

Gassho

To promote a greater understanding of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and to continue to live the Nembutsu as a warm and friendly Temple



Sensei's Message

The Year is 64!

Hello! I have sat in front of this computer writing over and over again. I think about what the next 10 years will look like for our Buddhist Sect of Jodo Shinshu. What kind of hopes do I have for our temple community? I would hope that everyone will continue to come to the temple and create warm long-lasting memories together. Thanks to many of the members, there have been positive happenings. Children are able to come during the week and on the weekends for activities with their parents and grandparents. Cub Pack 79 and Girl Scout Troop 5325 are doing well with many amazing individuals to which will become inspiring leaders. The Adult Buddhist Association or ABA and Buddhist Women's Association or BWA are planning events that will be fun and engaging while building and strengthening the bonds of all who join in on the fun. The Dharma School has been providing out-reach to our children with inciteful and entertaining Saturday and Sunday classes. The Sangha teens are always so busy with their sports and other activities, but always find the time to brighten our lives with energy, smiles, and help.

Now is a pivotal time for our temple community. We are preparing to celebrate 65 years as the Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple or VHBT. This year is important because we were not able to celebrate the 60th anniversary together in 2020. It will have been 15 years since our last celebration. Buddha's teachings reminds us to step back from our lives to reflect on value of this moment, but we can't help but to continue to keep great hope for everyone to be together in 2030 for the 70th or 2035 for the 75th. Who can tell? This year I look to everyone and their families to come together to participate in celebrating the last 65 years as a community. Those that have come for Enlightenment, Family, Friends, Social,... everyone is invited. We began this March. I look forward to all the events coming up this year. I hope we can all share not only memories of the past, but also create stronger and deeper bonds for the future. I call upon everyone who have been touched even once by the Light of the Temple in the las 65 years to return and reflect on what you have received and share what you have attained. It is a vital goal not to forget how so many precious moments have helped us all to grow.



Sensei's Message continued...

This goal happens through our combined Unity. As our children and families have grown, we need to emphasize that the foundation of Amida's effort is the pursuit of Universal Equality. How do we uplift everyone while going through this life together? With this question in mind, we should call out to everyone! "I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things." (Mother Teresa)

The foundation of the Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple is built on the teaching of thinking about our human limitations and accepting outside help. I feel that Shinran Shonin's thought encompassed the premise that everyone needs a place to feel safe and to be accepted.

This is our dance with reality and with ourselves, the rhythm and song of "Namu," our foolishness, and "Amida Butsu," the wellspring of boundless compassion that arises from our own deepest, truest reality. Ultimately, even the nembutsu arises not from ourselves, from our own ego, but is experienced as a call from the deepest level of reality, from the depths of our own being, in which the flow of emptiness or oneness is realized in each manifestation of form and appearance. Thus Shinran states, "True entrusting is buddhanature." The movement of boundless compassion is also known as the Primal Vow of Amida (Japanese, Amida no hongan), the vow to bring all beings to the realization of oneness, spontaneously arising from the depths of existence. The nembutsu expresses our receiving this deep vow to liberate and realize oneness with all beings, because all beings are the self. It is an expression of deepest gratitude, that our lives are sustained within the

larger web of interdependence. We are sustained by those who help provide for our livelihood, food, shelter, family, and friendships, and at a deeper level we are naturally moved to express our appreciation for our shared suffering in life and death, our mutual illumination in foolishness and compassion, our oneness in the path that takes us beyond life and death. This is Namu Amida Butsu.

- The Original Buddhist Rebel, by Rev. Dr. Mark Unno in Tricycle, Winter 2017

Even though our appreciation comes from what we learn in the Hondo, it is the community as a whole that helps us to enjoy a true and genuine life. I recognize that we need to open the doors to let people in. Let me explain. The temple is always open. People used to come at all hours. It truly was a second home. Today, they do not spend as much of their spare time here as before, I hope you know that the door is always open, and it is here waiting for you. Henry Ford said "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." Let us all connect and invite everyone. In the end we will look back to say "We did it!" with joy in our hearts.

