

Trusting in Goodness

Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs

Sometimes my articles here share my fears for the human race. Global warming, the continuing development of catastrophic weaponry, poor general cooperation with public health mandates (at crucial times); - there is reason to worry. Even so, we rely upon the Buddha's promise for our ultimate destiny. We all have a wonderful fulfillment coming in our next lives. Relying on the Buddha for a happy last act, we still don't want to choke on the air and worry about the safety of drinking the water while we finish the current act in the play of our lives.

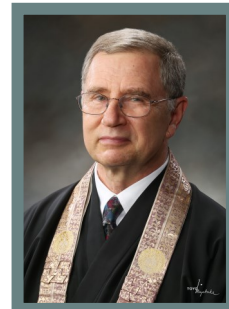
Even if I make it to the thrilling adventure in Amida's Pure Realm when I pass, I don't want my sons to have to endure the poisoned world we seem to be creating for them. Nonetheless, when we come to trust in the Buddha's promise, to all of us, we come to be better able to trust this world and our fellow humans.

The Buddha's promise to heal and positively transform us, itself, emerges from this world.

Last month, my article, "Trust the Budha, Trust the World, Love One

Another" focused pretty much on the positive side of

things. People sometimes say something like "Buddhism isn't optimistic, it is realistic." What I would say is that realism is a balance between optimism and pessimism. I am optimistic about our lives and happiness over the long run. Remembering that, for Buddhists, we would be measuring the long run in billions of years. I am pessimistic if you ask me how many biological beings on earth will suffer immensely over the next two centuries.



Buddhist history shows a progressively more positive view of Life and the world as time goes on. We retain our suspicions about ourselves and hidden human motives. Still, life grooves toward the good. Beyond any religious concepts, we must trust in Goodness. We must follow the paths that lead into goodness. We can, on many occasions, find saying the Buddha's Name to draw us toward the wholesome, the gentle and the good. I will end, at least, on a positive note here. The Promise of the Buddha is real. It can be heard in "Namo Amida Butsu." The Name, the Vow this concrete stream of Buddhist tradition draws us toward the Good. Trust in that; - if you will. I hope to see you all in person soon. Thank you for reading this article in the Bussei Script.

The Breakfast Club

For a couple of years now, the Baker boys have been taking their Bachan, Sumi, out to breakfast every week. She isn't driving any longer, and they didn't want her to feel isolated. They made sweatshirts for the cooler months, and were planning a lighter weight shirt for each of them to wear in the summertime. The restaurant they frequent even posts a photo of the trio.

It's up for debate who gets the most out of these outings. And there might be a lesson here, because the love and kindness is palpable, and hopefully we can each take this to heart.

Linda



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AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Buddhist Temple of San Diego will not conduct Sunday services in August in order for the Sangha to enjoy the remainder of the summer with family.

Meetings and activities will be conducted either in person or virtually on Zoom (Z).

Sunday Dharma gatherings will resume in September, along with sutra chanting sessions and Buddhism 1-2-3.

Here is this month's calendar (activities and times subject to change):

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (Wednesdays)** – Taiko practice, 6:45 p.m. (Annex Hall)
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 – Tai Chi, 10 a.m. (AH)
5 – Sangha Bus outing to Los Angeles – Ireicho stamping at JANM Museum, Musical, "Peace on Your Wings" and Gardena Buddhist Church Bon Odori.
6, 13, 20, 27 (Sundays) – Taiko practice, 11 a.m. (AH)
8 – Ways and Means meeting, 7 p.m. (Zoom)
10 – Board of Directors meeting, 7 p.m. (Z)
13 – BWA New Members luncheon, 11 a.m. (Dining Room)
24 – Activities meeting, 7 p.m. (Z)

LOOKING AHEAD TO SEPTEMBER

- 2-3** – Southern District Jr. YBL Conference at Gardena
6 – Buddhism 1-2-3 resumes, 7 p.m. (Zoom)
10 – Sunday Dharma service gatherings resume, 10 a.m. (Hondo)
17 – Fall O Higan, 10 a.m. (Hondo)
30 – Southern District Tri-Temple Seminar, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at BTSD



The Spanish-language Dharma message will be posted on the temple's YouTube page.

