

# Gassho

To promote a greater understanding and appreciation of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism  
and to continue to live the nembutsu as a warm and friendly temple



## Sensei's Message

### How Do you Spend a Lazy Day?

Happy Summer, Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Family! Thank You for Your continued support with the upcoming Venice Japanese Community Center Festival (6.22-23) and our own Obon Festival(7.22-23). We are all part of this community and I look forward to seeing and working with all of you. It not only brings us all together, but also reinforces our mission as Buddhists to work create peace within through our shared experiences. Gassho.

This past April my family and I were able to take a last-minute trip to visit family in Hawaii. There was one point during this vacation that my wife and I found ourselves without our children and in this quiet time the above question came to me. I thought about what makes a vacation. I thought of past generations and their road trips to camping sites or fishing locations. I came to believe that it is the family that makes it important. I think for some people it now where you go or what you do that makes the trip. These trips are missing what is meaningful, the interaction. That is what makes being at the temple so Great it is the interactions and experiences we are able to share as an extended family unit. In many cases, we would not have in other circumstances. Then I thought about the meaning of this trip and location. Does the location really matter? Of course not. So now, with no kids and apart from the family. I had to ask myself... What do I do with myself?

How do you spend your lazy days? We have to first think about what this question is really asking. What do you do you consider to be a lazy day? Is it your day off? If you get Saturdays or Sundays off, do you think of these days off as opportunities to be "lazy"? I remember when growing up I did not want to get up on Saturday mornings, but my mom treated our lazy day as a chance to wake us up with the sound of the vacuum and a call for our bed sheets. Then there was the rush to make a practice, a game, or an activity. Is this your understanding of a day of rest, a lazy day, or a day off too? As I reflected on these "relaxing" days of the past caused me to think of how we spend this valuable time.

I hope in many of this temple's articles you have asked yourself "where is this going? And more importantly, so true." I have often heard that people do not attend temple for reasons like: "It is our day of rest. We have other obligations. There is nothing the temple offers for us until we have children." This is your choice, but let us start with Buddhism is for you. As Buddhists, it is really not an issue of how you choose to live your life. The more important issue is how you have internalized the teachings and use them. Nembutsu is the path to finding our true self and becoming settled.

We who aspire for Amida's fulfilled land,  
Though we differ in outward condition and conduct,  
Should truly receive the Name of the Primal Vow  
And never forget it, whether waking or sleeping.

Continues on Page 2



In this passage by Shinran Shonin, it says that everyone who wants to look to the Pure Land is within the workings of Amida Buddha, the Buddha of Infinite Light and Life. The light allows us to always receive the Buddha's wisdom and compassion. The Primal Vow is the vow made for all beings or infinite life to attain Enlightenment. Jodo Shinshu allows us to live our lives separate from practice. Through the Buddha's vow or wish we are always supported by just say the Name, Namo Amida Butsu (I think about the Buddha of Infinite Light and Life or Wisdom and Compassion). The last line "and never forget it, whether waking or sleeping. This means that we are never disconnected from what the Buddha is trying to help us achieve. With this in mind, a "Lazy Day" in our tradition is a day that we are not using the teachings to guide us on how we interact in the world.

If everyone no matter where you are keeps this in Amida mind and uses the Nembutsu (Nen: to contemplate, Butsu: Buddha) teaching throughout their day, then there is no need for anything else. But if you find that you are guided by other factors and values motivated by greed, anger, and ignorance, then come to center yourself again at the temple. Do not be lazy and drift away from your path to Enlightenment.

[Amida] Buddha, in the causal stage, made the universal Vow:

When beings hear my Name (Namo Amida Butsu) and think on me, I will come to welcome each of them,

Not discriminating at all between the poor and the rich and wellborn,

Not discriminating between the inferior and the highly gifted;

Not choosing the learned and those upholding pure precepts,

Nor rejecting those who break precepts and whose evil karma is profound.

When beings just turn about at heart and often say the nembutsu,

It is as if bits of rubble were turned into gold.