As we observe this may our hearts change to know the value of Unity through the Nembutsu teaching. Our human selves then give it more value. Our appreciation grows. When we are awakened of anger, ego, and attachments in our daily lives, let us get through them together in Gassho and let them go. In celebrating together, I hope you can find Happiness and Joy!

**Namo Amida Butsu,
Rev. Kory Quon**





President's Message

Looking back at 2023, I'm been part of so many wonderful activities and events. Not just with temple activities and events, but activities and events with affiliated organizations as well. I'm very honored and proud to be part of a temple and sangha that gets together to hold so many events where we can have fun and enjoy our company and friendship.

After serving as temple president for over a year now, I've seen firsthand what it takes to put on many of these events. The time, effort, dedication, and drive are impressive and awesome.

I'm looking forward to all the events we are planning and have had this year. Starting with our wonderful Shinnenkai, continuing on with our ABA Aloha Breakfast which we haven't had in a while. Not only was the breakfast delicious, but I enjoyed the company of everyone that attended.

As part of the Elevator Safety Upgrade fundraising, we've had a fun kickoff during Hanamatsuri where there was a Sakura photo background and photo taking by Ken Chen, and Elephant crafts led by Sharon

Ishida. Look forward to many future events planned such as the first ever VHBT Blind Wine Tasting, Pickleball event, and Casino Night. A lot of fun things to look forward to. Please feel free if you have any suggestions for a fundraising event, or just a fun event that we can have at the temple.

Let's not forget all the events made possible by Keiro grants. From Senior Dana Delivery where senior enjoy goodie bags, to various seminars and field trips, and many other activities. I'm sure our seniors are happy that we have these events and activities.

There's also our staple events of our Obon Festival and Mochitsuki. Just a plug in advance that we need many, many volunteers to help run these events, so please volunteer where you can. We also need volunteers to help with our Rummage Sale planned in September.

I hope you're excited as I am to participate in the many events planned. I look forward to seeing everyone and enjoy the company and share the fun at these events!

In Gassho

Tom Nakagiri



Shinnenkai

By Phyllis Hayashibara & Linda Oshinomi

Our annual Shinnenkai was held on Sunday, January 28th, the Year of the Dragon. The Buddhist Women’s Association (BWA) coordinated this year’s luncheon and program after the regular 9:30 AM service.

Eighty-six people attended and enjoyed a buffet lunch provided by Pick Your Plate. Food choices included spring salad, fresh fruits, green beans, vegetarian pancit, grilled shrimp, longanissa sausage on skewers, boneless chicken adobo, and tri-tip beef with mushroom gravy. BWA members cooked white rice, and ordered two half-sheet cakes from Angel Maid for dessert: lemon chiffon and chocolate dobash.



A large poster of a dragon in the social hall was drawn by Dustin Noriyuki. New Keiro members were presented with a crocheted corsage. Invited guests and new temple members received a ribbon lei. Entertainment was provided by magician Bill Yamane, with a special appearance by “Elvis” (Tom Yamaguchi). JJ Israel, Tommy Nakagiri, Quinn Okamoto and Rev. Matsubayashi serenaded us with their karaoke selections. We had an enjoyable time. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this a successful event, including members of Girl Scout Troop 5325, who helped serve the food, and Sangha Teen students, who helped deliver raffle prizes, and everyone who donated raffle prizes.



Dragon People



Keiro Committee Update

By Jerry Iseda

We have had a very active and informative Spring with several events and activities for our Keiro Sangha members.

During March, we offered copies of the book “Gentle Caregiver...” to Temple and Community members who are involved in providing care for a loved one. The book is a resource to provide support for the many challenges encountered. Copies were provided to VHBT Cares members upon request. There are a few copies remaining, contact vhbtcares@gmail.com to request a copy.