Office hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. There is limited staff coverage on weekends. The temple will be closed on Sundays and Mondays during August.

For more information: Call the temple at 619-239-0896. Please leave a message if your call is not answered, it will be returned as soon as possible. Email the temple at info@btsd.net or check the BTSD website <http://www.buddhisttemplesandiego.org> for updates.



SCRIP NEWS

We have many kinds of scrip on hand, if you're looking for a gift that's just the right size and color. Give us a call or stop by the

office when you're at the temple to see if we have what you need. If we don't have what you're looking for, with advance notice, we can order what you need if it isn't in stock.

ACTIVITIES

The Obon Season means it's the middle of summer and the weather is proof with the long and warm days and evenings. Seeing the yagura set up in the middle of the parking lot and with the lanterns strung around the dance area was a wonderful site. After the Hatsubon service, all were able to have a great time dancing, visiting and dining on some delicious foods provided by local vendors and our own Taiyaki. Also many thanks for everyone who helped clean up after the event, it still amazes me how quickly the cleanup is completed.

It's time for everyone to enjoy the summer months with a little break in large temple events and Sunday services during August. Keep your eyes open for other activities that may come up in the mean time.

In Gassho,
Activities Committee

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

We hope everyone is enjoying summer! Congratulations to our high school and college graduates this year:

- Ava Yamamoto graduated from Westview High School
- Jill Yamanishi graduated from San Francisco State University with a bachelor's degree in visual communication and design
- Mark Torio graduated from San Diego State University with a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies in Three Departments (IS3D)
- Oona Mary Nikko Flood graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles with a bachelor's degree in Arabic and Political Science

In July, Dharma School students participated in the Obon Service and Bon Odori. The Covarrubias, Cheeks, and Kajita families did a great job serving as Chairpersons for summer services. Our high school students enjoyed the beach, services, meals, and games with the Denver Jr. YBA when they stayed in San Diego for two nights during their quadrennial Sunshine Trip.

We are excited to start the 2023-24 Dharma School year in a month! Teachers and staff are preparing for our first day on September 10th. Our classes are for students from Pre-K to 12th grade. All are welcome! If you have questions or know any new students who may be interested, please contact Superintendent Nancy Martinez at btsd.dharmaschool@gmail.com.

Gassho,
Sharon

**Rev. Mukojima's
Japanese article
will return in September.**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By LuAnn Lee, Board President

I hope you all enjoyed your 4th of July!

Our family has a standing picnic at a park in Cardiff, no matter what day the fourth falls on.

This year it was on a Tuesday so many of us, had work the days before and after. In 2024, it will be on a Thursday due to leap year so let's hope they add Friday as a day off.

The family that does the picnics is from my Mom's side of the family. The week before the 4th, we were lucky to travel and visit Harold's family in Yuba City, near Sacramento. His brothers and their families and our grandkids were finally able to meet in person. We shared meals together and caught up on all the news and we felt the heat just starting to rise above 100 degrees.

After our visit there, we made our way to Salinas and since we were going to pass by San Jose, we made a last minute call and stopped to visit a special couple, Karen and Kenji Sensei! We thank them for inviting us over and appreciate their hospitality. Even though it was a quick visit, we were able to catch up, it was so nice to see them again and look forward to hosting them in San Diego early next year if not sooner.

On July 14 and 15, the Junior YBA, their Parents, along with Temple members and friends hosted the Denver Junior YBA as they visited San Diego on their Sunshine tour. They started their tour in Salt Lake City on July 6 and ended in Richmond, UT on July 17th.



