



# KARMA

A publication of the BUDDHIST CHURCH OF STOCKTON  
2820 Shimizu Drive, Stockton CA 95203  
Telephone (209) 466 6701 FAX (209) 469 2811  
Visit our website at [www.stocktonbuddhisttemple.org](http://www.stocktonbuddhisttemple.org)

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## *Bodhi Day Service* *Sunday, December 11, 10 a.m.*

It will be our privilege to welcome Socho Koshin Ogui of the Buddhist Churches of America as our guest speaker for our Bodhi Day Service this year. This is a rare opportunity to hear socho-sensei speak, so we hope that our members, young & old alike, will make every effort to attend.

All of us have heard the story of how Prince Siddhartha Gautama, after having tried many other practices and not finding the answers he sought, sat beneath the Bodhi Tree determined not to move until he attained the Truth, Enlightenment. We not only celebrate this significant event but also gather to express our gratitude to him for the teachings he left for us. (See sensei's article for more.)

As has been the long-standing tradition, our Dharma School students have been busy working on special projects to display so we invite and encourage everyone to come to the service, look at the display, enjoy a *hosted* luncheon and perhaps win a door prize (provided by the Dharma School and others).

We look forward to seeing many of you on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

## *Joya-E, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 8 p.m.* *Shusho-E, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 11 a.m.*

As we do each New Year's Eve, our members will be gathering at the temple to participate in the service

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during which we take turns ringing the *Joya-no-kane* on the huge outdoor bell in the garden. It is a time to think of the past year and to give thanks to everyone and everything that made the year possible for us. It is so easy for some of us to think "we did it ourselves" but when we stop and think of the numerous seen and unseen people and things, we cannot help but feel a great sense of gratitude.



A great way to start the new year would be to join family & friends at our temple for the New Year's Day Service; and each year, so many of our members & their families do this. We are so pleased!!

It is a wonderful opportunity to get together to resolve to work together for the good of our temple and its members and we hope more of us will make a resolution to attend more services during the year so we can not only hear the Dharma but get to know more of our members better and to develop a closer "family-like" relationship among all our members.

Each Sunday, Rev. Motoyoshi gives wonderful sermons and while some services are geared more to our Dharma School, each Sunday she gives talks that are enjoyed and educational not only for our youngsters, but also have important and meaningful lessons for all of us. Please come often to participate in the services. Adults are invited to gather in one of the classrooms while the children are in class to have informal "chats" and meet

or become better acquainted with others (or, if you do not have to wait for children or grandchildren, you may, of course, leave right after the service shortly after 10:30 to take care of household chores, errands etc.).

**Dharma School Students:** Remember to sign in on the sheet provided in the foyer at each of these services for attendance “make-up” credit for this term.

## ***Minister's Thoughts*** ***Rev. Yukiko Motoyoshi***

On December 8, we will celebrate the Sakyamuni Buddha's Enlightenment. According to the tradition, Prince Siddhartha sat beneath a Bodhi Tree and entered deep meditation. Then, in the early morning hours of December 8, he was awakened to the highest truth. He became a Buddha. Sakyamuni Buddha contemplated on the nature of human existence, on how suffering arose through ignorance and desire, and on how suffering was dispelled. Sakyamuni Buddha realized that sufferings are caused by our self-centered desires and clinging to them.

Sakyamuni Buddha said that those who are greedy and selfishly pursue worldly pleasures live in the cage of blind desires and they are unaware about the danger of living in this cage. To them comes misery and destruction of life.

Although Sakyamuni Buddha's Enlightenment occurred some 2500 years ago, his words still hold truth in today's world. Don't we constantly place our “Ego” in front of everything? Often we close our eyes and turn our heads to the sufferings of those who do not have close relationship with us. We often overly advertise our good deeds. But we hide or justify our wrong deeds. We do anything to protect or fulfill our “Ego” don't we?

Here, I would like to share a story. It is a true story that happened about 65 years ago. It was right after World War II that many Japanese POWs were sent to Siberia. Many died because of the hard labor, severe cold and insufficient food. When a prisoner died, he was taken outside of the camp and buried. During the winter, it was the most hated job for the prisoners to do because it was extremely difficult to dig the frozen ground. However, when spring came, prisoners looked forward to the task of digging the grave for outside the camp wall grew some tender, edible and young plants. When guards were not looking, the prisoners quickly picked

the plants and brought them back to camp to cook for meals. Although it was just a meager food, it did momentarily prevent them from death by starvation.