If you truly use Amida's effort and realize the wish for every single living being, help to share it with others by taking the opportunity to come together in a spirit of oneness. Let us all work diligently to provide others with this realization of what we have already received and are not aware of. Last year during this time of year in reference to Obon a leader of our temple said the following "if you look at it as work, it will be work." Knowing his heart, he was trying to say that VJCC Festival, Obon, and Mochi Tsuki are the rare times that our Venice family gets together and we share this time to live within the radiant light and life of what we know as Temple Life. It is the time where he sees his children and grandchildren of the Venice Community. Let us all hear his words. Let us all hear the Buddha's call to each of us as warm hello, hand, or hug. Let our minds of selfish desires and rubble turn into hearts of gold and Nembutsu. Let us all turn our Lazy Days into Golden Days of Light.

*-Rev. Kory Quan*



# President's Message

I think very few of us remember a time when Buddhism was looked upon in this country with suspicion. Nowadays, Buddhism seems so much a part of our everyday culture that it's hard to fathom how we Buddhists could be considered the enemy.

Last February, several VHBT members had the privilege of attending a seminar at the Japanese American National Museum. The speaker was Rev. Duncan Williams, a Soto Zen priest who is currently a Professor of Religion and East Asian Languages & Cultures at USC. Rev. Williams had just kicked off a book tour to promote his latest work, **"American Sutra: A Story of Faith and Freedom in the Second World War."**



You have probably heard of the book by now (it rose to #3 on the LA Times Bestsellers list, and #1 on Amazon under Buddhist Studies and Asian American issues), but for those who haven't, the book centers around the internment of Japanese and Japanese Americans during World War II. I know most of us have read about the internment, if not heard stories from family members (and there are those still around who lived through that experience, including my mother-in-law). What sets Rev. Williams' work apart from all of the other literature is that it tells the story from a Buddhist perspective.

During the presentation, Rev. Williams reminded us that the prevailing attitude before World War II was that the United States was a white, Christian nation, and that the degree to which you were considered truly American was predicated mostly on those two traits. We learned about Buddhist priests being the first to be arrested by the FBI, and how the Japanese, as well as Japanese Americans, were thought to be un-assimilable into American culture because of their race and religion. We also learned how, even while incarcerated, Buddhists would make do with whatever materials they had in order to practice their rituals. Obutsudans were made from scrap pieces of wood, and at one camp, a baby Buddha was carved from a large carrot for Hanamatsuri, with sweetened coffee being used instead of sweet tea. The seminar and book were a nice reminder that we shouldn't take our temples and teachings for granted.



*Thanks to Phyllis Hayashibara for taking the pictures (you should have gotten in one, Phyllis!).*

In Gassho,  
Ron Gee



## Toddler Play Time with Senior Outreach



Let's Learn Day: Mondays

Exercise Day: Tuesdays— Chair Exercise (video)

Game Day: Fridays



Spring has gotten off to a fast start as the Pack held its traditional Pinewood Derby in March where the scouts cheered as they raced the wooden cars that they designed and built with their parents. We closed out the month at Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center where our families took a break to spend a nice weekend together camping in Kennedy Meadows and participating in a lot of scout skill and camp activities like archery, BB gun, zip lining and swimming. In April, a few of the Pack's dedicated parents participated in a science fair event at El Marino Language School by building air harmonicas while introducing Pack 79 to prospective new scouts and parents. That same weekend, Pack 79's Webelos also proudly represented the Pack at the Crescent Bay District Camporee. At the event, we welcomed two scouts from a small pack to participate with us in the Camporee events. Pack 79's eleven scouts together with our new friends, had another successful and fun Camporee; all while doing their good turn!

We're now heading into the home stretch of this scouting year with our annual fishing trip and Arrow of Light ceremony in mid May and our traditional service project to place flags at the LA National Cemetery on Memorial Day weekend. On June 1, we'll bid farewell to our Webelos 2 scouts and families as they bridge over and are welcomed to their selected Boy Scout Troop!