Thank you to Ava, Andrea, Anika, Arturo Junior, Jack and their parents for being there and interacting with the Denver group. The service and sunset on the beach, making bon fire S'mores, eating pizza and hot dogs with feet in the sand, playing a hula hoop game and sharing a delicious lunch together that included rolled tacos, a variety of burritos and chips with salsa. All activities that made the inter-chapter special and something we will all remember fondly.

We give a big thank you to Sharon Sasaki for saving the bon fire ring at La Jolla shores and staying there all day. Also, special thanks to Carol Yamada (Grandma to one of the Denver Juniors) for helping me tidy up and clean the Resident Minister's house and purchasing and making food and to her daughter Ali for donating towards the Friday night meal. Please see an additional article and pictures of this event in this newsletter, on page 4.

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As Obon season is upon us, we hope you were able to attend the Obon service that was on Sunday, July 23 with guest speaker Rev. Vonn Magnin and please come out to the Bon Odori on Saturday, July 29 starting at 5 pm. The Hatsubon service will precede the dancing.

We give deep gratitude to all that support the temple with your time to volunteer and generous monetary donations.

In Gassho,
LuAnn Lee

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met on July 13th -

1. Updates were given on the planning for the Sept. 30th Tri-Temple Seminar, the Denver Buddhist Temple youth group visit on July 14th-16th and the August 5th outing to the *Peace on Your Wings* theatrical show and the Gardena Buddhist Temple Obon Odori.
2. The Board pre-approved funds for the Scholarship Committee to determine awarding academic scholarships and a grant for a Buddhist Youth retreat. Presentation of the scholarships will be made at the Obon service.
3. The ad-hoc Strategic Planning Committee updated the Board on its work. From input from temple members who participated in the focus group sessions, the committee developed a Mission Statement and three focus areas - religious, cultural and educational on which to continue to work.
4. The ministerial team, all standing committees and affiliated organizations provided reports on their activities.

BWA

Many BWA, as well as Sangha members, gathered to remember with love, Fumiko Ohara, who served as BWA president for many, many years. Thank you to our members for providing a potluck dish with kimochi to share. Extra pans of food that were ordered ensured that everyone could enjoy a nice meal along with all the memories and pictures of Fumi. Thank you to Laverne Sensei for putting together the video, and the rest of the committee, Aki, Junko, Naomi and Margo, for gathering/presenting the photos, dressing the tables and organizing the food. There were many warm memories shared.

It's almost August 5th, time for the bus trip to LA to see the musical Peace on Your Wings, stamp the Ireicho, explore Little Tokyo, and dance at Gardena's Bon Odori. Several BWA members have signed up and are looking forward to this outing.

We are nearing the end of What Makes You Not a Buddhist. The book club discussed Chapter 4, the last chapter before the conclusion, at our July meeting on the 18th at 7pm. It's a little book but is pretty weighty reading with much to think about. We all had a lot to say.

We will be having our much-delayed new member luncheon on Sunday, August 13th to honor our 5 new members, Mits, Irene, Hanae, Ghean and Rose. We extend to them a very warm welcome. If you are not yet a member or know someone who may be interested in joining the BWA, please contact Junko 858-722-9655, or Sue 858-699-8876.

Stay cool and healthy!
Gassho.

Denver Temple's Sunshine Tour



JR YBA

On July 14-16, we hosted the Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple's Jr YBA in San Diego for two nights as part of their 12-day Sunshine Trip to California. Their group included ten high school students, Rev. Diana Thompson, and advisor/intrepid bus driver Craig Hirokawa. Traditionally, the Denver Jr YBA embarks on this trip every four years, but because of the pandemic, their last visit was back in 2016. Our Jr. YBA members thoroughly enjoyed Dharma services, fun activities, and great meals with this group. We started with a bonfire at La Jolla Shores, where we held a service, watched the sunset, swam in the ocean, and enjoyed pizza, hot dogs, and S'mores. Many thanks to LuAnn and Harold Lee and Carol Yamada for the delicious food, drinks, and fixings! On Saturday, Rev. Laverne officiated a special YBA service for us at the temple, Ava led games in the Annex, and we enjoyed Mexican food for lunch. That afternoon, the Denver group and a few of our members enjoyed an excursion to Obon at the Orange County Buddhist Church. Finally, before they departed on Sunday morning (next stop, Utah), CMA Arturo Rubio led a service for them at the minister's residence in Chula Vista, where they had stayed overnight. What a joyful and memorable two days!

