



## Sensei's message

2021!

Happy New Year! Welcome 2021! These are two terms that many people in the world have been waiting for. Even though the day January 1, 2021 is only a blip on the historical timeline, in this moment for ordinary human beings like us it is a turning point which helps us to change our perceptions and brighten our moods.

On behalf of the Venice Buddhist Temple, Congratulations! It feels good that it is 2021. It is important that we take these moments to celebrate. We celebrate what has been given, what has been received, what we have attained, and what we are able to share together. What gives you reason to celebrate?

Our teacher, Master T'an-luan,  
Through the guidance of Bodhiruci,  
Burned his scriptures on immortality, discarding them forever,  
And deeply took refuge in the Pure Land.

Hymns of the Pure Land Master 21

After experiencing an illness, Tanluan the third of the seven Pure Land masters searched for immortality. To achieve this goal he acquired Daoist scrolls to find the elixir of life. During this journey, he met the priest Bodhiruci or better known to many of us as Bodhidharma or Daruma. In the wake of this encounter Tanluan devoted his life to Amida Buddha and the Pure Land. Tanluan gave up on living forever in this life, but upon beginning a new journey was able to celebrate within the mindset of a settled



life of Nembutsu. We may not be chasing after or reflecting deeply on living forever, but it is a nice dream and we all wish to live as long as we can. This is because of the Buddha's teachings that we know our limitations. The world is awakened to the value of each individual life that we are able to interact with in this stream together.

Go beyond your own life and share in this stream which eventually leads to a great ocean. We have taken on this mission of sharing Light and Compassion through our actions. Last month's Dana Delivery letter was entitled Nembutsu Sangha Strong. Briefly, it was to help everyone associated with the temple to have a vision and find strength within. For everyone Buddhist or not, the driving force of this Community's Strength are the roots of this place's past which are the six syllables of Na mo A mi da Bu tsu or Nembutsu. When we work together for a common goal the action washes away our feelings of self, we reflect on the influences or memories that give us encouragement like services or even events like mochitsuki, and we purify our minds. Be in that moment and nowhere else. When we say Nembutsu Sangha Strong, we really think of what embodies the Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple or what this Community is made up of like the Cub Scout Pack 79, Girl Scout Troop 5325, Dharma School, Adult Buddhist Association, Buddhist Women's Association, Friends, Families, and the Members past and present. With this one Heart that works together for a unified future of Pure Joy, we constantly Celebrate Life Together as being Nembutsu Sangha Strong.

Let Us All Celebrate! We Can Celebrate being a Sangha or as a Community of People traveling together through life. We Can Celebrate the Call of the Buddha that gives us all a solid understanding of what it is to be human. We Can Celebrate the Support received from a Community that works hard together. We Can Celebrate the Heart attained through good will and a lot of growth. Through all this We Can Share and Celebrate a true appreciation of life. Every day is a chance to Give, to Receive, to Attain, and to Share.

Happy New Year Everyone! Continue to stay Safe, Healthy, and Strong!

Namo Amida Butsu,

Rev. Kory Quon



Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple  
12371 Braddock Drive, Culver City, CA 90230



# President's Message

## The End is in Sight!

Happy New Year! Yes, the end is in sight. You might think that I'm referring to our current pandemic, and how newly developed vaccines will allow us to once again come together at the temple. And, yes, I am looking forward to that time. But I'm also referring to my term as President of the temple. It has been four years since I started my term. For those of you who don't know, the typical term is two years.

When I first became president, I was a bit terrified, to tell you the truth. I didn't know a lot of the old-time temple families, having married into the temple. Even then, it wasn't until we had kids, and Iris' desire that they attend Dharma School, that I started coming to the temple on a regular basis. And gradually, after taking part in many activities, and feeling like a part of the temple community, I somehow stepped into the role, wanting to help the temple in any way that I could, just like many of you.

I want to sincerely thank everyone who assisted me during my term. I had to lean on a lot of shoulders, and I am grateful for your experience and/or willingness to help. I would try and name you all, but I am sure I would accidentally forget someone; you know who you are. But there is one person whom I will recognize by name: Rev. Kory Quon. When you become the organizational leader of a church or temple, it is important to

work closely with the spiritual leader, with the hope that together, you can help maintain the mission of the temple. I am glad I had the opportunity to work with sensei and gotten to know him on a very personal level.

I also want to congratulate our incoming President, Jerry Iseda. If you're subscribed to the temple's email blasts, you may have learned of the many projects that Jerry has planned and implemented over the past year: the Kenny's Café drive-through; the formal Eitaikyo policy; Project Bonbu, the new fundraising project for 2021; our new young adult group, the Sangha Initiative; the Virtual Sangha, which has gained attention not only within BCA, but will be featured in a newsletter article of the Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto. I am very excited about Jerry's term as President. I hope you will support him in the same way that you've supported me these past four years.