On March 10th, we had our first Senior Dana Delivery for the year. Thanks to the Dharma School, over 120 Community seniors were provided a bag of goodies that included Girl Scout Cookies and much more! As we enter our 5th year of deliveries, many thanks to our SDD leader Aleyna Minamoto and co-leaders Janet DaVall and Michelle Orne, the Temple Organizations (including Cub Scout Pack 79 and Girl Scout Troop 5325) and other volunteers for making the deliveries.

On April 23rd, over 60 members and friends joined us for a presentation by our very own Mark Cummings, CEO of Ladera Senior Care, to discuss Home Health Care ins and outs. Mark provided information to very interested participant on the cost and challenges of hiring caregivers, the potential alternatives to aging at home, and much more. Attendees enjoyed a delicious charcuterie board and wine as they discussed what they learned with fellow participants. So many expressed concern and gratitude in receiving so much valuable information. Many thanks to Mark and thank you to Joyce Ino for arranging for the delicious refreshments.

On May 3rd, staff from Keiro visited the Temple to present information on Iyashi (Palliative) Care and on Senior Scams. A group of 25 Community seniors gathered to learn about the Keiro’s Iyashi Care program and participated in a discussion of how to identify and avoid scams that commonly target seniors. The attendees shared their own experiences and visited with fellow participants while enjoying Beard Papa and other snacks (what’s a good seminar without some food & drink?). Special thanks to Kent Marume and Heather Harada of Keiro for taking time to make the presentations.

On May 5th, we joined the Venice Pioneer Project in leading a bus trip of over 50 seniors to The Huntington. Attendees visited the Library with its famous artwork, the Botanical Gardens and the Shoya House and enjoyed lunch during the day-long adventure. Many thanks to Aya Masada (wearing 2 hats) for leading the coordination of this great day.

Coming up, on Monday, June 3rd, we will host a seminar on money matters- living trusts, estate planning, powers of attorney and much more. This will be led by attorney Kevin Quock who will provide information and tools necessary to help attendees with their planning for the future. Admission is free and refreshments (of course) will be served. To sign up, please email vhbtlive@gmail.com or call the Temple at 310-391-4351.

All of these activities were made possible in large part by the Keiro Grants Program, through which Keiro provides support to Churches, Temples and Community Centers across Southern California. These events are coordinated by the Temple’s Senior Outreach and VHBT Cares Program, which offers services to caregivers and family members providing care for a loved one. For more information or to join, please email vhbtcares@gmail.com



Opportunity Drawing & Silent Auctions

By Jerry Iseda

We are continuing our Obon Festival (July 20 & 21) tradition of hosting both a Silent Auction and Opportunity Drawing. In addition, we will hold a 2nd Silent Auction at the planned VHBT Casino Night, which is scheduled for Saturday, September 7th at the Culver City Veterans Auditorium.

Our Opportunity Drawing will feature a \$1,000 Grand Prize, \$500 Second Prize, and a 9th Gen Apple iPad as Third Prize. The suggested donation is \$5 per ticket- watch your mail for tickets in the near future.

Our Obon Silent Auction will run from June 22 at 9:00 AM and conclude at the end of our Obon Festival on July 21 (about 8:00 PM). Bids will be accepted online at www.32auctions.com/vhbtobon2024 starting on June 22nd. There will be our usual Silent Auction display during the Obon Festival. Information on the Casino Night Silent Auction will be available later this Summer. Proceeds from the latter auction will go towards the Temple's Elevator Safety Upgrade project, which will begin on August 1st.

Donations for the Opportunity Drawing and Silent Auctions are welcome. Gift cards, entertainment/sports tickets, gift baskets, new merchandise and handmade items will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jerry Iseda, Aya Masada or Tom Nakagiri if you would like more information or to donate an item.

Help elevate our Sangha with Pickleball!