There was a Buddhist minister among the POWs who, because of his profession, got to go out to the burial each time a POW died. One day, while he was walking around the barracks, someone fell dead right in front of him. It was a young soldier who had jumped from the roof. He had committed suicide because he was not able to bear the hard labor and long separation from his new bride in Japan. When the minister witnessed this death, instead of being saddened by the death of the young soldier, the very first thought that came to his mind was, “I can go out and pick some food again.”

I was born after the war, and I have never experienced insufficient food threatening my life. This story seems an extreme case which is not likely to happen in our everyday life. However, when such a circumstance arises, who would behave differently from this minister? We are beings who always put out existence before everything else. In order to fulfill our desires, we will do anything, don't we?

If we choose to ignore this truth and continue to live a self-centered life, we may not truly understand the meaning of humanity and may not live a life of serenity and harmony. However, for most of us, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to abandon this self-centeredness. It is for such people that Sakyamuni Buddha expounded the teachings of the Nembutsu.

When the Wisdom Light of Amida Buddha illuminates our existence, we will realize our true nature. At the same time, the Great Compassion of Amida Buddha, encompasses our existence and leads us to the Land of Truth – the Pure Land. It means that Amida Buddha's Wisdom enables us to recognize the nature that we don't want to recognize. And, the Great Compassion of Amida Buddha enables us to accept it just as it is. When we are able to recognize our self-centeredness and to embrace it, our life will be of humbleness, tolerance, compassion and gratitude.

On this Bodhi Day, together, let us contemplate on Sakyamuni Buddha's Enlightenment and let us re-dedicate ourselves to the teachings of the Nembutsu.

***Happy Bodhi Day !!***

## *Co-President's Message*

### *Mrs. Candy Hayashi*

November 2, 2011: The 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, and Military Intelligence Service of the U. S. Army became the 147<sup>th</sup> recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal (the highest civilian award in the United States) at the U. S. Capitol's Emancipation Hall, Washington D. C.

I was honored to qualify as a guardian for my father and was able to accompany him to this historic event. It was truly a memorable, once-in-a-lifetime experience that I was able to share with my Dad. Imagine hundreds of World War II vets now in their upper eighties and nineties .. some walking slowly, many dependent upon walkers, and many being wheeled around in wheelchairs, all accompanied by a wife, daughter, son, granddaughter, grandson, great-granddaughter, great-grandson, niece or nephew. Over 800 veterans were represented at this commemorative event though I heard that only 400 living veterans were actually in attendance. Sadly 2 veterans were admitted to the hospital in Washington D. C. during this time span and one passed away, just after the ceremony.

Honor Flight flew some of the veterans across the country to receive this honor. On the plane, the captain and crew announced their presence on the plane and explained the reason for their journey. The passengers broke out in applause and as the passengers deplaned, some would offer their thanks to this special group of gentlemen. The captain of our first flight personally wheeled my Dad to another gate to assure that we made the connecting flight without any difficulties – the respect that was shown to these veterans was heartwarming. But what became inherently clear was the general lack of knowledge of what these veterans actually endured and the depth of the sacrifices they made over 65 years ago.

The Congressional Medal of Honor bestowed upon these Japanese American men was well deserved and long overdue. The 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion was the first segregated Japanese American group and were taken from Hawaii. They were also known as “the Purple Heart Battalion” due to their large number of casualties. This battalion earned the distinction of being one of the most highly decorated battalions for its size and length of time in combat. Because of their superior training record and demonstration of loyalty, the officials in Washington were influenced in forming the 442<sup>nd</sup>.

The 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team consisted of volunteers from Hawaii and U. S. Internment Camps. With their trademark battle cry, “Go for Broke,” even today they remain one of the Army's most storied and highly decorated commands in the history of the U. S. Army.

The Military Intelligence Service (MIS) conducted highly classified secret intelligence operations against the Japanese military and proved to be vital to U. S. military success in the Pacific. It wasn't until recently that their highly classified work became publicly known.

