

LOS ANGELES BETSUIN

No. 418

May-June 2013

jihō

WWW

RIMBAN'S MESSAGE



During the months of May and June, we often hear about the graduations at various educational institutions. Just before breaking out for summer season, in the sunny and mild conditions of SoCal, just thinking about the graduation bring happy thoughts and brighter prospects. For sure, loud whooping-it-up and noise making will be seen and heard at many of the campuses where the graduation is taking place.

I still remember the graduation ceremony I was in at the Yamahana Shogakko in Sapporo, Japan. The soot covered snow and ice had not yet melted and the wooden floor was icy cold. The auditorium was so quiet that every squeak from the floor was amplified. We stood straight up and sang "Hotaru no Hikari" sung to the melody of *Auld Lang Syne*. I recall my skiing buddy classmate wiping his eyes with his sleeve at the end of the song. After the ceremony, many graduating classmates were in tears, and I couldn't understand the reason of their tearful demeanor. My previous graduation was at a kindergarten in the Tule Lake Relocation Center, and I recall that it was a fun-filled day with sweets and laughter.

In Japan, the graduation has been regarded as completing or ending, and the accompanying ceremonies are remembered with happiness and at the same time sadness.

Many Asians, particularly elder ones, with

GRADUATION

higher upbringing will be surprised at the atmosphere of American graduation ceremonies, particularly here in California, which are usually characterized by laughter, exuberance and whooping-it-up by many in attendance.

I also remember having a difficult time trying to explain the ethos at graduation ceremonies in America to a retired educator from Japan. In short, I explained to him that in America, the graduation ceremony is usually called a commencement being handed down from the British tradition and its literal meaning is "beginning", and at some well known academic circles, commemoration is used to announce the high degree of the importance in time and place.

Conversing with the gentleman, I was reminded of the Buddhist interpretation of us human beings as an accumulation of the past *karma*. In karmic philosophy, commemoration will be interior, and commencement would be exterior. The former is a reflection of past karma and awareness of a sense of debt to fellow beings for making it possible to bring the self to that point in time. The latter is one's resolve for the future. One is our aspiration toward higher goals one sets for oneself, while the other is one's sincere sense of gratitude to innumerable benefactors including parents, friends, teachers, and so forth.

In a span of one's life, commencement and commemoration occur constantly. There is no particular graduation for a real Buddhist. In other words, every moment is a graduation. Any day, sunny or gloomy, fast or slow, should

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THOUGHTS ON YET ANOTHER BIRTHDAY

by Rev. William Briones

*"When I get older losing my hair
Many years from now,
Will you still be sending me a Valentine
Birthday greetings bottle of wine?"*

*If I'd been out to a quarter to three
Would you lock the door,
Will you still need me will you still feed me
When I'm sixty four?"*

--"When I'm Sixty Four"
Paul McCartney



**REV. WILLIAM
BRIONES**

The month of May is quickly approaching and with its arrival means yet another birthday for me. This birthday is especially significant for me because it will be my 64th. Why is birthday 64 significant?

The year was 1967 just a month before I graduated from Mountain View High School, the Beatles released the album, "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band." On side B there was a schmaltzy, yet catchy song entitled "When I'm Sixty Four". As an 18 year-old teenager, 64 years old seemed like an eternity away. However, at the time, I was already into a yearlong relationship with my wife to be and thought that we too could grow old together maybe even until we were 64 years old.

Forty six years has since passed and, obviously, many things have changed. For one my high school sweetheart and I didn't grow old together, but I have two wonderful, lovely children and two grandchildren as a result of our 28 years of marriage. Be that as it may, I feel so fortunate that I am still healthy (relatively), and that I was able to meet someone 17 years ago that has made a tremendous impact on my life. Now as my 64th birthday approaches, Nobuko is still sending me Valentines and no doubt we will share a bottle of wine on my birthday.

As I reflect on yet another birthday, I am reminded of one of the fundamental teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha, that of impermanence.

Impermanence means nothing is stationary, static, or unchanging. All things are moving and dynamic. Without an awareness of this fact of nature, there can never be any true insight through which we can see things as they really are.

Most of us really don't want to grow old or for things to change. We want to remain young and stay with our loved

ones forever. We want our loved ones, friends, and ourselves always to remain healthy and happy. We don't want them to become sick, and we certainly don't want to lose them to death. Yet, the reality of our existence is that many of us will get sick; we will grow old and someday we will all take our last breath. While that reality is hard for us to face, our failure to face it makes that reality even harder to bear.