Though I will no longer be President, I will still be around, I will still be busy. I'm still on the Communications committee, and I'm also starting a guidebook project with members of the Funeral committee. More importantly, I am serving this year as the Southern District Chair, helping to coordinate the other temples and churches in the district. Thanks again for allowing me to lead our wonderful temple.

**In gassho,  
Ron Gee**





# Buddhist Women's Association

Members of the Buddhist Women's Association, popularly known as the Fujinkai, of the Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, have been supporting Temple activities such as the wildly successful Sangha Initiative events. Fujinkai member Yoshie Tachiki, for example, folded over 100 six-inch and 100 three-inch origami cranes for the Keiro no Hi greeting cards mailed out by the Sangha Initiative in September.

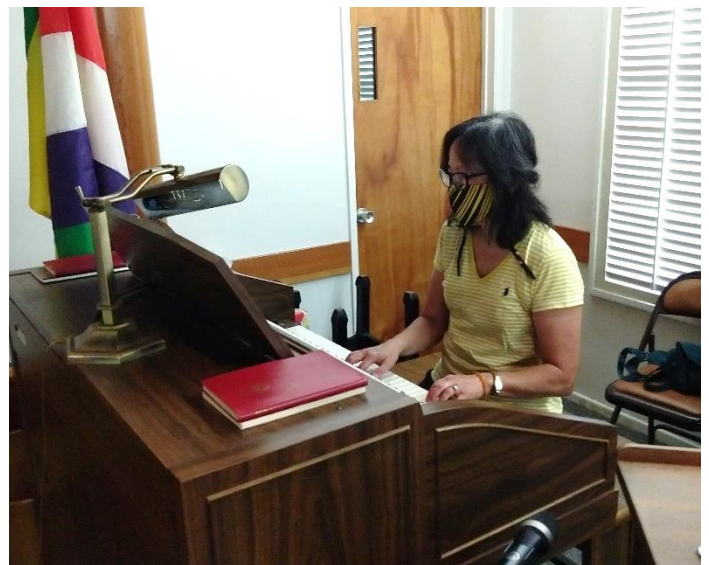


The Fujinkai donated mandarin oranges for the Dana Deliveries in August. The Fujinkai, though, missed its annual wonton and wonton sauce preparations and shifts for the VHBT Obon Festival in July, and for the Venice Japanese Community Center Summer Festival in June, which both went virtual for 2020.

Two Fujinkai members have contributed greatly to Sunday services, expanded through August when the Temple is usually on vacation, and now available live on a Zoom link. Judy Hopfield and

Julia Ueda have taken turns playing the organ for the Temple since the mid-1990s. They both volunteered to play the organ when one Sunday, nobody showed up to play, and have been playing ever since, with Julia having grown up playing the organ and piano at Reedley Buddhist Church. Both have learned how to adapt to the organ's key touch, pedal volume, and knob controls, after having played the piano since they were in elementary school.

Judy Hopfield says her favorite Gatha is "Nichiyobi" because it's easy to play and it's a happy song. Judy has also brought her portable keyboard to play "Seiya" at Reverend Iwohara's Farewell Luncheon in 2014, and to accompany Dharma School students on many Holiday visits to Keiro.



*Judy Hopfield*



## *BWA, continued...*

Julia Ueda enjoys playing “Nichiyobi” and “Farewell,” and likes the melodies of “Children in Japan” and “Shinran Sama.” Julia enjoys hearing the Sangha sing along to the gathas.



*Julia Ueda*

Judy and Julia have also co-led the Obon Odori practices ever since the late Mrs. Kazuko Kadomatsu asked them to take over as lead teachers for Venice around 2004. They encourage everyone to join in the dancing, whether they know the steps or not, in the true spirit of joy in the season of Obon. They thank Ron Gee, Carey Tokirio, and Reverend Kory Quon for their expertise and advice in filming the VHBT submission, “Yagi Bushi,” complete with outtakes, to the BCA Virtual Obon Odori, Zoomed on August 15, 2020, with over 500 participants. They both realize how important Obon Odori has been to so many Temple members and friends, and look forward to dancing Obon Odori in real life again soon.

Julia married into a long-time VHBT member family when she married Dean Ueda. Dean’s mother, Janet Ueda, had been a Dharma School teacher and a Fujinkai member. Julia recalls that Reverend George Matsubayashi used to recognize the Uedas as “one of the triple generation families at Venice.” Their daughters, Kayla and Kelsey, participated in Sangha Teens, Junior YBA, and Girl Scouts. Now adults, Kayla works as an optometrist in Playa Vista and Marina del Rey, and Kelsey works as a Physical Therapy aide while she applies to graduate school.