Most of us Californians have heard a loved one mention the 442<sup>nd</sup> or tell a story about WWII. Many of us have written reports for school on the subject of internment camps or the 442<sup>nd</sup> – But do we really understand what our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents actually experienced? I have read articles, heard interviews and have been exposed to such information throughout my life; but it was only after this trip that I finally began to understand how truly remarkable their story is. Throughout the ceremony and the gala dinner, distinguished speakers explained things as I never heard them explained before. What these veterans accomplished while their families were held behind barbed wire proved beyond a doubt that they were loyal Americans.

Do you recall the book I spoke about and referenced earlier this year: ***The Power of Kindness The Unexpected Benefits of Leading a Compassionate Life*** by Piero Ferrucci? There are a couple of characteristics/components which were exhibited by these brave men who put themselves in harms way for the greater good.

Loyalty. Soldiers are required to demonstrate loyalty and even though war seems anything but kind, loyalty was practiced by honoring what counts most and continuing to do so despite obstacles. The veterans and their families had been removed from their homes by the U. S. government and placed in internment camps that many viewed as prison. For them to then voluntarily enlist to serve the country who incarcerated them and who still kept their families interned – unbelievable ... And to fight so courageously and with such distinction .. to prove that that they were loyal Americans ... even more impressive. These men did indeed make history and were finally recognized on the magnitude that they so deserve.

Service. “There are infinite ways, implicit or explicit, microscopic or gigantic, episodic or lasting, superficial or substantial, of bringing into the life of another person some benefit, relief, cheerfulness, hope, well-being, intellectual or spiritual growth, ecstasy. This kind of relationship is no angelic exception in a sordid world of selfish and warring individuals. It is, on the contrary, a normal event, often a part of our everyday interactions at the base of kindness. It is service.”

“Service helps not only the receiver, but also the server. Whoever offers service must improve himself in order to do what has to be done, must think about others rather than only about himself. He learns. He finds value in what he does. Thus his self-esteem grows, and he is able to find meaning in his life .... And if, inevitably, he meets frustration, failure or ingratitude, his motivation is put to the test and he has the possibility of emerging stronger for it.”

In the words of Eric Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, “Their loyalty, determination, courage and unswerving devotion to duty is acknowledged by the Nation with the presentation of this historic award. The uniqueness of circumstances and the sterling quality of their performance in combat set standards for patriotism, valor and selfless service. Theirs is an American story, one for the ages, and no one is more deserving of this recognition.”

I hope everyone has a chance to watch the ceremony or clips from the gala banquet that same evening – it’s a significant event in Japanese American history. The ceremony can be viewed at <http://www.dvidshub.net>. Read Senate Bill 1055 which explains the historical details of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service. The replica of the Congressional Gold Medal is available at the U. S. Mint website -- It’s quite impressive and if you want to catch a glimpse of it, be sure to join us on Bodhi Day as the Dharma Class will be incorporating it into their class project. Don’t hesitate to ask me (or Darlene Sakata) for additional information or to review some of the programs or booklets which were provided during events. Don’t forget to ask Dad (Ted Kamibayashi), too—he’ll be happy to tell you about our cross country adventure and some interesting war stories. It’s pretty impressive to hear all the details he still remembers.

“Though their role in America’s story has not always been given its due, the Japanese-American heroes we celebrate stand among extraordinary patriots whose bravery and selflessness changed the course of an entire

country. They bore the burden of defending our freedom and way of life abroad while many of their loved ones were interned back home. In the face of discrimination and adversity, their dedication to their country never wavered, and we owe a profound debt of gratitude to these veterans and their families.” -- Barack Obama.

Congratulations to all our WWII veterans and their families .. and thank you for all your sacrifices.

Gassho,  
Candy Hayashi

## *Our Deepest Gratitude to Dr. & Mrs. Mas Kamigaki*

We would like to take this opportunity to express our warmest thanks to Dr. Mas & Florence Kamigaki for their very generous donation of \$765 to cover the cost of the rice used for our annual bazaar, as well as the more recent Chicken Teriyaki sale.

Your thoughtful generosity meant that much more profit from these events for the temple’s many needs and we are truly grateful.