By Gary Kurashige



Save the date: Sunday, August 11, 2024

Pickleball Day at the VJCC: A fundraiser for the elevator safety upgrades.

Please click on this link to find out more about this fun day:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgsjUU0MtJE>

Registration for the event will be available soon.



Buddhist Women's Association

Chirashi Sale, Saturday, November 11, 2023

The Venice BWA donated \$1,000 to the Lahaina Relief Fund of the Buddhist Churches of America, after having successfully sold 328 plates of chirashi for \$10 each. Fujinkai ladies started the prep work weeks before: cooking the vinegar, sugar, and salt “su” to season the rice; and cooking the 5-ingredient dashi of konbu, hondashi, mirin, salt, shoyu, and sugar to season the vegetables.

On Thursday morning and evening, and on Friday morning and evening, Temple members came out to help wash and slice 5 ingredients: carrots, gobo, kamaboko, shiitake, and takenoko. Garnishes included the thin sliced eggs, parsley, and red ginger or beni shoga.



Thank you to Sangha Teens for papering the floor



Bonenkai Luncheon, December 16, 2023

The Venice BWA closed out the year 2023 with a luncheon Bonenkai, with 45 enthusiastic guests. The Bonenkai was preceded by the BWA’s year-end, general meeting which was very well-attended with 41 in attendance, looking forward to the bento from Nijiya, vegetarian bento from Yama Sushi, and a quarter-sheet lemon chiffon cake from Angel Maid. Lunch was followed by 25-cent bingo, and winners not only won the cash pot, but also a selection from the unsold Lumbini Boutique items.



Additional Lumbini Boutique sales at Bonenkai and after the Oseibo Service on Sunday, December 17, 2023 raised \$372.00 in two days, which are earmarked for the Temple’s Elevator Modernization Fund.



BWA continued...

Toshi Koshi Soba, 年越しそば, Saturday, December 30, 2023

BWA and other Temple members prepared the dashi and the long buckwheat noodles, a symbol of longevity, for Toshi Koshi Soba, to symbolize the year (toshi) crossing over (koshi) to the new year. We look forward to the soba after the Joya E (除夜会) or New Year's Eve service on Saturday evening. We also look forward to hitting the Kansho 108 times, ringing away the 108 passions or entanglements of the year.



Ozoni, お雑煮, Monday, January 1, 2024

BWA and other Temple members prepared the vegetable ozoni dashi for the traditional first meal of the new year, Ozoni, a savory broth poured over softened mochi cakes. The Shu Sho E (修正会) Service marks the beginning of the New Year, after which guests indulge in the vegetable ozoni with carrots, daikon (white radish), renkon (lotus root), shiitake, takenoko.



BWA continued...

Ojinjo Services Monday, January 15, and Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Goshoki Hoonko Service on Sunday, January 14, 2024, commemorates the passing of Jodo Shinshu founder Shinran Shonin on January 16, 1263 (born May 21, 1173). After this most important service of the year, early morning services called Ojinjo Hoonko services are held at 6:30 am on the following Monday and Tuesday. BWA ladies prepared okayu, a rice porridge, with vegetarian sides such as black beans, cucumber, green beans, kabocha (Japanese pumpkin), kimpira gobo, kombu, natto, shishito peppers, tofu, and various tsukemono, including rakkyo, takuan, and umeboshi.



“New” Co-Presidents

The BWA is very happy to have Vicki Tokirio and Linda Oshinomi re-installed as Co-Presidents for another term from 2024 through 2025. Congratulations!



2024-2025 BWA Co-Presidents Vicki Tokirio and Linda Oshinomi at the 2023 Bonenkai with Carey Tokirio and Phyllis Hayashibara





Dharma School started the first month of the new year with 2 classes on the 7th and 21st. Thanks to Emily Kariya, Julia Ueda and Leslie Nakahara, the students learned more about Shinran Shonin, who was the theme for that month, and his importance to Jodo Shinshu. The Dharma School staff even conducted the service on Jan. 7th due to Rev. Kory’s absence. Emily presented a project that her middle school class created on Shinran a couple years ago and Barbara Fukuji read a book titled, “The Empty Pot.” Both were well received.