For more information about Pack 79 and Cub Scouts, please email us at [cubpack79@vhbt.org](mailto:cubpack79@vhbt.org) or check out our public Shutterfly site at: <https://marinacubpack79.shutterfly.com/>



Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple  
12371 Braddock Drive, Los Angeles California 90230

# Girl Scout

## Troop 5325



Girl Scout Troop 5325  
at Winter Encampment

Helping Animal Shelters  
By Madison Mendoza, Cadette

During our April 22nd Girl Scout meeting, we got to make many amazing things for animal shelters. The reason we had this meeting was because we voted to use our cookie money to help animals shelters. One activity we did was making pins. We got a piece of paper and drew and wrote things on the pape like: "Adopt Don't Shop" and "Live, Love, Adopt". We also made treats for animals in the shelters. We used baby food and flour to make the dough. After we made the dough, all of us rolled out our dough and cut out different shapes like dog bones, hearts and sakura flowers. They were put into the oven to bake and became dog treats. We also made blankets for the animals and toys for cats. Some leaders will be taking their groups to shelters to drop off the blankets, toys and dog treats. It was really fun making all these things for animal shelters and I hope we do it again next year.

Golden Gate Bridging  
Shelby Weiss

On April 26, the Junior 2's from Troop 5325 traveled to San Francisco. The following day we walked across the Golden Gate Bridge with 7,000 other Girl Scouts. It stood for bridging from Junior to Cadette. Once we finished walking the bridge we went to Crissy Field. Then we swapped small crafts we had made with the other Girl Scouts. We also earned one of our very first Cadette Badges. After walking 5 miles we were very exhausted! During the trip some of the girls also went to Alcatraz, rode cable cars and went to Ghirardelli Square. It was a once in a lifetime experience!

Brownie Sleepover  
by Mia Rubalcava

On Friday, April 12th, the second year juniors of Girl Scout Troop 5325 hosted a sleepover at the VHBT for the first year brownies. The purpose of the sleepover was to help the brownie girls get used to and be comfortable with sleeping away from home, so they will be ready for next year's Winter Encampment. Before the sleepover, the juniors had a curry dinner fundraiser to help pay for things for the sleepover, such as craft supplies and food. During the sleepover, the girls had fun playing "Would You Rather?", making sock bunnies, and playing "What's in the Box?". Altogether, it was a fun experience for all the girls!



Girl Scout Troop 5325  
San Francisco Bridging



Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple  
12371 Braddock Drive, Los Angeles California 90230

VHBT Dharma School  
Kids' Club  
"Mini Obon Festival"

# Special Articles

## Obon Festival is Seeking *YOUR* support

Our Obon Committee is meeting monthly and planning for this year's Obon Festival for **July 20-21<sup>st</sup>** is well underway. As previously announced in the Gassho Newsletter, *WONTON* will be back after a hiatus in 2018. Also planned is the continuation of Lumbini Boutique and Obon Sponsorships. We are seeking *YOUR* support.

Please consider donating Japanese/Asian items to Lumbini Boutique. Treasures and items that are no longer bringing you joy can be rehomed through the boutique to bring joy to others. Please contact Debbie Ching at [dfching@gmail.com](mailto:dfching@gmail.com) to arrange receipt of your items.

Thank you to the many 2018 Obon Sponsors who generously supported the festival with \$1,000 and \$500 donations. We are again offering Obon Sponsorships for the 2019 festival. Sponsors will be acknowledged throughout the festival weekend. Please consider being an Obon Sponsor. For more information, please contact Debbie Ching at [dfching@gmail.com](mailto:dfching@gmail.com), or see Obon Sponsorship forms available at VHBT and attached to this Gassho Newsletter.

Much gratitude to our Sangha and Friends of VHBT for supporting our Obon Festival!



# Fujinkai

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, we held our annual Fujinkai memorial service, held in conjunction with memorials for Esshinni-sama, Kakushinni-sama and Lady Takeko Kujo. Our guest speaker for the service was Rev. Candice Shibata. During her Dharma message, Rev. Shibata shared her poignant journey through a painful personal life experience and explained how it helped her to reconnect with her Buddhist roots. This led to her becoming a Buddhist minister.

After the service, we enjoyed a delicious potluck otoki lunch, and we surprised Rev. Shibata with a cake to celebrate her birthday that month. At the end of the event, the leftover food was packed and delivered to Fujinkai members who were physically not able to attend the event. The recipients of these lunches appreciated them very much.

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Phyllis Hayashibara attended Cub Pack 79's Blue and Gold dinner on behalf of our Fujinkai. The evening concluded with an amazing international buffet dinner.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Judy Hopfield and Julia Ueda represented our Venice chapter at the first 2019 SDBWA meeting. Thank you to the Senshin BWA ladies who are serving as the 2019 SDBWA cabinet and hosting our meetings.