Gassho, Sharon

DONATIONS

The Buddhist Temple of San Diego is grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their recent donations to the Temple and its affiliated organizations. "IMO" means "In memory of." For a correction, please call or email the temple 619-239-0896 or info@btsd.net.

BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Martinez, Nancy
Nobuko Aoto Trust -
Gratitude to Kathy Kida
IMO James Kida
Ogata Family Trust
One Year Service
Redenbaugh, Linda
IMO Fumi Ohara
Buchanan, Rebecca R -
Joanna Rogers Funeral
Moribe, Susan - Deep
Affection & Remembrance
IMO Fumi Ohara
Sasaki, Brian & Lorin
Gladsjo, Julie
Honda, Ralph & Avis - June
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Masumoto, Chiyoko
IMO Fumi Ohara
Kajita, Junko & Tim
IMO Rev. LaVerne Sasaki
IMO Fumi Ohara
IMO Jeanette Dutton
Koga, Florence
Anonymous
Sasaki, Sharon & Robert
Yamamoto - where needed
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Cudney, Richard L. and
Natsuko Cudney
IMO Madori Gray
Mori, Naoto and Mieko
Mori, Naoto and Mieko
Madori Gray Mem. Service
Tanaka, Kelvin & Lara
Yamamoto, Ann Miyuki
Morinaka, Ron

BAZAAR

Anonymous -
Gratitude for Performers
Kashima, Jeanie

Lee, LuAnn - toward
Volunteer lunch

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Sumida, Floyd

DHARMA SCHOOL

Tanizaki, Gary
Koga, Robert & Chelsey
Ochi-Watson, Shirley

FLORAL OFFERING

Koga, Robert & Chelsey
Williams, Yukari
Ochi-Watson, Shirley

GENERAL MAINTENIENCE

Tanizaki, Gary
Koga, Robert & Chelsey

GOLF

Hiji, Ken
Honda, Ralph & Avis
Yamamoto, Jane

MAP

Tanizaki, Gary
Koga, Robert & Chelsey
Honda, Mikiye
Koga, Robert & Chelsey
Ochi-Watson, Shirley

MEMBERSHIP PLEDGES

We thank you for renewals:
Tanizaki, Gary
Koga, Robert & Chelsey
Ochi-Watson, Shirley
Negoro, Glenn

OBON

Yamamoto, Ann Miyuki
Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura
Nakatani, Nancy & Fred
Monji, Yoshiko
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
Suyenaga, Irene

Hendrix, Hiroko
Yamada, Patrick & Diane
Takeda, Masanori & Harumi
Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
Gladsjo, Julie
Shigehara, Wilbur & Janice
Amemiya, Denise
Honda, Mikiye
Tanaka, Kelvin & Lara
Nogata, Yuriko
Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
Kaneko
Estes, Carol
Honda, Ralph & Avis
Oyama, Garrick
Sumida, Floyd & Kaytee
Amano, Takeko
Martinez, Nancy
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Tomiya, Akie
Graeber, Kiku
Teague, Bill & Joyce
Moribe, Susan
Shigehara, Wilbur & Janice
Yamanishi, Alan
Spears, Margo
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen

SCHOLARSHIP

Tanizaki, Gary
Koga, Robert & Chelsey
Sasaki, Sharon & Robert
Yamamoto
Ochi-Watson, Shirley

SHOTSUKI HOYO

Yamada, Patrick & Diane
IMO Richard Watanabe
Yamamoto, Jane
IMO Naoye Yagura
Rubio-Torres, Arturo
IMO Margarita Rodrigues