Kids Club

Julia helped coordinate Scout Sunday on Feb. 11 and there was a large turnout. All the scouts and Sangha were invited to a Rutt’s breakfast prior to service. After service, everyone created a Valentine’s card.



Middle School Class

February was a busy month for our group. Dharma School had its first Kids Club of the year on Saturday, Feb. 10th. The movie, “Elemental,” was the basis for the activities and included themes of diversity, inclusivity, harmony and unity. A big thanks to all the parents that contributed to the potluck dinner.



Scout Sunday



Dharma School continued...



Scout Sunday

The following week was Pet Memorial service where we were fortunate to have a special guest speaker, Rev. Diana Thompson. Thanks to Judy Hopfield for coordinating this annual event once again as well as leading the class for the younger students. Our theme in February was, “Impermanence.”



Pet Memorial Service

Dharma School’s theme for March was “Amida Buddha.” Emily’s class read an article written by Rev. John Iwohara and learned about Dharmakara and the vows he made on Mar. 5. The younger kids learned about the three different forms of how Amida is represented and practiced singing “Buddha Loves You.”

“Ohigan” was the theme in March. Class was held on March 3 and led by Leslie. Our second Kids Club was held on Saturday, March 30th and organized by Barbara and Leslie. The kids helped decorate the Hanamido for the Hanamatsuri service the next day.



The students will continue to learn more about Hanamatsuri and Gautama Buddha in April and some of the staff will be attending the FDSTL conference up North hosted by Coast District on April 27 – 28. If anyone knows of potential new students, please have them contact any of the Dharma School staff. We are always looking for teachers and support staff too if anyone is interested. No formal experience is needed.



Playdates

Since 2018, the Temple has been hosting weekly playdates for children from the age of birth until they graduate to Transitional Kindergarten, and during school holidays or recesses, many of the playdate alumni return to participate.

The mornings begin with playing in the “kids’ room” which now may include a book reading by Auntie Joyce Ino. Then the children and the grandparents/parents proceed to the hondo, where everyone does oshoko, and recites the “Golden Chain” and sings “Buddha Loves You” led by Rev. Kory. On the day of the solar eclipse, we had a special Dharma Message presented by Rev. George Matsubayashi. One day, Mrs. Kay brought over her butterfly enclosure which included a newly hatched butterfly, and the children watched as the butterfly flew out of the enclosure onto a branch of one of the Temple’s pine trees, before he flew off.

The playdate services are followed by a most sumptuous and delicious potluck lunch.

In 2019, we were honored to be visited by the Gomonshu during his visit to the United States.

Over the years, the playdates have transitioned to become intergenerational, a fun meeting place for the youngest members of the Sangha to join with the more senior members. We celebrate each other’s birthdays with a kid-made crown and kid-decorated cakes...sometimes with candy eyeballs but always with a lot of sprinkles.

For more information about the playdates, contact Dianne Kujubu Belli – diannebelli@gmail.com or Barbara Fukuji – bjfukuji@gmail.com.





Sangha Teens

“Just add chips” Fundraiser

By Kamryn Nobuyuki

On February 10th, during the Super Bowl weekend, the Sangha Teens prepped for Sunday by making dips! We concocted three dips, a refreshing onion dip, creamy and cold, a powerful yet pleasant salsa, and a 7 layer dip that gave you tastes of many flavors. My favorite to make was the salsa. I took the job of washing and cutting the tomatoes. We would mix the tomatoes with onions before putting them in a blender. Watching the mix being blended reminded me very much of a cherry or strawberry slushie!