Judy herself belongs to a triple-generation VHBT family. Her mother, Mrs. Amy Okafuji, enrolled Judy in the Venice Sunday School on Culver Boulevard in the 1960s, and joined the Fujinkai. Mrs. Okafuji served as Fujinkai Membership Chair, an office that Judy took over on her mother’s passing in 2001. Joe Hopfield helps at the Temple when he can. Their daughters, Jill and Maddie, have grown up with the Temple’s Sangha Teens, Junior YBA, and Girl Scouts. Now adults, Jill works as a counselor, and Maddie works as a teacher and a dancer.

Both Judy and Julia say Buddhist ideals such as understanding, compassion, and patience have helped them in their careers, dealing with colleagues and patients. Judy has worked for 32 years in laboratory research and development, and in clinical settings; Julia has worked for 34 years as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in cardiac surgery, for pre-surgery consults and post-operative care.

They consider the role of the Fujinkai to be one of support and leadership for both the Temple and the Minister. Julia has served the Fujinkai on its membership committee and telephone committee,





## *BWA, continued...*

and as historian/photographer. She has also represented VHBT BWA at the Southern District BWA quarterly meetings, and has served on the Scheduling Committee for the Obon booths. Judy has served the Fujinkai as President once before, and currently as co-president with Vicki Tokirio; served as VP for the SDBWA; and represented the VHBT BWA at Southern District BWA meetings and at Federation of BWA meetings. For the Temple, Judy has served on the VJCC Festival Committee for the Fujinkai Wonton booth; as Religious Chair for the Buddhist Education Committee; and as co-Superintendent of Dharma School. Both Judy and Julia attended the 2019 World Buddhist Women's Conference in San Francisco, and enjoyed the inspiring messages of the keynote speakers, seeing and listening to the Gomonsu in person for the first time, and socializing with VHBT friends as well as meeting attendees from different temples from around the world. They wonder if the 2023 WBWC will be held as planned in Kyoto.

Judy Hopfield and Julia Ueda consider themselves fortunate to be members of an active Fujinkai with great leaders and members, and are happy to share in the friendships and the laughs. They both have high hopes that the legacy of the VBHT, which so many parents and grandparents have worked so hard to establish, will continue to make the Temple and the Jodo Shinshu teachings available for generations to come.

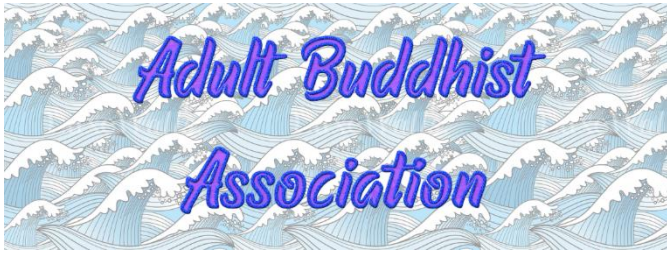


*Judy takes a wonton break with Eugene Hayashibara at the 2015 obon festival*



*Julia dances with joy at the famous 2015 Obon Odori in the pouring rain.*





## 2021 Memorial Service Schedule by Years

As the end of 2020 nears, I take time to think of what we all endured this past year. Your perseverance is to be commended. Things we missed this year: Sunday Services, Memorial services, Obon, Aloha breakfast, VJCC Festival, Obon Festival, ABA Member memorial service, Steak Feast, and of course Mochi Tsuki.

Things we can reflect upon, and being grateful of having those events (hopefully) in 2021. COVID – 19, has gone thru 2020, and into 2021.

ABA is planning for 2021, as if the pandemic will subside, and we will be able to hold the various activities. Let us hope for a great 2021.

ABA membership is available to adults (18 years and older). If you want to get involved, please contact me at [tommyami@gmail.com](mailto:tommyami@gmail.com), for information.

Let's all look forward to a healthy and prosperous 2021.

***Gassho,  
Tom Yamaguchi, ABA President***

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

2020: 1 year

2019: 3 year

2015: 7 year

2009: 13 year

2005: 17 year

1997: 25 year

1989: 33 year

1972: 50 year







# Girl Scout Troop 5325

## Rededication

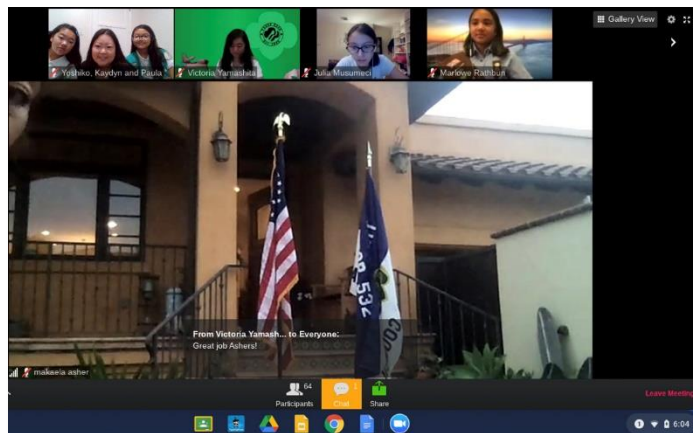
On October 19, 2020, our troop held our very first virtual Investiture/Rededication Ceremony. We had one new scout and 2 levels that bridged. A drive by bridging event was held, to create a video for the virtual ceremony. A Rededication video was also created of the Girl Scout promise and law.