## *Sincere Condolences ...*

Mrs. Tokiyo Uyesugi (Dec. 10, 1915 – Nov. 3, 2011) entered Nirvana just one month before her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. She is survived by her three children & their spouses, son-in-law, grandchildren and other members of her extended family. Service for her was held at the temple on November 12, 2011.

Mr. Noboru Morita passed away earlier this month and his family is planning a private memorial service.

We extend sincere condolences to both families. May sharing special memories of the years shared with your loved one provide comfort to you during this difficult time. Namo Amida Butsu.

## *Temple Officers for 2012*

Election of officers to serve the temple for 2012 has been held with the following results:

President	Candy Hayashi
VP Membership	John Fujii
VP Religious Education	Dorothy Okura
VP Social Service	Aiko Yagi
VP Finance	Clark Mizuno
VP Special Events	Fred Pocaroba
VP Bldg./Grounds Maint.	Charles Yagi

The officers will also serve as the Executive Committee.

In the event it becomes necessary, the following will assume the duties of the president in the order stated:

1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Charles Yagi
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	John Fujii
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP	Fred Pocaroba

As mentioned in the last *Karma*, those elected to serve for the next 3 years as Directors at Large are:

Ruby Kato	Fred Pocaroba
Mabel Morodomi	Kathy Pocaroba
Lois Neishi	Tad Shibata

The temple expresses their warmest thanks to the outgoing Directors at Large, Keith Neishi, Darlene Sakata and Aeko Yoshikawa, for their dedication and service to the temple.

**Installation of Officers ..** The temple board, as well as officers of SBWA, ABA, YABA, Bukkyo Taiko and Tomono Kai will be installed during the Ho-onko Service in January. We hope all officers will be able to attend to participate in taking their oath of office.

## *442<sup>nd</sup>, 100<sup>th</sup>, MIS Honored in Washington*

On the front page of *The Record* on November 2<sup>nd</sup> was the headline "Stockton native among veterans honored" and showed Sus Ito, former Stocktonian and brother of Mrs. Sachi Itaya, who represented them in accepting the Congressional Gold Medal on behalf of all surviving veterans from House Speaker John Boehner.

Ted Kamibayashi, long-time member went to attend the ceremony & banquet accompanied by his daughter, Candy Hayashi, (see her article) as did Alex Sakata and his mother, Darlene, to honor both his grandfathers.

We congratulate and thank all those who served during WWII, both living and deceased.

## *Names Requested of Temple Members who served during 1941-1945*

The Dharma Class of our local Dharma School is putting together a display as their Bodhi Day project of all temple members who served during WWII (between 1941-1945) in the following units:

**442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team  
100<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
M I S**

Those living will be invited to and be honored during the Bodhi Day Service and ALL names, including those who are deceased, will be included in the honor roll the Dharma Class is putting together.

**Please call the temple office (209) 466 6701 as soon as possible to report names of loved ones, friends or acquaintances who fall in the above 3 categories.**

We thank you for your help and cooperation in making it possible for the youngsters to assemble a list that is as complete as possible.

## *Membership Dues*

When you received your membership dues reminders, we trust you noticed the separate sheet enclosed requesting information to help us make our membership data file up to date and more complete. We ask for your cooperation in providing as much of the information requested as you are willing to share.

Some of you may prefer to pay now (before the end of 2011 for your tax purposes) and others may defer paying until 2012. In either case, we will appreciate your continued support and thank you in advance for mailing back the sheet when you remit your dues (or earlier if you will be sending your dues later).

For 2012, the dues are as follows:

REGULAR MEMBERS - Adults	
Couple	\$300 or more
Single, Widow/Widower	\$175 or more

SENIOR (70 or older and fully retired)  
 Couple \$200 or more  
 Single, Widow/Widower \$100 or more

STUDENTS (attending college  
 or university) \$ 50 or more

## *Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course Accepting Applications for 2012 Spring Enrollment*

Quoting from a recent flyer received, “The popular 2-year, computer-based program continues to offer online instruction in the origins and development of Buddhism, Shinran Shonin’s life and teaching, sutras & masters of the Pure Land tradition and history of Jodo Shinshu.”