It was just a eleven years ago that I suffered a hemorrhagic stroke and every day I am reminded how fragile my life is. Every day I monitor my blood pressure before I go to bed and when I get up in the morning and twice a day I take my medication to keep my hypertension under control. The left side of my body is a constant reminded how close I was to having a major stroke.

It is nature's fundamental lesson in life of impermanence Life is nothing but a flux of cause and effect that is constantly changing. Nothing in life remains forever. The Buddha teaches that we can only understand our suffering through the understanding of impermanence. It is the knowledge of impermanence that heals suffering.

A lack of this understanding will certainly result in finding oneself viewing the world with a warped sense of reality, distorted thoughts and tainted views.

Unnecessary disappointment, despair and frustration in our daily life often stem from our ignorance of the law of nature, which is change or impermanence. It is therefore very important for each of us to understand the nature of impermanence so that we may face problems courageously in our daily life, so we may accept things that we cannot change, and be in harmony with nature and live a happy life.

And when tragedy, illness, death, personal setbacks, or other unfortunate events do occur unexpectedly in our lives, it present opportunities for self-reflection. From self-reflection we consider what is really important to us, and aspire to understand and seek ultimate truths which remain constant in spite of ever changing conditions of our mundane world.

Change may bring encouragement or discouragement, it may create happiness or unhappiness, it may give us joy or anxiety, it may open doors or it may close them. In any case change is change. It is reality.

As my 64th birthday quickly approaches, I am truly grateful for having heard the Teachings of the Buddha. It has given

(continued on page 7)

MONPO — LISTEN TO THE DHARMA

by Rev. Kazuaki Nakata



REV. KAZUAKI
NAKATA

At our Nishi Betsuin, we recite the *Three Treasures* every Sun-day. It reads, “*Hard is it to be born into human life. Now we are living it. Difficult is it to hear the teaching of the blessed one (Buddha). Now we hear it...*”

We are taught that *monpo* is fundamental in our Jodo Shinshu tradition. If it is so important, some of you may wonder that why the *Three Treasures* tells us that it is “difficult.” Our ministers and guest speakers deliver dharma talks both in English and Japanese. Some of you may even view dharma talks on the internet. So, there are many opportunities to listen to the dharma. I would like to take this opportunity to write about the essence of *monpo*.

I am sure that most of you, particularly the dharma school students, may know the individual who is known as the “Master of Monpo” (the best listener) in the Buddhist tradition. His name is Ananda who was one of Shakyamuni Buddha’s ten disciples. Ananda took great efforts to listen to as many of Shakyamuni’s dharma talks as possible.

In reading the Jodo Shinshu sutras, one may notice that these sutras begin with, “*Thus I heard...*” Many of the other Buddhist sutras also begin with the same, “*Thus I heard...*” Many Buddhist scholars believe that the “I” referred to in the sutras to be Ananda. Although Ananda had listened to and memorized most of Shakyamuni Buddha’s dharma talks over the course of 25 years until the Buddha’s death, Ananda did not attain enlightenment. His approach to Buddhism was an intellectual understanding. Ananda only understood/memorized the teachings that the Buddha expounded, but did not consider it as his life’s lessons.

So, is the way of one’s approach a critical factor for enlightenment?

In Buddhism, the phrase “*listen to the dharma*” is traditionally known as “*monpo*”. The kanji character of *monpo* is 聞法. The first character 聞 (*mon*) means “listen/hear”. The second character 法 (*po*) means “dharma”. Why would we need to know what the kanji characters are as English speakers? It is my belief that the kanji characters will help us to effectively view Buddhism more meaningfully.

The kanji character 聞 consists of two components. One is an outer component, 門, and the other is an inner com-

ponent, 耳. The outer component is read, *mon*, meaning “gate”. It looks like the swinging saloon doors in the western cowboy movies that I have seen. The inner component, we read as *mimi*, means “ear.” So, the complete kanji character 聞 reads as “*an ear in the gate.*”

Can you figure out why the *monpo* kanji means “an ear in the gate?” Physically, our ears are opened for business 24/7. This is why we can wake up when we hear the alarm sound in the morning.