Every level had a slide, which were created by older scouts in the troop. Leaders spoke about what each level did during the previous year.

We also celebrated scouts that earned the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. We also recognized scouts that earned their Presidential Volunteer Service award and top sellers for Cookie Sales.

We ended by celebrating the founder of Girl's Scouts and the 35th Anniversary of our Troop by decorating cupcakes.

Although we could not be together, the virtual ceremony was a nice way to celebrate the beginning of a new year of scouting and celebrate the successes of last year.





## *Girl Scout Troop 5325, continued...*



## Girl Scout Troop 5325, continued...

### PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

Troop 5325 held a pumpkin carving contest for some Halloween fun! The entries were a showcase of creativity. The winners were decided by a vote by impartial members of the community. While every entry received votes, there were a few that rose to the top. The top vote getters were:

7th-9th grade

1st Place - Fireflies by Sara Ty

2nd Place (tie) - Spooky Tree by Shelby Weiss

2nd Place (tie) - Beauty and the Beast by Jennifer Yamashita

3rd-6th grade

1st Place - Pumpkin Trapped in Quarantine by Kaydyn Mendoza

2nd Place - Friendly Spider by Simone Shaefer







# Cub Pack 79

Heading into the Fall, Pack 79 continued its Scouting activities through mostly virtual activities for Pack events and meetings. However, as LA County Public Health Guidelines and BSA guidelines evolved to allow some outdoor small group activities, a few of our dens, in addition to their virtual activities, also started small group cohort base outdoor activities that included day hikes and scout skill activities in local park and recreation areas such as Kenneth Hahn and Will Rogers State Parks. It was nice for the scouts to be outdoors!



For families who were not comfortable in group activities, we also encouraged them and provided guidance to embark on family/household outdoor activities as well. The Pack was also happy to do their Good Turn and help our senior temple members with the Dana Deliveries throughout the fall into winter. While we were unable to meet as a Pack for our annual fishing activity in May, Pack families were invited as family units in October to participate in a fishing activity. For families able to attend, it was nice

smooth day on Santa Monica Bay with lots of fish being caught!



The pack continued to meet via Zoom where we invited visitors such as the Ballona Wetlands Land Trust to provide interactive presentations on the local wetlands ecosystem and importance of conservation. Pack families also attended the UCLA's annual Exploring Your Universe event which was done



## WINTER 2020



## Cub Pack 79, continued...

virtually, and allowed our scouts to interact with faculty and graduate students in STEM fields who led science demonstrations and experiment that could also be done at home.

Our scouts were also very excited to attend the fun Halloween Party organized by the Dharma School! As the season moved into December, with the new LA County Public Health directives, all den activities moved to a virtual format until guidelines are relaxed. We closed out the year with a holiday themed meeting that included virtual craft activities, mad-libs and sing along with a visit from Santa! We also ended the year with a very successful See's Candy fundraiser and are very thankful for the support provided to our scouts through the generosity of the temple community!

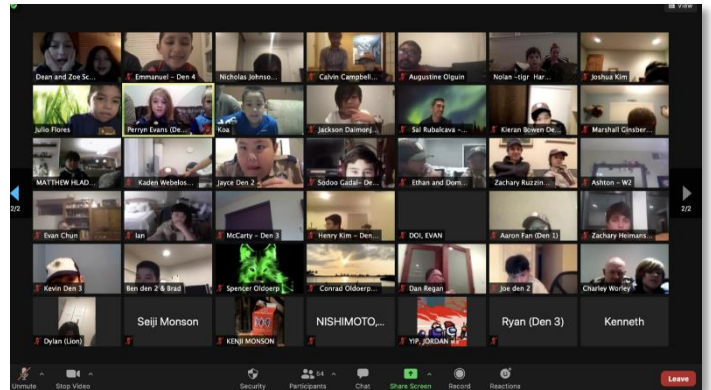
2020 was a year like no other. We're grateful that our scouts are well and healthy. In spite of its challenges, we also are grateful for what we learned in 2020 about ourselves; understanding that change is to be expected; and in moving forward, the importance of creativity, resilience, a caring temple community, and of course a good sense of humor!

We continue to welcome new families and scouts in Pack 79. For the first time, Pack 79 now welcomes girls 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 send a note to [cubpack79@vhbt.org](mailto:cubpack79@vhbt.org) or check out our new Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/marinacubpack79/> and

our public site at

<https://marinacubpack79.shutterfly.com/>



# Sangha Initiative

As we look back on 2020, we should be proud and grateful for what we as a Temple have accomplished. A big part of this was due to the energy and leadership of the Sangha Initiative, which was formed earlier this year, around the start of the Pandemic.