After clean packaging we packed up and Sunday came rather quickly. We assigned our roles, half of the Sangha Teens were inside and the other half were outside. Inside we packaged orders, and from outside we received drive through orders. We would communicate with the people outdoors with walkie talkies and by using a three way communication system we were able to finish up our orders in no time! We would like to thank everyone for buying dips from us, we appreciate all your support and we hope everyone enjoyed the dips!



Sangha Teens continued...

Game Night

By Chloe Yoshikawa

On March 23rd and April 12th, the Sangha Teens had a game night at the church. It was a fun time for everyone and was a bonding moment with each other. Some of the games we played were Super Smash Bros, Kids Against Maturity, other card games, and more! Not just us having fun, the parents had a card game of their own! Overall, it was just a night full of fun and a break from school and other activities.





Girl Scout Troop 5325

World Thinking Day

By Kelly Matsubayashi

World thinking day is when different Girl Scout troops come together and present what they learned about a country of their choice. Juniors in our troop chose Belgium. We made a skit about a Belgium tradition called *Sinterklaas* and poster to show about things special to Belgium, as well as a Smurf craft (Smurfs originated in Belgium!). Everyone loved sampling our Belgian chocolate, Belgian waffles and Biscoff cookies.

The Cadettes chose Japan. They made origami and served everyone savory arare. Victoria and Jennifer also had a booth. They greeted everyone with a British accent and you had to name famous British musicians in order to win a Rolo candy (invented in England)! They served tea and scones.



Many Daisies from our troop also attended. They were world travelers and went from country, gathering stamps in their passports, sampling food and making crafts. World thinking day was a lot of fun, really brought our troop together, and was just a really amazing experience overall!



Girl Scouts continued...

Powder Puff Derby

By Dianne Belli

Girl Scout Troop 5325 held its first Powder Puff Derby on March 18, 2024, two days after Cub Pack 79's Pinewood Derby. Like the Cubs, the Girl Scouts built their cars at Joe Belli's workshop.

There were six heats and the fastest three cars belonged to Quinn Daimonji with an average miles per hour of 226.36 for her first-place car. Second place went to Simone Schaefer whose car had an average miles per hour of 225.54, and third place went to Ellis Haley whose car had an average of 217.28 miles per hour.

Prizes were also given to the Most Creative won by Kelly Matsubayashi, Best Use of Color won by Kai Knox, and Most Realistic won by Makaila Salas.

Special thanks to Sal Rubalcava and Davin Daimonji for serving as the race officials, to Monica Haley for making the certificates, to Jackson Daimonji for helping with the heats, to Michael Schaefer for weighing and checking in the cars, and to Temple President, Tommy Nakagiri, who not only waved the green flag to begin the races, he presented all the winners with their certificates. Each Girl Scout in the race received a participation certificate adorned with the Temple's 65th anniversary sticker.

All the cars were creative, unique and fast! Their designer/owners should be very proud.



Girl Scouts continued...

Scouts Earn Temple Youth Service Award

By Dianne Belli

The Temple Youth Service Award was created by the VHBT Board on September 3, 2023, to recognize youth who go “above and beyond” in service to the Temple. This recognition of their invaluable assistance and commitment to the Sangha was earned through 10 through 40 hours of volunteer hours, depending on their grade level, and includes activities such as volunteering at Obon, Mochitsuki, Dana Deliveries, etc.

The following Girl Scouts received the Temple Youth Service Award at the Girl Scout Court of Awards on May 13, 2024:

- Ellis Haley
- Quinn Daimonji
- Alia Asher
- Audrey Nobuyuki
- Kaylee Lasecki
- Leah Matsubayashi
- Yoshiko Mendoza
- Mackaila Salas

The awardees received a certificate signed by Rev. Kory and temple president, Tommy Nakagiri, and a special pin, which was pinned to their Scout uniforms.



Girl Scouts continued...



Ambassadors had fun helping out at the Temple's Shinnenkai celebration!

The Daisies learned all about selling cookies at our troop cookie kick off meeting.



