gratitude for our BWA members. As we bade farewell to Mukojima Sensei and his family at the Temple sponsored Appreciation Luncheon, we were reminded of the many fond memories that we had with him and had the opportunity to express our gratitude with a token of our appreciation. We shared a happy memory with them at our annual birthday party that we gave for Sensei, Kurumi-chan, and Oji-kun. Because Sensei wanted to do a final cleaning of the items in the Onajin before his departure, our members were happy to have had the opportunity to share that last yearly responsibility with him before he drove to Mountain View the next day.

Five of our members were able to attend the Southern District Conference at the L.A. Betsuin. Thank you to Mrs. Aoyama for allowing Sensei to drive her van. Thank you for everyone's help in making 163 chirashi plates which was served to the Sangha as otoki following the Gotan-E Service.

Coming up in August, we will be helping to prepare some of the food for the obento boxes to be sold at the Obon Odori. Lastly, we are grateful to be able to welcome our new minister, Rev. Akahoshi, at our Obon service and looking forward to creating new memories with him.

We encourage all our members to attend the Obon Service on July 28 and the Obon Odori on August 3. There will be no meeting in August. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, September 8 at 12:00 p.m. with Group B providing refreshments.

## DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

The 2013-2014 Dharma School planning meeting was held on July 9. Teachers and classroom assignments were discussed, as well as the overall staff.

Recent college graduates, Kevin Lee, Sarah Matsumoto, and Carol Taira were recognized at the temple's Hatsuobon/Obon service on July 28. The Dharma School students assembled paper lanterns for the Hatsuobon families and loved ones, which will be displayed at the Bon Odori on Aug. 3.

Nine students, ages 8-13, will be spending the week, July 27 to August 3 at the Los Angeles Buddhist Coordinating Council (LABCC) Camp at Camp Morningstar, in the San Bernardino Mountains. They will arrive home just in time for our Obon Odori. Campers will share some of their experiences in future Dharma School articles.

Many Dharma School students and temple members attended the Family Services on July 7 and 14. Rev. Mukojima gave his final Dharma talk on July 14, reflecting on how special his eight years in San Diego. It was an emotional and touching service, followed by a wonderful farewell party for Rev. Mukojima, Mika-san, Kurumi-chan, and Oji-kun. Dharma School students and staff sang "You Give Us a Reason" to the Mukojima family. Rev. Mukojima and family led the singing of "Sukiyaki." Kurumi-chan definitely has a future as a singer or some type of performer with her singing abilities! Although he will be in Mountain View, we will be reminded of how Sensei inspired us every time we eat somen, sing "A Special Place," chant "Ju Sei Ge," make sushi, jump rope, see a panda, and read "The Giving Tree." Thank you, Rev. Mukojima, for your guidance and dedication to the Dharma School. We will miss you and your family, and wish you all the best in your future.

In Gassho,  
Ann Ong, Assist. Superintendent

### Culture Series:

### *OKONOMIYAKI Cooking Class*

Did you hear about how successful the YAKISOBA Cooking Class was and bummed that you didn't attend? Or, did you attend and can't wait to learn how to make more delicious food?

Learn to cook OKONOMIYAKI at the second of a series of classes organized by the YBA. This Culture Series class will be held on Saturday, August 24 at 12 p.m. in the Sangha Hall. See the process from start to finish by a cooking instructor, then try it yourself and eat it too! Bring your family and friends, all ages are welcome.

The class will be \$7 per person to cover the cost of supplies. Please RSVP by August 16 to Kimberly Kruse ([kimberlykruse214@gmail.com](mailto:kimberlykruse214@gmail.com)) or in the BTSD office. We hope to see you there!

## JR. YBA REPORT

We haven't been too busy with Southern District activities. Most Jr. YBA members were able to participate in the Mukojima's farewell party by serving tea and helping out where it was needed.

We will be hosting the Opportunity Drawing during Obon. Tickets are available for purchase at \$2 each, or 12 tickets for \$20. We will also be selling tickets on the day of the Obon Festival. You can either find us at the ticket booth or track down one of the Jr. YBA members who will be walking around with tickets. A portion of the proceeds will help fund our trip to the Annual Southern District Conference, which will be hosted by Arizona this September.