Our activities were aimed at providing support to the Temple and Community while providing an opportunity to provide younger adults and families with an opportunity to take a more active role in our offerings. Looking to 2021, our Senior Dana Deliveries, a collaboration with all Temple Organizations and Groups will look to continue to provide good wishes to our Keiro Members and Senior Outreach participants. We will also be looking to offer our Sangha Series-Buddhism Supporting Today's Communities, funded in part by a grant received from the Southern District BWA. Thanks to Monica Haley for leading this grant application and event development effort. And our efforts will look to include events that support our 2021 Obon efforts and hopefully continue develop additional activities in support of our younger members and friends.

The most exciting aspect about the Sangha Initiative is that we are not an Organization or Group, but a collaboration of younger adults who have identified ways to work with the broader Temple leadership to develop and enhance programs and offerings. As we move into our 2nd year, we will continue to adapt and change to current circumstances as they emerge.

We have moved from our formal meeting structure, but will be holding quarterly sessions to brainstorm on new and existing events and services. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome. Check the VHBT website (in the future) for Sangha Initiative updates, and contact Jerry Iseda for more information on being a part of the collaboration.

# Virtual Sangha

Our Virtual Sangha has grown to the point where the entire hondo is almost filled. We have also gained a lot of recognition from not only BCA, but our Virtual Sangha will also be featured in a future article in the newsletter of the Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto, which will reach other temples world-wide.



*Virtual Rev. George on the onajin*



## WINTER 2020





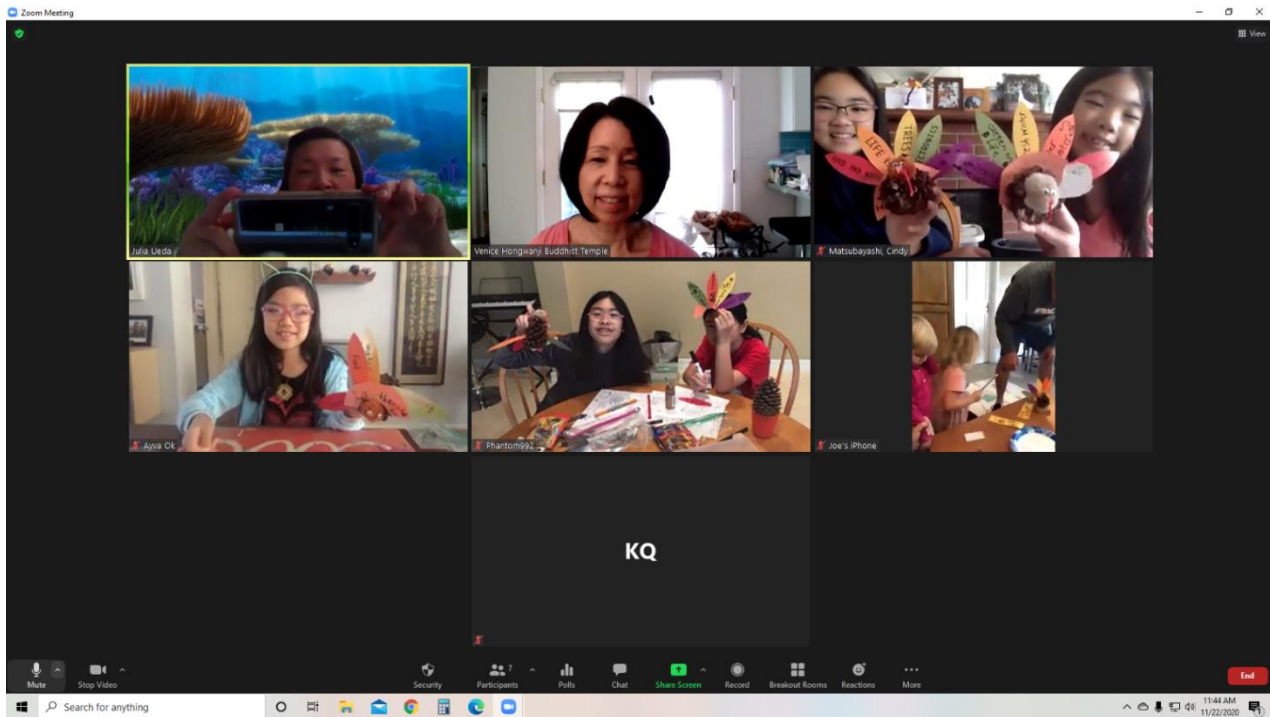
Dharma School prepared over 60 treat and craft bags for our Halloween Party pick up on Oct. 24. Kids came in costume as well as a couple cars that were decorated. On Sun. Oct. 25 from 11 am to 12 pm we had almost 40 kids and a couple of seniors join us for the Halloween Zoom party where the kids made Bingo cards and then played Bingo for prizes. They then introduced themselves and their costumes and lastly participated in a scavenger hunt. Thank you to all of the teachers for helping with the party pick up and thanks to Jayme Heyl for coordinating the Zoom Party and Bingo. Thanks also to Dana Deliveries for donating the extra tangerines for the treat bags and to all the others who donated candy, pencils, rice krispie treats, etc.