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, Joyce Ino and five other BWA ladies had a cooking activity with sixteen 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade girls from Troop 5325. The girls really enjoyed making inari sushi and rice krispy candy sushi. Thank you to Joyce and the ladies for all their work.

The 2019 World BWA Conference in San Francisco will take place on August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup>. There are six BWA ladies and two men who will be attending from Venice.

Our BWA ladies are preparing diligently for our festival season. As usual, we will sell wonton at the VJCC festival and wonton, spam musubi, sushi and salads at Obon.

# Dharma School



Our annual Scout Sunday was on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Scouts from Pack 79, Troop 5325 and two Boy Scouts were in attendance. Rev. Kory had a special Dharma message for the scouts. After service, there was photo-taking and cupcake decorating for the scouts as well. Thank you Karyn and Raiden Heyl for being in charge.

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, we had a Japanese-themed Kids' Club event. The kids made Japanese-style bentos, which included onigiri, spam lions, octopus-fashioned hot dogs and heart-shaped tomatoes. The kids also crafted uchiwas. Thank you Jayme and Karyn Heyl for coordinating the event.

On February 17<sup>th</sup>, we held our annual Pet Memorial service. Rev. Kory gave a touching Dharma message about losing their family's pet rabbit; afterward we had a candlelight ceremony for our pets. During Dharma School class, the students read a story about a family's loss of their dog and learned important lessons about loss/death and the renewal of life. Refreshments with animal decorations were served afterward.

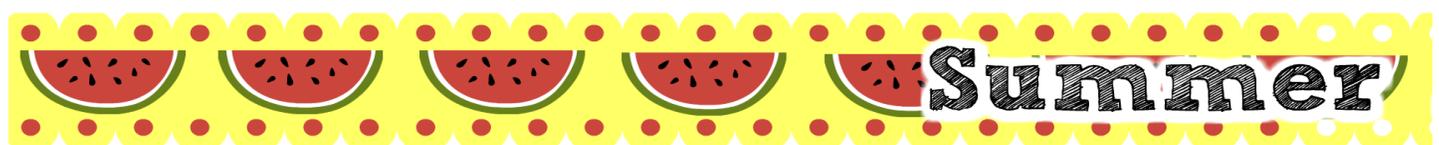
On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, there was another Kids' Club event; its theme was "Game Night." The kids enjoyed playing classic board games, and afterward they played video and other modern games. They also had fun with make-your-own pizzas and brownies. Thank you Jayme and Karyn Heyl for organizing the event.

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Judy Hopfield attended an SDDSTL mini-workshop at Nishi. The theme was "Clarify Your Questions" and was facilitated by Rev. Kazuaki Nakata. Everyone learned new things about Buddhism.

Following the workshop, we had our first 2019 SDDSTL meeting. Judy shared the meeting info with our Dharma School staff.

On March 31<sup>st</sup>, and April 21<sup>st</sup>, Judy Hopfield and Julia Ueda attended the Southern District Obon odori practices at Nishi.

The Dharma School staff helped at Hanamatsuri service by preparing flowers, decorating the hanamido and coordinating Hatsumairi.





On March 24 th , our BEC took charge of our Spring Ohigan service and otoki. Thank you to all who helped with the service and setup, and thank you to Barbara Fukuji for coordinating the otoki lunch. This year, we had “Breakfast for Lunch,” and everyone especially liked the Hawaiian Sweet Bread French toast.

Also on March 24 th , we had the last screening for our 2019 film festival. This year’s theme was “Troubled Times,” and the audience was able to see some very thought-provoking and heart- wrenching films, three of which were based on true stories. The films were very well made and profound; thank you to Richard Modiano for sharing them with us.

Thank you also to Richard for offering to teach more classes on Buddhism this fall. The subject of the next series of classes is an Introduction to Pure Land Buddhism, and will consist of four one-hour meetings. Topics covered will be: History of Pure Land Buddhism (Sept 11), Main Ideas of Pure Land Buddhism Common to All Schools (Sept 18), Schools of Pure Land Buddhism (Sept 25), Pure Land Buddhism Today Oct 2). All classes will begin at 7:30 pm at the temple.

A future activity planned is a meditation workshop with Japanese “Singing Bowls.” We are tentatively thinking of scheduling it for September 15, 2019, after fall Ohigan otoki. Details and updates TBA.