## ACTIVITIES REPORT

The Obon committee is looking forward to seeing everyone at our Annual Obon Odori on August 3. This year, our start time will be one hour earlier at 4 p.m.

We will be selling the delicious bento boxes, spam musubi, somen salad, "Yummy" beef sandwiches, beef and chicken skewers, taiyaki, Teriburgers, shaved ice, kintoki, lemonade, iced green tea and bakery items.

We are looking for volunteers to help out on Friday and Saturday. Also, we welcome any donation of baked goods. If you are available on either day (or both!), please call the temple at (619) 239-0896.

Save-the-date for these upcoming events:

**RUMMAGE SALE** (August 17 - 18)

**BTSD GOLF TOURNAMENT** (August 25)

**ASIAN FOOD AND CRAFT FAIR** (October 20)

There were a couple of donors from our Cultural Bazaar that we failed to recognize in last month's Bussei Script. A big thank you to:

- Albertsons (Tierra Santa), Mr. Brian G. Swartwood, Store Director
- Vons (Clairemont Mesa), Ms. Deann Lowell, Asst. Mgr.

We deeply apologize for omitting these donors, and are very much thankful for their contributions.

In Gassho,  
LuAnn Lee, Activities Chair

## BINGO UPDATE

Bingo Night on June 29 had a pretty good turnout as the Temple had their Chicken Katsu dinner. It was really good! We hope many of you will come out again. The VFW served their delicious Hot dogs, and Chili dogs at the July 27 Bingo.

Remember, the Temple receives 50% of all proceeds. Buy-in is \$10.00 with extra cards at \$0.50 each. You also get a free raffle ticket for the drawing with the buy-in. Pull tabs are also available for \$0.50 each.

For the August 24 Bingo Night, the VFW will be hosting a Teriyaki Chicken Dinner. Please come out to support their fundraiser, and be sure to reserve your chicken dinner!

## 2013 BTSD SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2013 BTSD High School and Continuing Education Scholarships to be presented during the Obon Service.

The following high school graduates will each receive a Ben Honda Memorial High School Senior Scholarship of \$500:

- **Christina Guiang** is a graduate of Canyon Crest Academy. She has been accepted into Portland State University's Urban Honors program where she will major in International Studies-East Asia. Christina has been active in the Jr. YBA all four years, serving as Secretary and Vice President. She enjoys soccer, music, foreign language and the visual arts. She is the daughter of members Cynthia and Orlando Guiang,
- **Darren Fujii**, a graduate of Westview High School, is the son of members Doreen Kamada-Fujii and James Fujii. He participated in the Dharma School program through the 8th grade. He was active in his school's music program and enjoys history, archery and drawing. He'll attend the University of Rochester and plans to major in Engineering with a minor in music performance.
- **Lauren Uchiyama**, also a Canyon Crest Academy graduate, plans to attend the University of California at Davis with a Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major and a minor in Animal Sciences. Her parents are members Tissa Hata Uchiyama and Chris Uchiyama, and Rev. Akira Hata is her grandfather.

This year's essay prompt for applicants was, "How Has your perspective on Buddhism in general and Jodo Shinshu in particular changed since you started taking college courses?" Two college students will receive the Tetsuyo Kashima Memorial Continuing Education Scholarship of \$500:

- **Will Coppock** is a Senior Economics major at the University of California at Riverside. He says college life illustrates Buddhist teaching that life is suffering and that suffering can be alleviated by self awareness.
- **Trevor Kinoshita** is an Industrial Design major in his senior year at San Jose State University. In his essay, he said Buddhism discussed in some of his classes helped him put his previous knowledge into perspective in the context of how Buddhist thought is viewed around the world.

The scholarship fund and program was established by a one-time donation in memory of Masaaki Tanizaki and augmented by generous donations such as that by the Matsui family in memory of Fusako Matsui and Taro Matsui. The fund is maintained by temple and annual contributions to the fund come from those who indicate on their annual membership pledge they would like to contribute; from direct donations to the fund; and from your donations to and sales proceeds from the Obon Again Shop.