WINTER 2020



## *Dharma School, continued...*



We had our installation of officers for the new school year on Nov. 1 during service. This year Leslie Nakahara will be one of the Co-Superintendents with Janis Ozaki. Asst. Superintendent is Emily Kariya, Treasurers are Julia Ueda and Gail Yoneda, Recording Secretaries are Barbara Fukuji and Tom Yamaguchi and Corresponding Secretary is Gail Yoneda.

On Nov. 22, Dharma School had its first virtual class for the year. The theme was, “Gratitude,” and was led by Julia Ueda. The students learned about the Four Gratuities and listened to a song called, “Thankful.” After they made pine cone turkeys writing what they were thankful for on the turkey’s feathers.

For December, the Dharma School students colored Year of the Ox bookmarks to be included with the book, “Jewel,” for the Dana Delivery bags. Thank you to Tom Yamaguchi for printing, laminating and preparing the bookmarks for the deliveries.

Our next virtual Dharma School Class will be on Dec. 13 from 11 am to 12 pm. For anyone interested in joining us for future classes, please contact Janis Ozaki at [jmozaki@gmail.com](mailto:jmozaki@gmail.com) or Leslie Nakahara at [leslienakahara3@gmail.com](mailto:leslienakahara3@gmail.com). Check the temple’s calendar online for the 2021 dates.

Our next virtual Dharma School Class will be on Dec. 13 from 11 am to 12 pm. For anyone interested in joining us for future classes, please contact Janis Ozaki at [jmozaki@gmail.com](mailto:jmozaki@gmail.com) or Leslie Nakahara at [leslienakahara3@gmail.com](mailto:leslienakahara3@gmail.com). Check the temple’s calendar online for the 2021 dates.



## TEMPLE MEMBERSHIP

*The Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple thanks the following members for their **2020 dues** received from **January 2020 through December 2020**. The asterisks (\*) identify our Honorary (Keiro) members who made membership donations. As we continue our membership drive for 2020, we want to thank all of you for continuing to support the Temple through your membership dues.*



**\*June Akioka, \*Yuriko Amamoto, \*Toshi Ashikaga**, Joe & Dianne Belli, Ken & Sheri Nagata Chen, Marty & Robyn Cohen, Tom & Janet Davall, Wayne & Karen Eguchi, **\*June Fujioka**, Kei & Tomoko Fukuda, Kristina Fukuda, Ron & Barbara Fukuji, Chisako Fukumoto, Ron & Iris Gee, Ryan & Monica Haley, Glenn Hamashita, Eugene & Phyllis Hayashibara, John & Patti Heyl, Jill Hopfield, Joe & Judy Hopfield, Glenn & Debbie Hoshizaki, Nicolo Hoshizaki, Mildred Ichinotsubo, Leonard & Gwen Imada, Shirley Inada, Gerald Iseda, **\*Minako Iseda**, Calvin Ito & Sharyn Yoshimi, **\*Dale Ito**, Joan & Jon Ito, Sachiko Ito, George & Sachi Johnston, **\*Hiroshi** & Kazuko Kadomatsu, Emily Kariya, Yoshiko Kariya, Scot Kawano, **\*Sammy & \*Chieko Kishimoto**, Jimmy Kita & Gail Higa, **\*Sanaye Kita**, Sam & May Kiyohara, **\*Kenji** & Shinobu Koda, Kevin Koda, Frank & Elaine Koyama, **\*Setsuko Kuda, \*Mae Kumagai**, Gary & Leticia Kurashige, **\*Milnes & \*Nori Kurashige**, Tom & Delcene Kuwata, Hide & Yukari Marume, Ayako Masada, Amanda Matsubara, Erik & Cindy Matsubayashi, Dan & Irene Matsumura, Evann Matsumura, Ted Reeve & Jim Matsuo, **\*Alan** & Jane Matsuzaki, Charles & Sue Mayeda, Mark Mayeda & Deborah Ching, Jino & Aleya Minamoto-Ok, Richard Modiano, **\*Victoria Morimoto**, Daniel Motobo, Jackie Motobo, Dan Nakagiri, Tom Nakagiri, **\*Jean Nakamoto**, Edgar Nakamura, Ted Nishimura & Eva Nakasone, **\*John** & Judy Nawa, David Nishina, **\*Fusae Nishina, \*Yayeko Nishina**, Tony & Kori Nobuyuki, Dale & Gail 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, **\*Hitoshi Shimizu, \*Sam & \*Kuni Shimoguchi**, Mark & Sharlene Shinmoto, Ken & Sue Sogabe, Kiyoe Suzuki, **\*Norm & \*Yoshie Tachiki**, Kagemi Takata, Randy & Mari Tamura, Michael & Jill Ishida Tanaka, Etsuko Nancy Taylor, Carey & Vicki Tokirio, Karen Tokubo, Dean & Julia Ueda, Don Uehara, **\*Gary** & Yoshiko Uyeno, Ron & Jane Wong Wakabayashi, Lance & Barbara Wakasa, **\*George** & Sheryl Yamada, Tom & Judy Yamaguchi, Rob & Peggy Yamamoto, Gail Yoneda, **\*Sakaye Yoneda**, Kenzo & Annette Yonemitsu, Art & Roseann Yoshida