Since it is Venice’s turn to host a tri-temple seminar this year, (targeted for Venice, Gardena and WLA

attendees) our committee has discussed ideas for a workshop theme. We are tentatively thinking of having the workshop sometime this October. More information to follow.

## MINDFULNESS DONATING

Bring an item to donate when you come to temple.

Beginning in May, Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple will be partnering with St. Joseph Center in Venice, CA to provide In-Kind donations to aid their clients. The collection bin is in the lobby.

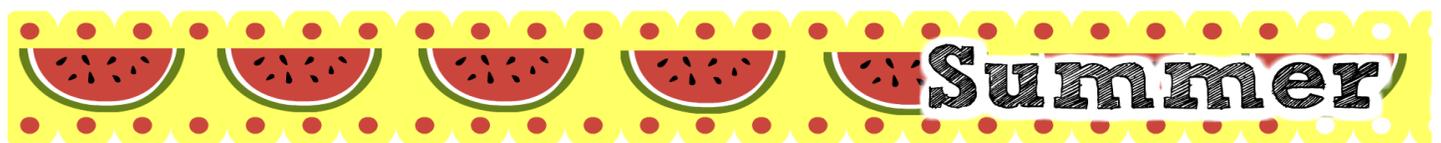
Initially, we will collect food items for housed clients. Below is the In-Kind Donation Guideline for food items, from St. Joseph Center.

(Please do not include items that have expired or items in glass containers.)

- Ensure Nutrition Drink for Seniors
- Baby Formula (powdered)
- Baby/Toddler Food
- All ages and flavors, pouches preferred.
- Glass jars are okay for this item only
- Breakfast Cereal and/or Oatmeal
- Canned Meats and Fish
- Canned Sauce, Soup and Broth
- Canned Vegetables and Fruits
- Pasta, Crackers, Cereal, Beans & Rice
- Peanut Butter
- Shelf Stable Milk
- Snacks for Children
- Crackers, Teething Biscuits, Cookies,
- Raisins and 100% Dried Fruit Snacks

If you would like to make larger, bulk donations, or donations of fresh produce, please transport your donations directly to St. Joseph Center at 204 Hampton Drive in Venice.

If everyone brings one food item to donate, every time they visit the temple, imagine the difference that we can make!



## TEMPLE MEMBERSHIP

The Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple thanks the following members for their 2019 dues received from January 2019 through April 2019. The asterisks (\*) identify our Senior members who paid Senior membership or made membership donations. As we continue our membership drive for 2019, we want to thank all of you for continuing to support the Temple through your membership dues.

\*Yuri Amamoto, \*Toshi Ashikaga, Joe & Dianne Belli, Roger Brown, Ken & Sheri Nagata Chen, Marty & Robyn Cohen, Mark & Lisa Cummings, Wayne & Karen Eguchi, \*June Fujioka, Kei & Tomoko Fukuda, Kristina Fukuda, Ron & Barbara Fukuji, Chisako Fukumoto, Ron & Iris Gee, \*Arlene Hamashita, Janice Hankawa, Eugene & Phyllis Hayashibara, Jill Hopfield, Joe & Judy Hopfield, Glenn & Debbie Hoshizaki, Mildred Ichinotsubo, Leonard & Gwen Imada, Shirley Inada, Gerald Iseda, Osami Ishida, \*Dale Ito, Sachiko Ito, \*Hiroshi & Kazuko Kadomatsu, Emily Kariya, Yoshiko Kariya, \*Sammy & \*Chieko Kishimoto, Jim & Gail Higa Kita, \*Sanaye Kita, Sam & May Kiyohara, \*Kenji & Shinobu Koda, Frank & Elaine Koyama, \*Setsuko Kuda, \*Mae Kumagai, Gary & Leticia Kurashige, \*Milnes & \*Nori Kurashige, Tom & Delcene Kuwata, Hide & Yukari Marume, Ayako Masada, David & Michelle Matsubara, Evann Matsumura, Irene Matsumura, Ted Reeve & Jim Matsuo, \*Alan & Jane Matsuzaki, Mark & Debbie Ching Mayeda, \*Victoria Morimoto, Daniel Motobo, Jackie Motobo, Dan Nakagiri, Tom Nakagiri, \*Jean Nakamoto, Edgar Nakamura, \*John & Judy Nawa, David Nishina, \*Fusae Nishina, \*Yayeko Nishina, Dale & Gail Noriyuki, Dustin Noriyuki, \*Kay & \*Kimi Obana, Fusako Ogasawara, Quinn Okamoto, \*Ruby Okamoto, Margarita Oku, \*Tatsumi Omote, \*Fujiko Oriba, Craig & Linda Oshinomi, Robert & Leah Oye, Ron & Janis Ozaki, John & Valda Palacios, Ken & Joyce Enomoto Rosengrant, Billy & Sandy Saeki, Ichiko Sakamoto, Merle & Gail Sharp, Mabel Shimasaki, \*Sam & \*Kuni Shimoguchi, Mark & Sharlene Shinmoto, \*Setsuko Shinmoto, Kiyoe Suzuki, \*Norm & \*Yoshie Tachiki, Dave & Arlene Tademaru, Kagemi Takata, Randy & Mari Tamura, Michael & Jill Ishida Tanaka, \*Sue Tanaka, Etsuko Nancy Taylor, Carey & Vicki Tokirio, Dean & Julia Ueda, Don & Cyndy Uehara, \*Gary & Yoshiko Uyeno, Ron & Jane Wong Wakabayashi, Tom & Judy Yamaguchi, Rob & Peggy Yamamoto, Gail Yoneda, \*Sakaye Yoneda, Kenzo & Annette Yonemitsu, Art & Roseann Yoshida