We'd also like to remind our membership that the fund helps not only college students, but also members who wish to enrich their Buddhist knowledge. Individual grants are available to members who wish to attend classes and seminars outside of San Diego such as those offered at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley. Obtain an application from the office or from Bill or Joyce Teague.

The Scholarship Committee would like to thank longtime member Gale Kaneshiro who recently announced her retirement from the committee this year. We are grateful to Gale for her participation in and contributions to our meetings and for making the award presentations at the Obon Service in recent years.

## ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE— AUGUST 17-18

The temple's annual Rummage Sale will be held Aug. 17 and 18. This important fundraiser is made possible by your donations of gently-used discards and the efforts of our hardworking volunteers. Clothing, books, furniture, household goods, toys and most other items are welcomed. **PLEASE - Electronics, appliances and computer equipment must be in working order** – it can cost the temple to discard or recycle non-functioning equipment.

Please call or email our temple secretary to make sure that someone is available to receive your items. If you have large pieces that require pick-up, you can request pick-up from our volunteers. It would be helpful if an inventory of items to be picked up, can be provided – we want to be sure that we can accommodate your request. Receipts for your tax records are available.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** We've had many generous donations this year which means we need extra help sorting and pricing.

Volunteers are needed to assist with donation pick-ups, but mostly for pre-sale sorting and pricing and on sale days. Sorting and pricing days are: Saturday, Aug. 10 and Sunday, Aug. 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Thursday, Aug. 15, 4-9 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 16, 4-9 p.m. is our set-up day (pricing and sorting continues).

Sale hours are Saturday, Aug. 17, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 18, 8 a.m. to noon.

A set-up crew is needed at 6:30 a.m. on Saturday (Aug. 17), and at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday (Aug. 18). A breakdown crew is needed at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday until completion.

Light lunch will be provided for our Aug. 10 and 11 volunteers; dinner will be provided for our Thursday and Friday volunteers. On Sale days, there will be a potluck for our volunteers.

Sign-up lists will be posted soon. You can also contact the temple office if you are able to help out.

Thank you in advance for your support and hard work!

Your 2013 Rummage Sale Committee

## BTSD GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 18<sup>th</sup> annual Buddhist Temple of San Diego Golf Tournament will take place on Sunday, August 25 at Eastlake Country Club in Chula Vista.

Registration fee for the four-person scramble is \$115 per golfer. Fees include one round of golf, golf cart, practice

range balls, donuts, coffee, beverages, awards, and post-tournament BBQ lunch.

Deadline to register is Sunday, August 11.

Golfers who participated in previous tournaments should have received a brochure and registration form. If you have not received your packet, please contact the temple or download the form from the BTSD website.

Tournament check-in will be from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. First tee-off is at 8. New this year will be a 50/50 putting contest. Entry fee is \$5.

Each year the tournament attracts tournament regulars, new faces and players of all skill levels. With the scramble format, a congenial foursome mix, catching up with friends, great weather and helping out the temple, the tournament makes for a fun and enjoyable day of golf.

Through generous donations, monetary sponsorships and raffle have grown considerably. The tournament encourages non-golfers to participate through these opportunities.

Please consider a monetary sponsorship. Categories include the following: Hole-in-one \$1,000; Eagle \$750; Birdie \$625; Beverage cart \$500; Closest to the pin \$325; Longest Drive \$250; Hole sponsor \$125; Gallery sponsor \$100 and below.

Sponsors who commit \$125 and above will be acknowledged with signage throughout the golf course. All sponsors and merchandise donors will appear on the donor board.

The deadline for sponsorships and donations is August 19.

Once again, this year's co-chairs are Ron Yagura and Ralph Honda. Please contact the co-chairs or the temple for more information.

## VFW CHICKEN DINNER FUNDRAISER

Asian Pacific Post 4851 will serve its delicious Chicken Teriyaki at its annual benefit dinner on Saturday, August 24 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Donation is \$10. The dinner will take place prior to the monthly BINGO which runs from 6 to 9 p.m. The VFW looks forward to your support!

## REMEMBER TO SAVE-THE-DATE!!!

Enjoy an "Enchanted Evening" at the Temple sponsored Benefit Dinner Dance on **Saturday, November 16** from 6:30 - 11:30 p.m. in the BTSD Annex Hall.