This program has attracted students from throughout the world – Brazil, Canada, Germany, Malaysia, United Kingdom, Japan, Nepal etc. An optional August Workshop is held each year at JSC.

For more information please visit the course website at: [www.JSCC.cbe-bca.org](http://www.JSCC.cbe-bca.org) Deadline for submitting applications is February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012, and the course will begin March 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you have questions, contact the Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course Office, 2140 Durant Avenue, Berkeley CA; Telephone (510) 809-1441 or email: [jsc@cb-bca.org](mailto:jsc@cb-bca.org).

## *Annual Crab Feed Fundraiser Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012*



The temple’s annual fundraiser, the popular Crab Feed, will be held on January 14<sup>th</sup> at the temple.

Contact board members or the office for ticket availability. In years past, they have sold out fairly quickly so make your purchases as soon as possible so you are not disappointed. Maximum of 400 tickets are available at \$42.00 each.

We also are *requesting donations of raffle prizes* from our affiliated organizations, as well as individuals willing to make a donation. Raffle tickets will be sold at the event.

## *New Year’s Party, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011*

Following the Ho-onko Service, the annual New Year’s Party for members and their families will be held. More detailed information including the potluck assignments will be in the next *Karma*.

In the meantime, we would like to ask members to be thinking about donating a door prize or two for this event. Prizes in this case need not be too elaborate – just something nice that our members would enjoy winning.

## *Have you placed your Omochi Order to YABA?*

Enclosed in last month’s *Karma* was a form to place your omochi order to YABA.

**Deadline for getting your order form in is December 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Ko-mochi is \$3.50 per pkg. and Okagami mochi is \$4.00 per set.

YABA will be grateful for all orders, large or small.

## *Memorial Service Reminder*

For 2012, shown at left below is the year of passing and to its right, the service that traditionally would be held by families during 2012 (usually shortly before the anniversary of passing):

2011	1 <sup>st</sup> year service
2010	3 <sup>rd</sup> year service
2006	7 <sup>th</sup> year service
2000	13 <sup>th</sup> year service
1996	17 <sup>th</sup> year service
1988	25 <sup>th</sup> year service
1980	33 <sup>rd</sup> year service
1963	50 <sup>th</sup> year service

Remember to call sensei well in advance and always have an alternate date in mind in case your first choice is already booked solid. It is not too early to start thinking about 2012 (especially for the first quarter of the year).

These memorial services have been a long-standing tradition and we encourage all families to not only remember their deceased loved ones, but also to take advantage of one more opportunity to gather as a family to hear the Buddha-Dharma.

## *SBWA*

As the days grow shorter and shorter, we hope you are keeping warm and healthy. Life is often so hectic that we forget to stop and take care of ourselves. We hope all of you take time to stay healthy during the upcoming holiday season.

Much belated thank you to all the members who worked so hard during the temple chicken teriyaki sale. Under the guidance of Aiko Yagi, Mabel Morodomi and Nobie Mitsuda, the barasushi and cabbage tsukemono preparations all went smoothly and, of course, we all tasted the delicious results!

We also have many people to thank for their generous donations. Thank you to John Kay Yamaguchi for his generous donation in memory of his late wife, Teruko "Teri" who will be dearly missed. Thank you to June Okubo and Linda Liang for donations for illness recovery. We are all glad you are back to good health! Life is in constant change and we welcome the arrival of Ruby Kato's grandson and Joyce Tsutsumi's granddaughter. Congratulations and thank you for your generous donations.

November brought our annual rummage sale expertly organized by Sally Tanaka. Thank you, too, to her assistants Fumi Asano, Kay Freeman, Yasuko Wakai and Elsie Hansen. All the workers enjoyed delicious pastries and coffee arranged by Elsie Hansen. Thank you to all the ladies who helped prepare and worked the rummage sale and a special thank you to all members who donated items for the event. (See additional "thank you" from the co-chairs at the end of this article.)

The SBWA Annual Memorial Service was held mid-November chaired by Linda Liang. This service is held annually to take time to remember and appreciate our

members who have passed not only in the past year but over all the years of our organization's existence. This service is also dedicated to Eshinni-sama, Kakushinni-sama and Lady Yoshiko Ohtani. A wonderful message was delivered by Rev. Patti Oshita of the Sacramento Betsuin. Service was followed by a wonderful fellowship and luncheon prepared under the guidance of Kimiko Ishihara. Thank you to Rev. Oshita, Linda and Kimiko for providing a wonderful afternoon of remembrance.