### Membership Categories:

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



# Thank You for Your Donations



## August 2020

Memorial: Mr. & Mrs. Jack Fujimoto, Dr. Thomas Yoshikawa

Obon Donation: Ms. Roberta Chin, M-G Lawnmower Shop, Mrs. Kiyoe Suzuki

Special Donation: Ms. Shirley Inada, Ms. Sharon Ishida, Ms. Joan Ito, Ms. Emily Kariya, Ms. June Kondo, Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Mattison, Mr. Loc Nguyen, Mr. Edgar Nakamura, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Nakashima (2), Ms. Esther Quon, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Tachiki, Mrs. Yasuko Tawa, Mrs. Jean Tsunemoto

Special Event Donation: Ms. Darlene Fukuji, Mr. Michael Hagiwara, Mr. Donald Hiroto, Mr. Jerome Ito, Ms. Lynn Kosaka, Kubota Mortuary, Ms. Ayako Masada, Mrs. Kiyoko Matsubayashi, Ms. Irene Matsumura, Mr. Todd Nakamoto, Mr. Randy Tamura, Ms. Gail Yoneda

## September 2020

Eitaikyo: Ms. Janine Fujioka, Mr. & Mrs. Kenji Koda (3)

Memorial: Mrs. June Akioka, Mr. & Mrs. Sam Akioka, Ioki Family Trust, Ms. Wendy Okafuji, Mrs. Mabel Shimasaki, Mrs. Sue Tanaka

Special Donation: Mr. Roger Brown, Ms. Kazuko Endo (2), Ms. Barbara Fukuji, Ms. Mildred Ichinotsubo, Ms. Shirley Inada, Mrs. Minako Iseda, Ms. Sharon Ishida, Mr. Rikio Ishikawa, Ms. Amy Kadomatsu, Mr. Dennis Kato, Mr. & Mrs. Sammy Kishimoto, Mrs. Setsuko Kuda, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Kuwata, Deborah Ching & Mark Mayeda, Ms. Katsuko Nakagawa, Mr. Edgar Nakamura, Mrs. Hiroko Naruo, Mrs. Yayeko Nishina, Ms. Micki Nishiyama, Ms. Fusako Ogasawara, Mr. & Mrs. John Palacios, Ms. Esther Quon, Mr. & Mrs. Billy Saeki, Mrs. Mabel Shimasaki, Mr. & Mrs. Sam Shimoguchi, Mrs. Sue Tanaka, Mr. & Mrs. George Yamada, Ms. Roseann Yoshida

## October 2020

Eitaikyo: Kujubu Family, Mr. & Mrs. Milnes Kurashige

Memorial: Mr. & Mrs. Tin Dang, Mr. & Mrs. Randall Hamashita, Mr. & Mrs. Stacy Ino, Mr. & Mrs. Kurtis Nakagawa, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Ozaki, Ozaki & Tadamaru Family

Nokotsudo: Mr. Robert Fujimura, Family of Mr. Shigeo Maedo

Special Donation: Anonymous, Anonymous through Blackbaud Giving Fund, Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Cooke, Ms. Lisa Cummings, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Davall, Mr. & Mrs. Koichi Endo, Mrs. Yoneko Enomoto, Ms. Barbara Fukuji, Mrs. Minako Iseda, Ms. Sharon Ishida, Ms. Amy Kadomatsu, Ms. Ayako Masada, Rev. & Mrs. George Matsubayashi, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Miyamoto, Mr. & Mrs. Dale Noriyuki (2), Mrs. Tatsumi Omote, Ms. Christy Shon, Mr. & Mrs. Ken Sogabe, Mrs. Katsuko Takata, Mr. & Mrs. George Yamada, Mrs. Michiko Yamashita