IMO Jonathan Herrera
Koga, Florence
IMO Ronnie Ishisaki
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Ong, Ann & Mike
Kida, Katsumi
IMO Masuyo Fujii
Horiuchi, Edna
IMO Miyoshi Ikeda
Yamamoto, June
IMO Steven Yamamoto
Shimizu, Donald & Debbie
IMO Christine Shimizu
IMO Paul Shimizu
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen -
July
Himaka, Michio & Naomi
IMO Chosuke Himaka
IMO Christine Shimizu
IMO Paul Shimizu
IMO Henry Shimada
Ishino, Isabel
IMO K. Ishino-En Nishiguchi
Suyenaga, Irene
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
IMO Fuji Hashiguchi
Yamada, Patrick & Diane
IMO Zenichi Ogawa - July
IMO Yoshiko Watanabe -
August
Honda, Mikiye
IMO Ben Honda
IMO Hachiro Honda
IMO Fumino Honda
IMO Shigeo Amano
IMO Momoyo Amano
Kuwada, Howard & Kaneko
Martinez, Nancy - July - Aug.

CHECK FRAUD CASES ESCALATE DRAMATICALLY,

By Ken Sweet at the SD Union Trib

Check fraud is back in a big way, fueled by a rise in organized crime that is forcing small businesses and individuals to take additional safety measures or avoid sending checks through the mail altogether.

"If you need to mail a check, do not put a check in your residential mailbox and raise the flag to notify the postman. Drop off checks inside a post office if you have to," said Todd Robertson with Argo Data, a financial data provider.



Contact: Marlene Shigekawa, President
postonalliance1@gmail.com

POSTON COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OPENS REGISTRATION FOR OCTOBER 13-14, 2023 PILGRIMAGE

The Poston Community Alliance Pilgrimage will take place October 13-14, 2023 at the Blue Water Casino and other nearby sites in Parker, Arizona.

A Poston exhibit created with donated space the Museum of the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) will be featured. The exhibit includes a map of Poston's three camps for visitors to locate the exact barrack and apartment where their family resided. The pilgrimage will feature educational workshops and bus tours of the Poston Monument and Camp I school sites. A banquet with keynote speaker Duncan Ryūken Williams who will speak on the role of religion, will conclude the weekend's activities. Duncan Ryūken Williams is a scholar, writer, and Soto Zen Buddhist priest who is currently professor of religion and East Asian languages and cultures at the University of Southern California.

Pilgrimage capacity is limited to 250 attendees due to facility space. Early bird registration is \$195 for adults and \$100 for children up to 12 years old until August 31. After that the fee is \$245 for adults and \$145 for children.

Attendees will select their workshops during the registration process.

For registration information and updates, please visit the Poston Community Alliance Website at: <https://www.postonpreservation.org>. Registration will be on the Eventbrite website which will be at the Poston Preservation Website.

The Poston Community Alliance is a non-profit organization. Their mission is to preserve Poston's incarceration history to strengthen and expand efforts in upholding social justice for all Americans, regardless of race, religion and ethnicity. Through multimedia educational outreach and the preservation of stories, artifacts and historic structures, Poston's unique multicultural history, involving Japanese Americans and Native Americans, will live on.

Buddhist Education in August

While there are no events or services at the Temple, we will have a few things available for Buddhist Education, plus a few things to look forward to in September.

Tuesday Night “Zoom-in Buddhism” at 7 p.m.

In this summer program, we visit by Zoom for an hour and talk about a particular basic teaching or concept in Buddhism, and always with a Shin perspective. This summer-only program ends in August. Visit the Website or contact the Temple for more information.

Brand New, Never Seen Video with Rev. Gregory Gibbs, Supervising Minister.

Rev. Gibbs recorded this Dharma talk in case we needed it for a Sunday without a speaker, and we think this long month without Dharma is a great use for it. It will be posted on the front page of the Website.

Videos of Dharma Messages from our Ministerial Staff

We are also preparing a gallery of messages from our Ministers and Assistants so you can listen to your favorite speaker until we resume live services in September.