\$45 per person includes: A delicious dinner, dancing, 2 drink tickets, casino tables, music by J.P. Productions, and a fun evening with your friends!

Tickets on sale soon!





## BTSD SAYS THANK YOU TO MUKOJIMA-SENSEI FOR EIGHT GREAT YEARS

Bidding farewell was difficult.

An emotional and appreciative audience of 235 packed the Annex Hall on Sunday, July 14, to welcome, give thanks, shed a few tears and applaud Rev. Yushi Mukojima and his family for eight wonderful years of service to the Buddhist Temple of San Diego.

The theme was Beach Party and the attendees dressed in their favorite Hawaiian attire.

Ken Muraoka served as Master of Ceremonies and introduced the guests of honor as they entered the hall to a standing ovation.

Sensei wore a colorful Hawaiian orchid shirt, and Mika-san a matching dress. Daughter Kurumi wore a green and white aloha dress, while baby Oji donned a blue Hawaiian shirt. Sensei, Mika-san and Kurumi-chan wore flower leis.

The MC began his introduction with a video story of sensei's sidekick, Putra, visiting San Diego hot spots including the Zoo, SeaWorld, the beach, and of course, Rubios.

A traditional celebratory shigin (poem) sung Mr. Koryu Morikawa, representing the temple's Shigin-kai, was performed. President Glenn Torio said a few words on behalf of the temple and led the "Kampai" toast. Prior to the meal, Rev. Akira Hata led Shokuzen No Gassho.

Ichiban Restaurant Hillcrest provided delicious regular and vegetarian bentos. KFC chicken meal was also available. Everyone enjoyed scrumptious cake baked by temple member, LuAnn Lee.

### RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION

Members representing community organizations were introduced and all provided presentations and congratulatory remarks. The presenters: Ron Krause (Asian Pacific Post 4851), Rev. Mary Sue Brookshire (Pioneer Ocean View United Church of Christ), Dr. Jim and Sharon Kunugi (San Diego Japanese Christian Church), Ford Omori (Vista Buddhist Temple), Gagandeep Kaur and Raman Singh (Interreligious Council), Dennis Otsuji (San Diego Friendship Garden), Debra Kodama (Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego), Masanobu Kinjo (Japanese Coordinating Council), Steve Sato (Kiku Gardens) and Kate Leonard (Honorary Consul General of Japan in San Diego).

A proclamation from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors was presented to sensei by Yovanne Sachiko Held, representing the offices of supervisors Dave Roberts and Greg Cox. The proclamation dedicated Sunday, July 14, 2013 as Rev. Mukojima Day in San Diego. What an honor!

After lunch, it was the temple's turn to make numerous presentations. Maribeth "Smitty" Smith represented the temple group that traveled to Japan with Sensei for Shiran Shonin's 750<sup>th</sup> Memorial in 2011. Susan Moribe (BWA), Motoo Tsuneyoshi (ABA), Avis Honda (Dharma School), Breven Honda (Sangha Teens), Lauren Uchiyama (Jr. YBA), Jamie Shimizu (YBA), Ann Ong (YABA), Glenn Torio (Board of Directors) and Bobby Koga (Taiko) all presented Sensei with gifts and very touching words. Some of the presentations were very emotional. YBA presented Sensei with a boogie board with "Namo Amida Butsu" written on it. YABA presented a cooler, containing San Diego memories, along with Sensei's favorite local brewed beer and wine.

### TALENTED ENTERTAINMENT

The thunderous sounds from the taiko troupe entertained the audience, followed by the Dharma School students and staff singing "You Gave Us The Reason." The music was from the singer Pink and lyrics composed by staffer Sharon Sasaki. To end the day's program, the Bon Odori dance instructors, headed by Junko Kajita, led Sensei, his family, and the Sangha to "Arigatai Ondo."

As the luncheon approached its end, Sensei and his family serenaded the audience with the song "Sukiyaki."