We wish you a wonderful holiday season. As we approach yet another new year, we hope everyone will take time to reflect upon this year and think of all those who make our lives so precious and unique. As the Monshu Koshi Otani wrote, "Returning a favor is not limited to the world of things. It does not have to be something you *do* for someone else. It is when you have the feeling you want to give something back, when you act out the feeling that 'it was thanks to you that I am what I am.'"

Our heartfelt gratitude to everyone that has touched the lives of the ladies of the SBWA. Akemashite omedetogozaimasu!

**Following article was submitted by the Rummage Sale Co-Chairs, Sally Tanaka, Fumiko Asano and Kay Freeman.**

The SBWA rummage sale was held on Saturday, November 5, 2011. Sales increased over last year. The same type of advertisement was utilized – free ad in Area Digest section of **The Record** newspaper; paid ad for Thursday, Friday and Saturday in **The Record**; paid ad in the **Penny Savers** publication; letter to Comcast for public service spots; flyer to Calvary Presbyterian Church; and flyers posted at some businesses. Coffee and desserts were sold to customers again this year. This generated additional funds for the rummage sale, and we thank all members who brought dessert items for this sale. Elsie Hansen was the chairperson for the dessert table. Kimi Ishihara brought African Violets and sold these to an individual. The proceeds were donated. A special thanks to Hanae Watanabe for her generous donation of \$300.

We would like to acknowledge and thank all the donors and the following workers who helped with preparation on Friday, the sale on Saturday and those who provided food for coffee breaks, lunches and items for the sale. We hope we did not miss anyone that helped or provided food items:

**WOMEN:** Fumiko Asano, Jerri Cowan, Kay Freeman, Cathy Fujimori, Mary Fukushima, Elsie Hansen, Noriko Hasegawa, Michiko Higashi, Helen Hori, Kimiko Ishihara, Mary Itaya, Linda Liang, Terrie Matsuo, Mabel Morodomi, Miki Murakami, Sharon Nagata, Sue Noreen, Dorothy Okura, Janet Saga, May Saiki, June Shiba, Lisa Schindler, Keiko Shinmoto, Betsy Shinoda, Sally Tanaka, Jean Terashita, Sarah Teranishi, Satomi Togo, Joyce Tsutsumi, Yasuko Wakai, Aiko Yagi and Yuki Yamashita.

**MEN:** Bob Kano, George Kitagawa, Sam Liang, Kiyoshi Morodomi, Keith Nagata, Jack Natsuhara, Teddy Saiki, Tad Shibata, Amos Yada and Ken Yamashita.

**FOOD ITEMS:**

Asano, Fumiko - assorted cookies  
Freeman, Kay – mochi cake and sweet potato pie  
Fujimori, Cathy – Snickerdoodle cookies & lemon cream cheese bars  
Hansen, Elsie – German chocolate cake & cranberry pumpkin loaf  
Ishihara, Kimi – carrot cake  
Liang, Linda – popcorn  
Nagata, Sharon – peanut butter cookies  
Saiki, May & Teddy – salad, cold cuts & chips  
Tanaka, Sally – banana bread, cherry bread, banana cupcakes & Fuyu persimmons  
Yamashita, Yuki & Ken – donuts for Fri. & Sat.

**SPECIAL THANKS**

Amos Yada for placing & taking down the outdoor signs advertising our sale  
Kiyoshi Morodomi, Ken Yamashita & Sam Liang for helping the whole day on Fri. & Sat. and helping customers carry out large items  
Cathy Cofer for opening the gym & checking on the rummage sale pickup by the Salvation Army on Mon.

**FRIDAY LUNCH**

Fukushima, Mary  
June Shiba  
Yasuko Wakai  
Sharon Nagata

**SATURDAY LUNCH**

May & Teddy Saiki & their helpers

Next year the rummage sale will again be held on the first Saturday in November. We are asking all members and friends to collect items during the year for the sale and bring them on Friday, the day before the sale.