Although our ears “open” 24/7, we sometimes hear but we don’t listen. Why does that happen? This is because the *ears in the gate* were closed. We do not listen with intent in our minds. Our minds are not set to listen even though our ears can physically take in sound vibrations.

Fortunately or unfortunately, our ears respond well to worthwhile information but do not respond well to seemingly meaningless information. Our mind intentionally opens and closes the gates of our ears. This is why the *Three Treasures* reminds us that it is difficult to listen to the dharma because our ears open and close through our own biases. The *Three Treasures*, however, goes on to read, “*now we hear it.*”

The Hongwanji Eighth Monshu, Rennyō Shōnin’s disciple, Junsei, recorded Rennyō’s daily sayings “*Rennyō Shōnin Goichidai Kikigaki.*” In the book, Junsei wrote Rennyō Shōnin’s explanation of *monpo*. Rennyō explains,

Shinran Shōnin made reference to “*listening*” in his

“*There are many people who memorize the dharma to gain knowledge or for intellectual understanding. There are few people who listen to the dharma (monpo) to reflect upon their own life as their life lessons. So, there are only a few people who rarely encounter the life of awakening through the dharma (56).*”

book, *Study of Single Recitation and Multiple Recitation* (Ichinen Tanen Moni). He wrote,

“*[In Jodo Shinshu)] you will know you have truly listened when after listening to the teachings of Amida’s primal vows, there is no doubt in your mind. Also, listening is the dharma to symbolize Shinjin.*”

This thought is known as “*listening equals awakening*” (Mon Soku Shin).

If Shinran Shōnin and Rennyō Shōnin existed in this

(continued on page 7)

DID YOU KNOW?

by Eiko Masuyama



“Swim Party”,

Betsuin Jiho, September 10, 1969

Some 250 players and parents gathered at Cal State swimming pool for a swim party and a bar-b-cue following the CYC baseball jamboree on Sunday. Swimming was from 2 p.m. and the buffet dinner was at 5:30 p.m.

Master of ceremonies for the evening was Yosh Shibata. Guest speaker was Tetsujiro Nakamura from L.A. Betsuin. Other guests included Mich Sakata of the Sunday School Teachers, Shig Sugimoto, ABA president, Mrs. Lily Nakamura of the Junior Matrons and Jiro Aratani, Fubokai president.

Among those making all-star were: Midget Bees - Eugene Nagata, Jeff Yoshimura, David Yamamoto, Scotty Shimamoto; Midget Ayes - David Okino, Brian Kito, Ken Sakauye; Junior Bees - Andy Fujitsubo, Keith Kaya, Gary Masada; Junior Ayes - Lane Honda, Glen Masada, Mako Kakimoto. Individual trophies were presented to each boy.

Heading the department of food was Mrs. Julie Yamamoto. Assisting were Mmes. Yoshizaki, Helen Takata, Aiko Yamamoto, Hara, Kaku and Masaye Miyamoto. A cake was donated by Roy Iwamoto for the special event.

Mr. Yosh Shibata thanked all the hard working coaches headed by Fred Shingu. The other coaches were: Midget Bees - Hiroaki Yamamoto, Bill Yoshimura, Richard Suzuki, Seiyo Shimamoto; Midget Ayes - Yosh Marate, Tad Yamamoto, Kats Okino; Junior Bees - Bruce Shinohara, Nob Masada; Junior Ayes - Hisao Honda, Tosh Yamataka, Fred Kakimoto.

Donations to the Athletic Dept.: Yutaka Shinohara, \$10.00; Shig Sugimoto, \$10.00; Yo Tanaka, \$20.00; Eizo Masuyama, \$5.00; Amy Miyakawa, \$5.00.

Kappa Zeta Phi, an oriental sorority of Cal State L.A., helped in sponsoring the swimming party, and two members from the Kappa's attended this function to make sure things went smoothly. They were Misses Sharon Miyakawa and Eiko Sakaniwa.

The Rev. Sawada of Los Angeles Betsuin led closing ceremonies.

**“The Columbarium of the Muryoju-Do in Kyoto”,
Betsuin Jiho, September 10, 1969**

Everyone who has seen the newly built Muryoju-do and its columbarium, which were dedicated this past April, has returned with words only of praise. They are saying that they would like to have their ashes interred there when the time comes.