"We are singing this song because it is the most popular Japanese song in America," Sensei said before the family led the Sangha. Sensei and Mika-san sang wonderfully, but the star of the show was Kurumi-chan. The little talent held the microphone tightly and belted out the words with a lot of enthusiasm. The Mukojima's may have the next American Idol!

Sensei then concluded with his message that echoed tears of joy, happiness and appreciation throughout the hall. He then led the Sangha with his favorite cheer "Sanbon Jime," rhythmic '1-2-3, 1-2-3' hand clapping.

Throughout the luncheon, Sensei and his family individually thanked everyone for attending.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The temple wishes to acknowledge the following individuals for their generous donations: Kei Dan Floral Design -- Naomi Himaka (floral and centerpieces), Linda Yamano (flower leis), Ichiban Hillcrest -- Yoshiro Minezaki and Satomi Paris (two bottles of sake), Jeff Sakai (photography), Ken Blum Photography -- Ken and Kate Blum (photographers), Richard Matsumoto (memory album and videos), LuAnn Lee (cakes), Joyce Teague (program cover printing) and Junko Kajita (beach theme supplies).

*("BTSD Says Thank You...": Continued on Page 8)*

("BTSD Says Thank You...": Continued from Page 7)

The Beach Party committee: Ralph Honda (chairman), Karen Okuhara (secretary), Aki Tomiyama and Glenn Negoro (treasurers), LuAnn Lee (cakes), Naomi Himaka (flowers and table decorations), Mike Ong and Ron Tokunaga (general arrangements), Avis Honda and Ann Ong (gift reception), Avis Honda (guest table place cards), Glenn Torio, Ralph Honda, LuAnn Lee (hosts), Junko Kajita, Miyo Hill, Mani Yamaguchi, Patty Nakamura and Karen Okuhara (lunch check-in), Gale Kaneshiro, Nancy Martinez and Mildred Kawasaki (lunch distribution and kitchen support), Katsumi Kida, Miyoko Yamanishi and Miki Honda (mailing), Ken Muraoka (master of ceremonies), Richard Matsumoto (photography and memory album), Joyce Teague (program booklet), Jamie Shimizu (reservations and program printing), Avis and Breven Honda (supplies), Jr. YBA, Sangha Teens and Dharma School parents (table service), Motoo Tsuneyoshi (ABA), Glenn Torio (Board of Directors), Susan Moribe, Aki Tomiyama and Fumiko Ohara (BWA), Avis Honda (Dharma School), Lauren Uchiyama (Jr. YBA), Bobby Koga (Taiko), Ann Ong and Avis Honda (YABA), Jamie Shimizu and Kimberly Kruse (YBA).

### BEACH PARTY REFLECTIONS

There were many celebrations hosted by temple groups, honoring sensei and his family, leading up to his final day. All were true testaments to an individual whose energy has escalated BTSD both spiritually and socially.

The Beach Party was quite an event. It had its moments of joy, sadness, laughter and tears. Most of all it was about the appreciation for sensei, his family and the impact he made with the Sangha and outreach to the community.

The entire Sangha extends a heartfelt thank you and best wishes to Sensei, Mika-san, Kurumi-chan and Oji-kun as they begin a new chapter in their lives. They will always remain a part of our Buddhist Temple of San Diego family.

With deepest appreciation and in Gassho.

### CORRECTION:

In the July Bussei Script it stated that the funeral service for Rev. Koju Terada was held at the Orange County Buddhist Church. The service was held at the Gardena Buddhist Temple.