### Membership Categories

#### FAMILY MEMBERS

##### Family Membership

(Includes children under age 22 yrs)

**\$500**

##### Young Family Membership

(Family under age 35 yrs)

**\$350**

#### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

##### Individual Membership

(Single Adult age 30 and older)

**\$250**

##### Young Adult Individual Membership

(Single adult under age 30 yrs.)

**\$125**

#### SENIOR MEMBERS

##### Senior Membership\*

(Keiro— age 80 yrs. During or after 2018)

**\$125**

##### Senior Membership\*

(Keiro— age 80 yrs. Before 2018)

**Complimentary**



# WISH LIST

## NEEDED ITEMS & facility service projects

- Help with renovation of storage sheds & shelving in back parking lot
- Convert sprinkler system in garden to drip system; install low voltage lights to bonsai trees
- New gate with lock by BBQ grilling area
- Hose, 25' heavy duty (2); stiff corn brooms for outdoor use (2); rakes (3)
- 60" Commercial gas BBQ grill; new Mochi grinder
- Install new double pane windows downstairs
- Large sturdy tables from Mity-Lite Tables, 12 needed – (approx. \$275 ea.)
- New storage shed at south side of garage
- 32 gal. Commercial "Rubbermaid Brute" gray trash cans with lids (4) - (approx. \$30 ea.)
- Commercial Rubbermaid plastic trash can "Dolly" (4) - (approx. \$35 ea.)
- Install smoke detectors; install new intercom at side door
- Uchishiki - 4 triangular matching brocade cloths for Onaijin, 1 Mizuhiki - table skirt, 1Tocho -hanging brocade curtain surrounding Amida Buddha – (approx. cost for all pieces: \$45,000)
- Obuppan-ki - holders for rice offering, set of 2 - (approx. cost: \$800)
- Kebyo set - matching altar water holders, etc. - (approx. cost: \$6000)

## On-Going Needed Items:

- Water, 1 gallon size
- Forever postage stamps; Glue Sticks (Elmer's brand)
- Reams of copy paper
- 33 gal. heavy duty trash bags
- Large ( 10 ¼") paper 3-sectional dinner plates; small paper dessert plates & bowls
- Large, medium, small latex-free, powder-free gloves
- Paper towels, Ziploc bags (all sizes), napkins
- Bathroom tissue, seat covers, multi-fold 2-ply paper towels (approx. 9"x 9"), liquid hand soap
- 7 oz. cold cups, 6-8 oz. hot cups, "paper"; Tupperware with lids
- Regular & decaf. coffee (ground)
- Mr. Clean Magic Erasers, sponges, scrub brushes
- Ajax or Dawn Dish Soap, Bon Ami cleanser, Windex

\*The Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple will gratefully accept any donations or contributions towards the above needed items & services. Please contact: Ron Gee, VHBT President @ (310) 266-7296 or via E-mail: [crouchingbruin@gmail.com](mailto:crouchingbruin@gmail.com) or Rev. Kory Quon @ (310) 391-4351 or via E-mail: [Sensei@vhbt.org](mailto:Sensei@vhbt.org) for more information.