The Los Angeles Betsuin has already purchased three blocs within the columbarium, primarily for the purpose of annually sending over the *Ingo*-titles and Buddhist names of those who have donated to the Eitaikyo Fund.

Because the blocs are for the sole use of the Betsuin, anyone who wishes either to have a Buddhist name (*Homyo*) or ashes stored therein may do so by applying at the Betsuin. The fees are as follows:

Eitaikyo donors – no charge

Buddhist name - \$5 per name

Ashes – minimum \$100 per urn

“White Woman Gives Message of Buddhism”

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Sunday, April, 1941?

A small, brown-eyed Englishwoman, with an air of infinite calm, held the center of the stage at yesterday morning's session of the second national Young Buddhist Convention [2nd National Young Buddhist Convention took place in Seattle, April 25-27, 1941] in the new Buddhist Temple at 1427 Main Street [Seattle Buddhist Temple].

She was the Rev. Sunya Pratt (Mrs. James Pratt of Tacoma in private life), first white woman to be ordained to the Buddhist priesthood within the continental limits of the United States.

She urged her listeners—young American-born Japanese for the most part—to carry the message of Buddhism throughout the Western world.



“The Western world is ready for the Buddhist message of tolerance, altruism and peace,” she said. “More and more Occidentals are turning to Buddhism to find the truth. Buddhism can be grafted on the tree of Western

(continued on page 7)

THREE NISHI GIRL SCOUTS EARN COVETED GOLD AWARD

Jennifer Chen, Loryn Teranishi, and Brianne Yasukochi are the recent recipients of the coveted Girl Scout Gold Award as members of the Nishi Girl Scout Troop 1213.

The Girl Scout Gold Award represents the highest achievements in Girl Scouting. Open only to girls in High School. This prestigious award requires a completion of two Girl Scout Journeys, earning the Silver Award and planning an individual community service project. This project much provides a sustainable and lasting benefit to the community. The minimum amount of hours to complete the steps to the Gold Award is 80 hours.

Gold Award Project: "The Magnet Connection"



Loriyn Teranishi

Loryn Kiyomi Teranishi was born on August 12, 1995 to Paul and Nancy Teranishi. She attended Atwater Elementary School, Eagle Rock Jr/Sr High School, and is currently a senior at John Marshall High School.

For her gold Award Project, Loryn created an Enrichment tutoring program for Eagle Rock Elementary Magnet school children, grades three through six. She made herself readily available so each student would have an opportunity to be helped individually. Her goal was to assist and guide those who fell behind in subjects such as Math, Science or English. With the ambition of her friends who also helped tutor and the generous Magnet parents, she was able to create a friendly learning environment at the school.

Gold Award Project: "Read to Succeed"



Jennifer Chen

Jennifer Erika Chen was born on December 3, 1995 to Erica Hayashi and Edward Chen. She started Girl Scouts when she was a Brownie and has earned both her Bronze and Silver Awards.

Jennifer is currently a senior at John A Rowland High School. She was a member of the varsity tennis and golf team earning Most Valuable Player and rookie of the Year. She has been a part of the tennis team for four

years, leading as varsity co-captain this past season. Outside of school, she has been doing abacus for 12 years, since she was five years-old.

Jennifer would like to give a special thank you to her parents and to the Nishi parents who donated books and cans towards her Gold Award Project. Also, a special thank you to her Girls Scout leader, Norene Yasukochi, who has guided and supported her since she was a Cadette. Lastly, she would like to thank Mrs. Kawasaki and her advisor, Pat Hakim for her guidance.

Jennifer's project started when she saw that the preschool at her high school was in need of a library. She received donations of used and new books and recycled cans/bottles to pay for the supplies to build the bookshelves. She built two bookshelves in the workshop class and read to the children everyday showing the importance of reading. She went to the preschool everyday to read to the kids and to show them how much reading can be fun and how important it is for their education.

Gold Award Project: "Basketball Camp"



Brianne Yasukochi

Brianne Yasukochi was born on September 15, 1995 to Donal and Norene Yasukochi. Residing in Oceanside, she attended The Rhoades School and Oakcrest Middle School and is currently a senior at La Jolla Country Day School. In the Fall she will be playing basketball and attending Occidental College in Los Angeles.