Girl Scouts continued...

The older girls in the troop (Cadette and above) participated in self defense classes taught by Nelson Nio owner of Shield Self Defense. They learned safety measures and how to fight back!



Girl Scouts continued...

Thank you to everyone who supported our cookie sale this year!



Girls learned people skills selling cookies in front of Giant Robot and GR2 Gallery on Sawtelle Blvd.





Cub Pack 79

Pack 79 finished 2023 with a focus of giving back and volunteering. We organized and assembled the Senior Dana Deliveries in December for the Temple. The scouts made sure each bag had a daruma doll, items from the Temple's sewing club, fruit, and mochi from mochitsuki which some of the scouts helped make.



Cub Pack 79 continued...

The new year started with a fun pack meeting with special guest Kinnara Taiko troop, they provided a wonderful Taiko presentation and performance for the scouts. The scouts learned about the different types of drums, how they are made, and the different sounds they make. We were also treated to a bonus Shishimai lion dance performance. At the end of the presentation the audience had the opportunity to play the taiko drums as well. The Kinnara troop leader, Johnny guided us as we went from audience members to performers. Everyone had a great time, and dare I say we have a few future taiko drummers in the making.



We continue to welcome new families and scouts in Pack 79. Pack 79 now welcomes girls and kindergarteners to the pack and are looking for interested families to embark on this new adventure with us! If you or family members/friends would like to learn more about Pack 79 please reach out to us via email or check us out on social media:

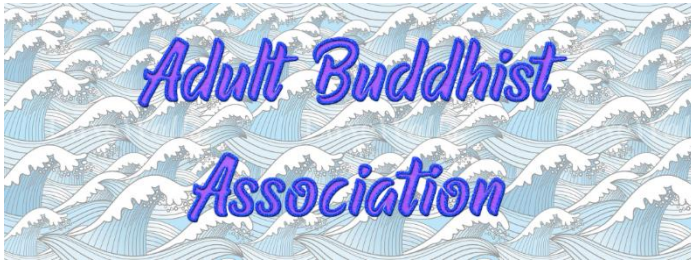
<https://www.facebook.com/culvercubpack79/>

[Culver Pack 79 - YouTube](#)

<https://www.culverpack79.com/>

cubpack79@vhbt.org





Jon Ito and David Nishina are the new co-presidents of ABA. Please support them for the next year (or two).

ABA has many events scheduled this year, including our annual Aloha Breakfast in April, Teriyaki chicken at the Obon Festival in July and Mochi-tsuki in December.

ABA needs all the help we can get, not only at the actual events, but also at preps and setups.

Over the last ten, fifteen years ABA has lost many important members. Those of us who are left are getting older and unable to do as much as in the past.

That is why ABA needs **younger** members to step up and continue the legacy of our founders.

We ask **your** help to come and lend a hand because without you, our legendary events may become a thing of the past.



YEAR OF THE DRAGON

Design by Dustin Noriyuki

2024 Memorial Service Schedule by Years

Memorial services for those
who passed away in the
following years:

- 2023: 1 year
- 2022: 3 year
- 2018: 7 year
- 2012: 13 year
- 2008: 17 year
- 2000: 25 year
- 1992: 33 year
- 1975: 50 year



TEMPLE MEMBERSHIP

*The Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple thanks the following members for their **2024 dues** received **through April 28, 2024**.*

The asterisks () identify our Honorary (Keiro) members who made membership donations. As we continue our membership drive for 2024, we want to thank all of you for continuing to support the Temple through your membership dues.*