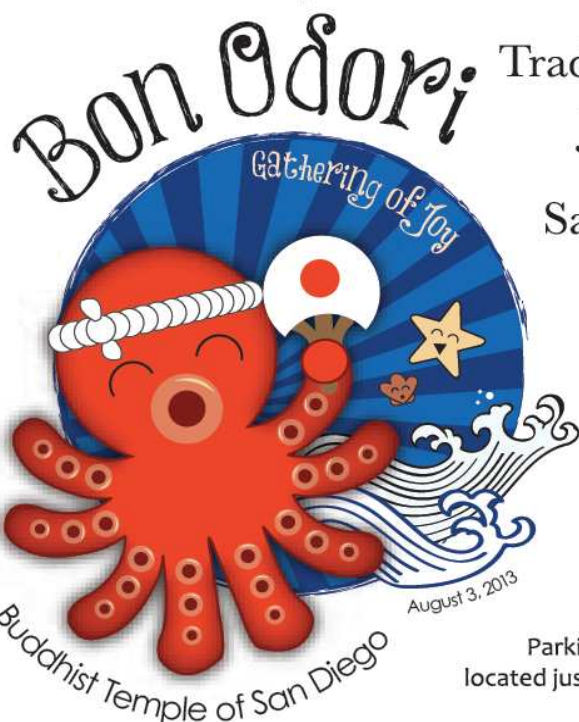
Crafters Wanted at

## Asian Food and Craft Fair

October 20, 2013

For more information, please call the Buddhist Temple San Diego at (619) 239-0896.

## Buddhist Temple of San Diego - August 3, 2013 4pm-9pm



Traditional Japanese Dancing

Japanese Food

Naruwan Taiko

San Diego Taiko

BTSD Taiko

Music

Displays

Obon Again Store

Drawing

Activities

Fun

**ADMISSION FREE!**  
**PUBLIC WELCOME!**

Come join us for  
free odori practices  
Sun 11am-1pm:  
July 7 & 21  
Wed 7pm-9pm:  
July 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31  
Mon kids practice 7pm:  
July 8, 15, 22 & 29  
Practices are inside the  
Temple annex hall

Parking is available at the ARC of San Diego it is located just east of the corner of 30th and Market st. Avoid fines, observe "no Parking" signs.



Buddhist Temple of San Diego 2929 Market St. (Fwy 94 at 30th St.) San Diego, California 92102  
619-239-0896 // info@btsd.net // www.btsd.net // facebook.com/buddhisttempleofsandiego



# BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO Membership Pledge for **2013**

☐ Renewal
 ☐ New Member\*
 ☐ Sponsorship\*
 ☐ Change of Address

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. SPOUSE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Pledge:** The temple has an annual campaign to raise funds that go towards the Operating Budget. This budget pays for ministerial salary, part-time staff, programs, utilities, maintenance and the day-to-day expenses of running the temple. This tiered membership offers members the opportunity to choose their level of donation.

**Sponsorship Pledge:** Individuals are invited to sponsor a new or existing member under the current membership program.

Sustaining Member	Dana Member	Wisteria Member	Bodhi Member	
Individual / Senior / Youth (All Ages)	\$275	\$375	\$500	\$
Couple / Family	\$450	\$650	\$1000	\$
<u>Optional:</u> Senior Reduced Cost (75 years and older)	\$125			
<u>Optional:</u> Youth Reduced Cost (30 years and younger)	\$150			\$

## Recommended Annual Donations (Optional):

### FLORAL OFFERING FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$40)

The fund helps defray cost of regular fresh flowers for the Onaijin (Central Altar).

### GENERAL MAINTENANCE FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$40)

The fund helps provide upkeep of the Temple properties.

### SCHOLARSHIP FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$20)

The fund rewards members' deserving high school graduates and college students.

### DHARMA SCHOOL (Suggested annual donation of \$20)

Dharma School does not conduct fundraisers. Your annual donation helps sustain its activities.

**TOTAL AMOUNT**

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED**

## PLEASE INDICATE PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

\_\_\_\_\_ Annually
 \_\_\_\_\_ Semi-annually
 \_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly
 \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly

To use credit card:

\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_ MasterCard Acct# \_\_\_\_\_ Expires (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature (if charging): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to the Buddhist Temple of San Diego. A percentage of your dues supports the Buddhist Churches of America and is remitted annually to the BCA via the Temple. Benefits include a year's subscription to the BCA publication, "Wheel of Dharma" and a printed copy of our monthly newsletter, the "Bussei Script." **THANK YOU!**

**Mailing address to send your pledges: Buddhist Temple of San Diego**

2929 Market Street  
 San Diego, California 92102

For any questions about membership, please call the Temple at 619-239-0896 or send inquiries to the Membership Chair at [info@btsd.net](mailto:info@btsd.net).