*ABA News*

Thank you Mabel Morodomi and her helpers for a delicious turkey dinner at our November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

We gratefully acknowledge a generous donation from Frank Yagi for surgery recovery.

Congratulations to Ted Kamibayashi who received a Congressional Gold Medal at a ceremony honoring Japanese American WWII veterans on November 2, 2011, in Washington D.C. Ted served in the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team in Italy and France during WWII.

The ABA Holiday Party will be held on *Thursday, December 15*, in the Multi-Purpose Room at 6 p.m. with catering by Angelina's. The cost is \$14 per person and the *deadline for reservations* is Friday, December 2. Information flyers were distributed at our November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please send your check payable to SBT-ABA and reservations to Betsy Shinoda, 6299 Chesapeake Circle, Stockton CA 95219.

We hope to see you at the holiday party.

*YABA News*

The Stockton YABA had several things happen during the month of October. Thank you to all the members who came out to help at the Chicken Teriyaki Sale on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, we had our Pizza/Game night which was enjoyed by over 60 people. Thank you very much to Ruby Kato and Lois Neishi for running the BINGO game and donating several BINGO prizes. Also a big thank you to Fred Pocaroba and Meghan Bertoni for being our Texas Hold'em dealers,

We thank Peggy Takahashi for teaching people how to play NERTS and for donating BINGO prizes and Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Matsumoto, Wendi Yamanaka and Rev. Hasegawa for their monetary donations.

Congratulations to our Texas Hold-em Tournament winner: Lance Matsumoto.



Please join us on December 11<sup>th</sup> for our Bodhi Day Service with Socho Ogui as our guest speaker. Following the service there will be exhibits to look at and a luncheon with door prizes.

YABA will be having their Mochitsuki & Sale on December 18<sup>th</sup> and any help will be appreciated.

Just a reminder there will be no regular Dharma School Service on December 25<sup>th</sup> or January 1<sup>st</sup> for our winter break. However, there will be make-up services on Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 p.m. (Joya-E) and Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m. (Shusho-E).

Lastly, on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 6 members, 2 guests and 6 children enjoyed a fun morning at Dell-Osso Farms. The day was sunny, the corn maze was challenging and the children had fun enjoying the various activities.

Our Mochitsuki will be held on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Mochi Orders are due by Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, and order forms went out in the last *Karma* and are also available in the temple office. We ask that ANYONE who is able to help us to come out that morning. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Congratulations and thank you very much to Howard & Ruby Kato for their \$25 donation for the birth of their grandson, Derek Yu! We look forward to seeing Derek at church. Also, thank you very much to Connie Ishihara for her donation of 6 boxes of General Mills snacks. It is through your dana and compassion that helps keep the Dharma School going. We greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness. Thank you!!!

## YAO News

## Dharma School

We hope everybody had fun at the Halloween Party on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to the YBA members that helped host the Halloween Party and to all the Dharma School teachers and families that helped out and/or donated items.

The YAO would like to thank everyone who came out to support the pancake breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

We appreciate all the food donations and the help in the kitchen from the chefs who came out of retirement. We would also like to thank the following people for their monetary donations: Dr. & Mrs. Bob Fujii, Brian & Frances Mizuno, Nuiko Shimozaki and Evelyn Hamamoto.



December birthdays will be celebrated on December 4<sup>th</sup> along with the December Shotsuki Service with Rev. Bob Oshita as our guest speaker.

The C Boys teams played in the CYS tournament in San Jose on November 12-13.

The YAO cleaned the gym floor on Sunday, November 27.

League games will start the first weekend in December with the **first home game on Sunday, December 4, starting at 1:00**. The YAO snack bar will be open for business with udon and Spam musubi on the menu. Please come out and cheer on our teams and visit the snack bar.

## *Tomono Kai News*

We had a delicious turkey lunch at our last get together thanks to our cook Motoe Takahashi.

Our Black Oak trip went well and we had a good crowd of almost 50 people who went.

Although the meeting date was supposed to be the last collection date for Bonen Kai reservations, we decided to leave it open for a few more days.