Mike & Laurie Amano, Joe & Dianne Belli, Roger Brown, Ken Chen & Sheri Nagata, Martin & Robyn Cohen, Mark & Lisa Cummings, Davin Daimonji & Kristi Kaneshige, Tom & Janet DaVall, Wayne & Karen Eguchi, ***June Fujioka**, Kei & Tomoko Fukuda, Kristina Fukuda, Ron & Barbara Fukuji, Sharon Futa, Ron & Iris Gee, Glenn Hamashita, Janice Hankawa, Eugene & Phyllis Hayashibara, Jill Hopfield, Joe & Judy Hopfield, Glenn & Debbie Hoshizaki, ***Mildred Ichinotsubo**, Leonard & Gwen Imada, Shirley Inada, Stacy & Joyce Ino, Gerald Iseda, Nelson & Sharon Ishida, ***Dale & *Rosan Ito**, Emily Kariya, Yoshiko Kariya, Kevin & Patti Kirio, ***Sanaye Kita**, Sam & May Kiyohara, Frank & Elaine Koyama, Gary & Leticia Kurashige, ***Milnes & *Nori Kurashige**, Joseph & Lynne Lasecki, Orr & Kimberly Limpisvasti, Robert Lopez & Amy Kadomatsu, ***Ayako Masada**, Amanda Matsubara, Erik & Cindy Matsubayashi, Erik Matsumura, Evann Matsumura, Irene Matsumura, ***Alan & Jane Matsuzaki**, Charles & Sue Mayeda, Mark Mayeda & Deborah Ching, Mark & Diane Morimoto, Daniel Motobo, Jackie Motobo, Brian & Mariko Nakagiri, Cheryl Nakagiri, Dan Nakagiri, Tom Nakagiri, ***Hiroko Naruo**, ***John & *Judy Nawa**, David Nishina, ***Fusae Nishina**, ***Yayeko Nishina**, Dale & Gail Noriyuki, Dustin Noriyuki, ***Kay & *Kimi Obana**, Fusako Ogasawara, Jino Ok & Aleya Minamoto-Ok, Margarita Oku, ***Tatsumi Omote**, Mark & Michelle Orne, ***Fujiko Oriba**, Craig & Linda Oshinomi, ***Mitsuko Ota**, Robert & Leah Oye, Ron & Janis Ozaki, ***John & Valda Palacios**, Ted Reeve & Jim Matsuo, Ken Rosengrant & Joyce Enomoto, Billy & Sandy Saeki, Greg Saeki & Luz Wardlow, Ichiko Sakamoto, Merle & Gail Sharp, Mabel Shimasaki, Mark & Sharlene Shinmoto, Catherine Silman, Ken & Sue Sogabe, ***Kiyoe Suzuki**, ***Norm & *Yoshie Tachiki**, ***Kagemi Takata**, Randy & Mari Tamura, Michael Tanaka & Jill Ishida, Carey & Vicki Tokirio, ***Grennie Uchida**, ***Yasushi Udagawa**, Dean & Julia Ueda, Kayla Ueda, Kelsey Ueda, Don Uehara, ***Yoshiko Uyeno**, Ron Wakabayashi & Jane Wong, Julia Watanabe, Beverly Yahata, ***Mary Yasui Yamabe**, ***George & *Sheryl Yamada**, Thomas & Judy Yamaguchi, Robert & Peggy Yamamoto, Gail Yoneda, ***Sakaye Yoneda**, ***Art & Roseann Yoshida**, Spencer & Courtney Yoshikawa



Membership Categories:

FAMILY MEMBERS	INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS	SENIOR MEMBERS
Family Membership (Includes children under age 22 yrs) \$500	Individual Membership (Single Adult age 30 and older) \$250	Senior Membership* (Keiro – age 80 yrs. during or after 2018) \$125
Young Family Membership (Family under age 35 yrs.) \$350	Young Adult Individual Membership (Single adult under age 30 yrs.) \$50	Senior Membership* (Keiro – age 80 yrs. before 2018) Complimentary



Thank You for Your Donations

January 2024

Eitaikyo Fund: Joyce Enomoto, Irene Matsumura

Funeral: Colleen Kita

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February 2024

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Wedding: Billy & Sandra Saeki

April 2024

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Thank you for your generosity