NOV. 2018 to JAN. 2019

The Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple gratefully acknowledge & thank all donors for their generous "Temple Wish Board" donations.

Thank you  
for your  
Donations!

## February 2019

Eitaikyo: Mr. & Mrs. Kenji Koda (3)

Memorial: Mrs. Sanaye Kita, Mrs. Ume Kita, Mr. Mark Oki, Mrs. Mabel Shimasaki, Shiraki Trust, Mr. JC Shiraki, Mrs. Jocelyn Tahara, Mrs. Kiyoe Yamaguchi, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Judy Yamaguchi

Special Donations: Ms. Iris Finkelman, Ms. Rebeca Nunez-Mason, Mrs. Kiyoe Suzuki

## March 2019

Eitaikyo: Mr. & Mrs. Kenji Koda (2)

Funeral: Ms. Diane Nakamura

Memorial: Mrs. Barbara Fukuji, Mr. Masaki Ueki, Mr. Wayne Wadamoto

Special Donations: Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Belli, Ms. Dorcia Hart, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Kuwata, Mrs. Jean Tsunemoto

## April 2019

Eitaikyo: Mr. & Mrs. Milnes Kurashige

Funeral: Ms. Jean Akutagawa, Mrs. June Fujioka, Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Kochiyama, Ms. Jean Nakamoto, Mrs. Hiroko Naruo, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Tom

Memorial: Mr. & Mrs. Craig Bohannan, Mr. & Mrs. Donald Devirian, Mr. & Mrs. Kei Fukuda, Mr. & Mrs. Albert Morita, Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Sasaki, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Shinmoto, Mrs. Setsuko Shinmoto, Mrs. Yoko Shinmoto, Mr. & Mrs. Cary Uyemura

Special Donations: Ballroom Dance Class, Mrs. Barbara Fukuji, Ms. Mildred Ichinotsubo, Mrs. Kay Kawano, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Kurihara

Wedding: Mr. & Mrs. Ron Ozaki

Thank you for your generosity

Summer

Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

12371 Braddock Drive, Los Angeles California 90230

***Please donate items for the  
2019 Lumbini Boutique***



**Do you have fine Japanese or Asian items that no longer spark joy for you?**

**Lumbini Boutique  
will find loving new homes for them!**



**Kimonos/Yukatas**

**Happi Coats**

**Japanese Dolls**

**Japanese/Asian  
ceramics & art items**

**Jewelry**

**More...**



**Contact Debbie at 310 748-7940 or [dfching@gmail.com](mailto:dfching@gmail.com)  
to arrange drop off at VHBT.**



## 2019 OBON SPONSORSHIP FORM

Annual Obon Sponsorship is a new opportunity to support the Obon Festival and Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. With gratitude, we invite you to be a 2019 Obon Sponsorship with a monetary gift to VHBT of \$1,000 or \$500. Sponsors will be acknowledged throughout the Obon Festival. If you have questions, please contact Debbie Ching at [dfching@gmail.com](mailto:dfching@gmail.com) or 310 748-7930.

**Yes! I/we would like to support VHBT and the Obon Festival as an Obon Sponsor:**

\$1,000 Sponsor Level       \$500 Sponsor Level

**Sponsor Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

To receive an acknowledgement letter, please provide:

**Mailing Address** \_\_\_\_\_

(City/State) \_\_\_\_\_

(Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

In case we have questions, please provide:

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_

**I/We would like acknowledgement during the Festival to appear as follows:**

Please check one only:

**Sponsor Name(s) as stated above.**

**In Memory of** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor of** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Celebration of** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other (Please provide desired wording):** \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this completed form and your Obon Sponsorship check payable to "VHBT" with memo "Obon Sponsorship" **BY JULY 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**, to:

VHBT Obon Sponsorship c/o Debbie Ching, 5416 Shenandoah Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90056.

**Thank you with much gratitude for your Obon Sponsorship!**