## *Donations, continued ...*

### **November 2020**

Eitaikyo: Anonymous, Mr. & Mrs. Stacy Ino, Mr. Hiroshi Kadomatsu, Mrs. Yoshiko Kariya, Mr. & Mrs. Kenji Koda, Ms. Elaine Koyama, Mr. Daniel Nakagiri, Mr. Thomas Nakagiri, Mr. Dale Noriyuki

Funeral: Mr. Christopher Kai Dunham

Memorial: Mrs. June Fujioka, Mr. & Mrs. Art Haraga, Ms. Janet Petersen, Mrs. Kiyoe Suzuki

Special Donation: Ms. Joyce Akiyama, Mr. Hisamaru Ashikaga, Mr. Loren Chorn, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Fujimoto, Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Ishida (2), Mr. Rikio Ishikawa, Mr. Calvin Ito, Mrs. Sachiko Ito, Ms. Amy Kadomatsu, Mr. Daniel Kerson, Mr. & Mrs. Sammy Kishimoto, Mrs. Shinobu Koda, Mrs. Mae Kumagai, Mr. & Mrs. Milnes Kurashige, Mrs. Kiyoko Matsubayashi, Mr. Richard Nakashima, Ms. Catherine Silman, Mr. Tom Nishimura, Mrs. Yasuko Tawa, Mrs. Jean Tsunemoto, Mr. George Yamada, Mr. Thomas Yamaguchi

### **December 2020**

Eitaikyo: Mr. & Mrs. Milnes Kurashige

Memorial: Ms. Suzanne Gonwa, Mr. Scott Kawano, Ms. Amy Thibodeaux

Special Donation: Anonymous, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Belli (2), Ms. Naomi Crummett, Ms. Stephanie Davall, Ms. Karen Eguchi, FIA Insurance, Ms. Barbara Fukuji, Ms. Phyllis Hayashibara, Mrs. Minako Iseda (2), Ms. Sharon Ishida, Ms. Joan Ito, Ms. Amy Kadomatsu, Mr. Sammy Kishimoto, Mrs. Sanaye Kita, Kubota Mortuary, Ms. Katsuko Nakagawa, Bang Nguyen, Mr. & Mrs. Satoru Ouchida, Mr. Robert Oye, Mr. & Mrs. Merle Sharp (2), Mr. Blake Wakasa, Waves Hair Salon, Ms. Judy Wong, Mr. Thomas Yamaguchi, Mr. Richard Yamashita

---

*Thank you for your generosity*

---

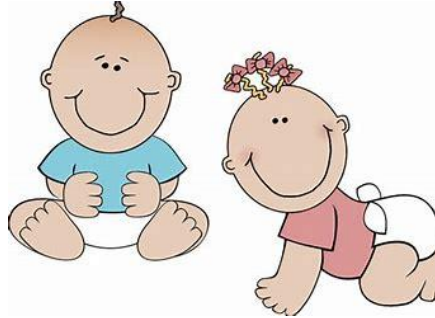




## **VENICE HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

### **HATSUMAIRI CELEBRATION**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021**



**Hatsumairi is the celebration of baby's first presentation to the Buddha. We welcome you to sign up to take part in this virtual ceremony. Each presentation will be pre-recorded and shared during our annual Hanamatsuri Service on Sunday, April 11, 2021. There is no cost to participate in this Celebration. For the ceremony, you will receive a Hatsumairi Certificate which includes a family photo and baby's footprints (taken during ceremony).**

---

#### **VENICE HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE HATSUMAIRI PRESENTATION REGISTRATION**

**Baby's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents' Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/St/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form by February 21, 2021 to Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, 12371 Braddock Drive, Culver City, CA 90230, or via email to [vhbtlive@gmail.com](mailto:vhbtlive@gmail.com). We will contact you to arrange a recording date/time.**



## **VENICE HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE PROJECT BONBU DRAW**



**Project Bonbu (translation- “ordinary, foolish being”) is a special monthly drawing where 1 entry will be selected each month from January through November; and 2 entries will be chosen in December. The selections will be made at the Temple Board meeting (the first drawing will take place during Shinnen Enkai on January 31<sup>st</sup>) each month and announced during Sunday Service. †. You do not need to be present for the selection.**

**A donation of \$100 provides 1 entry into each monthly drawing and your entry can receive an award more than once during the year. You may acquire more than 1 entry, however, there will be a maximum of 250 entries in Project Bonbu for 2021.**

### **Awards:**

<b>January 2021- November 2021:</b>	<b>1 monthly \$500 award</b>
<b>December 2021:</b>	<b>2 \$1000 awards</b>

**To enter, visit [www.givebutter.com/vhbt\\_project\\_bonbu](http://www.givebutter.com/vhbt_project_bonbu). Or fill out the form below and mail with your donation check to: Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, 12371 Braddock Drive, Culver City, CA 90230.**

**Proceeds will be used for general Temple operations or to fund specific Temple needs.**

---

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**CITY, STATE, ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NUMBER OF ENTRIES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for supporting Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.**