Preparation for Bonen Kai is underway. We will need members to help with the prepping of the food, cooking and packing of the boxes. Please come out and help if you can. Under the able supervision of Elsie Hansen, the program is now set. The entertainment will be very enjoyable. *Tomonokai will provide door prizes for everyone.*

Remember there will be **no meeting in January**. The \$10 membership will be collected in February.

The officers for the club will remain the same for 2012. They are:

President	Wayne Morisaki
Vice President	Grace Arata
Treasurer	Peggy Takahashi
Secretary	Jean Terashita
Past President	Elsie Hansen

### *Monetary Donations:*

“Omimai” Thank yous from: Fred Fukano - \$20; Alice Tsunekawa - \$20; Yukio & Sachiyo Sasaki - \$25; John Yamaguchi - \$25; Shigemi Tsushima - \$20; Mildred Sasaki - \$25; Eiko Hamamoto -

\$20; Mieko Shimakawa – \$10; Tad Mizuno - \$20; Mitzi Adachi - \$20 and Chizuko Yoshida - \$20..

Birthdays: Masako Morita - \$25; Alice Tahara - \$25 and Helen Kuwamoto - \$40.

Hanae Watanabe donated \$20 to use for Black Out Bingo.

### *Non Monetary Donations:*

Fumi Asano – persimmons; Wayne Morisaki – bagels & French bread; Mr. & Mrs. Ryuto – tsukemono; and Mr. & Mrs. Hayashi – daikon, kabocha & tomatoes. Ron Yasui donated a 50# sack of rice and persimmons.

A gracious thank you to all for these donations. We couldn't survive without your help.

## *Thank you, Keith Neishi*

Our sincere thanks to Keith Neishi for all the photos reproduced in this *Karma* and for the numerous others added to our historical photo archives in the computer.

## *2012 BCA Calendars*

All members are invited to stop by the office or to pick up your 2012 BCA Calendar when you attend a service .. one per family, please. To save the cost of the large envelopes, they are not being set aside with your names and we would like to avoid the significant cost of mailing so please take your copy as well as copies for friends and relatives you know will not be stopping by for theirs. Thank you.

## *Dana Acknowledgements*

It is hard to believe that the year is already drawing to a close. We have continued to receive the wonderful support and voluntary services and donations of so many members. While we try to acknowledge as many as possible, some provide their dana very quietly. Those we have noted and would like to acknowledge since the last *Karma* is the following:

.. George Kitagawa fixed the broken doorknob on the door into the gym and also raised the dangerous part of

the walkway by the gym and temple; and he also fixed the lock for the front gate; and

We continue to be grateful to the following:

.. Peggy Takahashi for preparing the monthly Shotsuki Service letters and Frank & Hiro Yagi for getting them ready and putting them in the mail;

.. Tad Shibata for his help in so many ways ;

.. May Saiki for providing assistance in various ways in the office and Dorothy Okura for cleaning the office area & parlor on Fridays and helping with other things as needed;

.. Setsuko Ryuto for typing the last *Karma* and for her other help in the office;

.. George Kitagawa, Kiyoshi Morodomi, Lester Hori, Jack Natsuhara, Kats Uyeda and Amos Yada for their weekly garden work, taking out the trash and other assistance;

.. Jack Natsuhara for mowing the lawn each week at the minister's home and the courtyard;

.. Chizuko Yoshida, Keiko Uyeda, Michiko Higashi, Kimiko & Mas Ishihara, Sandra Kano, Akiko Payne, Fumiko Wakabayashi and Alice Fujii for their weekly altar beautification;

.. Yasuko Wakai, Nobie Mitsuda, Mary Fukushima, & June Shiba for preparing lunch for the Friday volunteers; and Sharon Nagata who has been in from time to time to assist; and

.. Darlene Sakata and Alex Sakata for playing the organ for the Dharma School and special services and to Darlene for playing for the Shotsuki Service and her other assistance. We also thank Cathy Fujimori for playing the piano when Darlene has not been available for regularly scheduled services, as well as for funeral/memorial services.

*Your continuing  
dedicated Dana Services  
to the temple are  
deeply appreciated.*

## **Next Karma Deadline**

**Articles for the January  
issue must be in to the office  
no later than Monday evening,  
December 19, 2011.  
We thank you in advance for your  
wonderful cooperation.**