For her Gold Award Project, she organized a basketball camp to give an opportunity to educate young children of the Oceanside Boys and Girls Club about making healthy lifestyle choices. For two weeks, she led children from 1st through 5th grade through various basketball exercises and nutritional workshops teaching about ways to stay active. She encouraged and provided the tools to better eating habits and its importance. Brianne also received donations from Valley Heights Ranch of fruits and vegetables to give the children healthy alternatives when eating. She also received donations from Judy Huffaker, a nutritionist, of nutrition pamphlets, various children cookbooks, and healthy eating handouts. The children thoroughly enjoyed these gifts and learned a lot about basketball and nutrition, as well as had fun while doing so.

2013 SURF AND TURF FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS

by Gary Kawaguchi

This year was the most successful Surf & Turf Dinner Fundraiser for LA Betsuin with over 1,350 dinners sold.

All of the Betsuin affiliated organizations participated in this fundraiser in various capacities. Such assignments were: cooking/making the grilled beef, fish, goma-ae green beans, and salad. Other organizations provided home-made baked goods and other sold the baked goods. New this year was the sale of "adult beverages" and bottles of the much-demanded salad dressing that came with the salad dressing. There was also a raffle, a Silent Auction, and BINGO for the adults and for the children. With these joint efforts from the affiliate members we were successful in surpassing all previous Surf & Turf fundraisers, bringing in over \$40,000. Everyone, including attendees as well as

the "workers," appeared to have enjoyed this fun-filled event at the Betsuin.

Items offered at the Silent Auction were: Lakers tickets, golf at the Cadlewood Country Club (donated by Karl Kim), Sports autographed memorabilia (donated by Gene Kanamori), dinner for six with Chef Dan Takata, various kimono and yukata, a wine basket (donated by Michael Richards) and many other items.

The major donors for the fundraiser were: Coast Produce, Giumarra, and Hiji Brothers.

The Surf and Turf committee members were: Lonny Quon, Gary Kawaguchi, Ken Kawasaki, Dennis Kimura, Jean Kondo, Mark Oune, Pam Tabata, Bessie Tanaka, and Sherry Watanabe.



...checking out the Silent Auction items...

...cutting oranges...



...cutting and packaging pastries...



l-r: Grant Hayashi, Daniel Mori, and Dennis Kimura, the Rice Crew...



Children's BINGO



...grilling the beef...



...Silent Auction item...



...and a visit from the L.A. Mayoral candidate, Gil Garceti, with temple president, Lonny Quon and Rimban Abiko.

(Rimban - continued from page 1)

not be wasted by a Buddhist for the reason that a real Buddhist is a perpetual student of what is true and real.

I look forward to seeing the expressions on the faces of Nishi Center graduates as they march up to the front of altar in the *hondo* with their over-sized cap and gown, then toward the end of ceremony, move the tassel from one side to the other.

In Gassho, Rev. Hiroshi Abiko

(Briones - continued from page 2)

me an opportunity to reflect on the many changes that have occurred within my life ... to put those changes, good and bad, into perspective

I would like to close, with reading from the Teachings of Buddha.

Gassho

(Nakata - continued from page 3)

21st century, they would affirm that,

"Even if you would encounter thousands of dharma talks, if you do not listen (monpo) to them, you are just taking in information. It is as if you are not listening to anything at all. To be an intellectual (ie: PhD) in Buddhism does not mean you have become a Buddha. By listening to the dharma, we need to live our own life more deeply and meaningfully which is the way of Buddhahood."

Gassho

NISHI BOY SCOUT TROOP 738 PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Sunday,
May 12, 2013**

7 AM - 10 AM

**Donation: \$5
Betsuin Kaikan**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

RETIREMENT

It has been announced that Rimban Hiroshi Abiko will retire as the Rimban of the LA Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple and as a minister of the Buddhist Churches of America as of August 31, 2013

APPOINTMENT

Rev. William Briones has been appointed as the tenth Rimban of the LA Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. His new position as Rimban will be effective September 1, 2013.

* * * * *

Further information as to the above announcements will be in the July-August issue of the **Jiho**.

(Did You Know? - continued from page 4)

religion to make it healthy and strong." Sasaki [Rev. Sen-sho Sasaki was assigned to Tacoma in 1933] of Sacramento ...who is also attending the convention... was ordained in Tacoma in 1936.

"I was the first white woman to be ordained in this country," she said, "but the Rev. Violet White of San Francisco has been ordained since then, and a white woman has been a Buddhist priest in Honolulu for about twenty years."