**\* For NEW MEMBERS and SPONSORSHIPS, proration is available.**

## BTSD Special Service Credit Card Donations 2013

**ENVELOPE FREE DONATION:** BTSD is offering the opportunity to conveniently plan your special service donation(s) by using your credit card. Please indicate the amount you wish to donate for each service and the treasurers' committee will take care of your transaction(s).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Unit. Number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard (credit cards will be charged during the month of each special service.)

Acct#: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires (MM/YY): \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature (if charging): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

### SPECIAL SERVICE DONATIONS 2013

\$

#### O Bon (Bon) – July 28

Bon is a Buddhist Memorial Day. It is an occasion for rejoicing in the enlightenment offered by the Buddha. It is often referred to as the "Gathering of Joy."

\$

#### August Offering

\$

#### Fall Higan (Higan-e) – September 15

The sangha gathers once again, on or around the Fall equinox to recall the practice of the Six Paramitas.

\$

#### October Offering

\$

#### Eitaikyo (Perpetual Memorial) – November 10

On this day, all dedicated members and Dharma friends who devoted themselves to the spiritual welfare of the temple, whether known or unknown, are honored so that we may continue to practice the Buddha's teachings.

\$

#### Bodhi Day (Jodo-e) – December 8

Gautama meditated under the Bodhi Tree (Tree of Enlightenment) and became a Buddha; perfect in Wisdom and Compassion.

\$

#### Joya-e (Year-end Service) – December 31

On New Year's Eve we meditate on the countless blessings we have received throughout the year and express our gratitude to our parents, our nation, all beings and Amida Buddha.

Please mail this form to:

**Buddhist Temple of San Diego c/o Treasurers  
2929 Market Street  
San Diego, CA 92102**

For any questions about Special Service credit card donations, please call the Temple at 619-239-0896, or send inquiries to the Treasurer at [info@btsd.net](mailto:info@btsd.net).

*Bussei Script*

BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO

2929 Market Street

San Diego, California 92102

619/239-0896 [info@btsd.net](mailto:info@btsd.net) [www.btsd.net](http://www.btsd.net)

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*"It is not out of our free will that we act; rather, we are moving in the flow of something greater than ourselves."*

*~Monshu Koshin Ohtani, "The Buddha's Call to Awaken"*

## ***BON ODORI (Aug. 3), RUMMAGE SALE (Aug. 17-18), BTSD GOLF TOURNAMENT (Aug. 25)***

**BON ODORI: Gathering of Joy** will take place on **Saturday, August 3**. Activities and food sales will be ongoing from **4 to 9 p.m.** Dancing begins at 6:30 p.m. and musical entertainment will precede the odori. The Obon Again Resale Shop will be set up in the Sangha Hall, and many San Diego community organizations will offer displays or activities in the Annex Hall. As in previous years, you may create a memorial lantern to be hung outside during the dance.

**Annual PARKING LOT RUMMAGE SALE.** The temple will be having its annual Rummage Sale **Saturday, August 17** (8 a.m. - 2 p.m.) through **Sunday, August 18** (8 a.m. to 12 p.m.). If you're looking to do a little "end of summer cleaning," keep the temple in mind to donate your items! Clothing, books, furniture, household good, toys and most other items are welcomed. Electronics, appliances and computer equipment must be in working order – it costs the temple to discard or recycle non-functioning equipment. We are also looking for volunteers to help sort and price, as well as volunteers on sale days. Please visit the temple's website ([www.btsd.net](http://www.btsd.net)) or contact the temple's office for more information.

**18th ANNUAL BTSD GOLF TOURNAMENT.** Come join temple members and friends as we play a friendly game of golf on **Sunday, August 25 (8 a.m.)** at the **Eastlake Country Club** in Chula Vista. People of all ages and skill level are welcome to play! Registration deadline is **Sunday, August 11**, so sign-up today! Non-golfers can also participate by donating raffle items, or with sponsorships. Please contact the temple for more information.

**\*\*PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THERE ARE NO SUNDAY SERVICES DURING AUGUST. DHARMA SCHOOL/FAMILY SERVICES WILL RESUME ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9. THE MONTHLY SHOTSUKI HOYO (MEMORIAL) WILL BE OBSERVED ON THIS DATE.**