The Rev. Mrs. Pratt has two children—Veronica, 22, and Patrick, 14. Both of them and her husband have embraced the same faith as she.

She holds services in English in Tacoma every Tuesday, comes to Seattle every third Sunday, and holds classes in Tacoma every first Saturday night. She puts in the rest of her time at Sunday school work.

* * * * *

Thank you to Bruce Shinohara and Amy Miyakawa for checking names on first article. Thank you to Jun Okimoto for donating a working reel-to-reel tape player-recorder to the archives. Also, thanks to Ken Kawasaki (son-in-law) for expediting and making this donation possible.

The Betsuin Library is in need of bookends. If you have one that you do not need, please leave in Betsuin office or with Rev. Briones.

BETSUIN PHOTOS



LA BETSUIN KOMON (Senior Advisors)

FRONT L-R: Rimban Hiroshi Abiko, Ryo Munekata, Noritoshi Kanai, Jun Okimoto, Tsutomu Maehara BACK: Gary Kawaguchi, Shoichi Sayano, Tatsushi Nakamura, Hisa Hamanaka, Fujiyoshi Yamamoto, and Ernest Hida



SPRING OHIGAN 2013

Front L-R: Rev. Kanya Okamoto, Rimban Abiko, Rev. Akio Miyaji Back: Rev. Nakata, Rev. Briones, and Rev. Harold Oda



Federation Dharma School Teacher's meeting at the Reedley Buddhist Temple. I-r: June Kondo, Koichi Sayano, Rev. Hidehito Sakamoto (resident minister), Bessie Tanaka, and Rev. Briones.



M/M Shoichi Sayano donated a new bulletin board to the Betsuin. It is located in the temple garden facing 1st Street.



The BEC Breakfasts takes place on selected Sunday mornings hosted by the Betsuin's various organizations. During a recent breakfast, the BWA provided both a Western and Japanese menu. Many attended subsequent morning service with happy tummies....



IN MEMORIAM

The *Nishi Betsuin* extends its deepest condolences to the families of the following members who have recently passed away. May the family members find solace and comfort in the *Nembutsu*.

--*Namo Amida Butsu*

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| February, 2013 | March, 2013 |
| 1 Atsushi Fujiyoshi | 2 Mary Mariko Tamura |
| 3 Yurie Yamayoshi | 4 Fumiye Doi |
| 4 Ariyoshi Koyanagi | 6 Masako Okada |
| 4 Kazuya Kametani | 6 Michiko Shimoda |
| 4 Sayoko Toriyama | 10 Chishu Tomohide |
| 11 Nobuko Shimabukuro | Uesu |
| 12 Emiko Sasaki | 10 Koji Kominami |
| 13 Takao Furuto | 13 Miyoko Nishimura |
| 13 Michiko Yukawa | 14 Robert Shimao Adachi |
| 14 Michiko Morinaga | 18 Jean Asako Tanaka |
| 17 Fumiko Nagasugi | 18 Helen Fumiko |
| 18 Shigeko Tsunawaki | Yamashita |
| 19 George Tetsuo Aratani | 20 Keiko Miyakawa |
| 27 Fusako Noshi | 23 Mitsuo Okabe |

**HATSUMAIRI
REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME OF CHILD: _____

BOY ___ GIRL ___ BIRTHDATE: _____

| | |
|------------------|--|
| NAME IN KANJI | |
|------------------|--|

PARENTS' NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

TEL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ ZIP: _____

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO THE BETSUIN OFFICE BY:
MAY 5, 2013

Join Us at the...

**FAMILY FUN
DAY**



**Sunday, June 16, 2013
in the Kaikan
10:30am - 2:00pm**

Hot dogs, hamburgers, cups, plates and eating utensils will be provided.
Pot Luck: Families attending are asked to bring a side dish of salad, rice or dessert. Families whose last name begins with:
A - K (Desserts) L - P (Rice/Sides) Q - Z (Salads)

**Please Sign Up at the temple office.
We look forward to seeing you there!**

| | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|------|
| 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 |
| 1990 | | | | | | 1991 |
| 1992 | | | | | | 1993 |
| 1994 | | | | | | 1995 |
| 1996 | | | | | | 1997 |
| 1998 | | | | | | 1999 |
| 2000 | | | | | | 2001 |
| 2002 | | | | | | 2003 |
| 2004 | | | | | | 2005 |
| 2006 | | | | | | 2007 |
| 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | |



30th

ANNIVERSARY
REUNION

June 22, 2013

11:00 am-2:00 pm

RSVP with no. of attendees by 6/14/13
nishicenter30th@gmail.com or call 213.687.4585



SO. DISTRICT BWA / BUDDHIST CONFERENCE

Saturday, June 8, 2013
@ Los Angeles Betsuin

GUEST SPEAKER:

Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara

Center for Buddhist Education, Jodo Shinshu Center

Call the Betsuin office to register:
213.680.9130
Registration fee: \$50



OBON

CARNIVAL
&
HATSUBON
SERVICE

JULY 20 & 21

OBON DANCE PRACTICE DATES



Where: Northwest Parking Lot
Time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays

June 18, 20, 25, 27,
July 2, 9, 11, &
16 @ Keiro Retirement Home @ 6:00 pm

Betsuin Jiho

Editor-in-Chief: Rimban Hiroshi Abiko
English Editor: Elaine Fukumoto
Photos: Koichi Sayano

SO. DISTRICT OBON ODORI SCHEDULE

June 8 & 9

Arizona 6:45

June 22 & 23

Sun Valley 7:00 / 6:30

June 29 & 30

Orange County 7:00
San Fernando 7:00 / 6:30
West Covina 7:00 - not BCA (Saturday)

July 6

Senshin 7:00

July 13 & 14

Oxnard 6:00 (Saturday only)
Pasadena 6:30
WLA 6:30

JULY 20 & 21

L.A. BETSUIN 7:00 / 6:30

Santa Barbara 4:00 (Saturday only)

July 27 & 28

Guadalupe 3:00 (Sunday only)
Vista 6:30
Venice 6:30
Higashi 6:30

August 3 & 4

Gardena 6:00
San Diego 6:30 (Saturday only)
San Luis Obispo 6:30 (Saturday only)

August 10

Las Vegas 12:45 - not BCA (Saturday)

May 2013

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|-----------|---|--------|----------|
| | | | 1 | 2 Tai Chi 11:00 am Beginning Buddhism Study Class 6:00 pm | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Bon Odori Exercise 8:30 am Regular Service 10:00 am | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Tai Chi 11:00 am Board Meeting 7:30 pm | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast 7:00-10:00 am Mothers' Day Service 10:00 am | 13 | 14 Bon Odori Exercise 6:30 pm | 15 | 16 Tai Chi 11:00 am Go-Meinichi-ko 1:30 pm Beginning Buddhism Study Class 6:00 pm | 17 | 18 |
| 19 Bon Odori Exercise 6:30 pm Gotan-ye / Hatsumairi Service 10:00 am Guest Speakers: Rev. Dennis Fujimoto Rev. Shinji Okada | 20 | 21 Beginning Buddhism Study Class for 30s & 40s 7:00 pm | 22 | 23 Tai Chi 11:00 am | 24 | 25 |
| 26 Memorial Day Services 10:00 am and Nokotsudo 11:30 am | 27 Memorial Day Services Evergreen Cemetery 9:30 am Rose Hills Cemetery 9:00 am | 28 Bon Odori Exercise 6:30 pm | 29 | 30 Tai Chi 11:00 am | 31 | |

June 2013

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|--|-----------|--|--------|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Regular Service 10:00 am | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Tai Chi 11:00 am Beginning Buddhism Study Class 6:00 pm | 7 | 8 So. District / BWA Buddhist Conference |
| 9 Regular Service 10:00 am | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Tai Chi 11:00 am Board Meeting 7:30 pm | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Fathers' Day/Family Fun Day in Kaikan 10:30 am | 17 | 18 Bon Odori Practice 7:00 pm Beginning Buddhism Study Class for 30s & 40s 7:00 pm | 19 | 20 Tai Chi 11:00 am Beginning Buddhism Study Class 6:00 pm Bon Odori Practice 7:00 pm | 21 | 22 Nishi Center 30th Anniversary/Reunion 11:00 am Sun Valley Obon |
| 23 Sun Valley Obon | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Tai Chi 11:00 am Bon Odori Practice 7:00 pm | 28 | 29 |
| 30 Graduation & Attendance Award Service 10:00 am | | Bon Odori Practice 7:00 pm | | | | |