Looking Ahead to September

Live services and Dharma School resume after Labor Day, along with BEC opportunities like Buddhism 1-2-3 and Intro to Buddhism, with Kaytee Sumida.

Save the Dates!

Sunday, September 24. We are hosting a family friendly Movie Event following service to see the documentary, *Carving the Divine*. The film follows modern apprentices to the art of Buddhist statuary, passed down from master to student for over a thousand years. We will meet in the Annex Hall. Lunch items will be available for a small donation.

Saturday, November 18. BEC is hosting a **Nembutsu Seminar**, at 7 p.m. in the Hondo. We will cover the history, theory, and experience of reciting Amida Buddha's name.

Membership

Bill Teague, Membership Chair

Membership by the Numbers

We are nearing 70% renewals thanks to all of you chipping. We hope to make up even more ground in August.

Here is a listing of confirmed paid membership as of the second week in July.

Takeko Amano, Denise Amemiya, Erin Hamada & Matthew Bigelow, Qamar Bradford, Gregory Bull & Julie Watson, Karen Copeland, Megan Dixon & Philip Kao, Ann Dunbar, Julia Gladsjo, Kiku Graeber, Ruby Wakaye Hara, Jeanette Haseyama, John & Tsune Hashiguchi, Holly & Ronald Hiding, Avis & Ralph Honda, Miki Honda, Eugene & JoAnn Akiko Hotta, Sally Ishihara, Sheryl T. Ishizaki, Junko & Tim Kajita, Doreen Kamada-Fujii, Richard and Ruth Kaneko, Gail Kaneshiro, Jeanie Kashima, Naoye Kasubuchi, Mits Kawamoto, Itsuko Aileen

and Kiyoshi Kawasaki, Mildred and Trace Kawasaki, Katsumi Kida, Michael & Yasuko Kinoshita, Margie Kitano, Norman Kiyono, Bobby & Chelsey Koga, Florence Koga, Howard Kanji & Florence Kuwada, John MacAlpine, Nancy Martinez, Karly Maruyama, Chiyoko Masumoto, Marianne McDonald, Ronnie Morinaka, Kathy Moriyama-Liss, Ken & Sharyn Muraoka, Jake & Patty Nakamura, Fred & Nancy Nakatani, Glenn Negoro, Keiko Negoro, Yuko Niwa, Sumihiro & Yuriko Nogata, Janet Ochi-Fontanott, Shirley Ochi-Watson, Michiko Ogasawara, Ann Chizuye Ohara, Karen & Roy Okuhara, Kim Olson, Shirley Omori, Ann & Mike Ong, Laurine R. M. Ota, Dennis & Elaine Otsuji, Candice Oyama, Garrick Oyama, Claudia Poquoc, Mari Pullen, Linda Ring, Arturo Rubio, Mani Ryan, Toshiko Sakow, Akemi & Bill Sannwald, Sharon Sasaki and Robert Yamamoto, Jayson & Mariel Schmidt, Leslie Seymour, Janice & Wilbur Shigehara, Margo Spears, Yukiko Sugiyama, Ann Sumida-Johnson & Ted Johnson, Floyd & Kaytee Sumida, Yuriko Taira, Kelvin & Lara Tanaka, Naomi & Dr. Terry Tanaka, Gary Tanizaki, Bill and Joyce Teague, Kris & Ron Tokunaga, Aki Tomiyama, Betty Torio, Wayne Tsukamoto, Angelina Tsuneyoshi, Chris & Tissa Uchiyama, Lisa Umekubo, Ruth Voorhies, Julie Watson, Ron & Sheila Yagura, Jean Yamada, Laurence Yamada, Pat Yamada, Laura Yamaguchi, Jane Yamamoto, June Yamamoto, Mae Yamamoto, Sachio Yamamoto, Alan & Karen Yamanishi, Miyoko Yamanishi, Colleen and Tom. M. Yanagihara, Sumiko Yanagihara, Fusako Yokotobi, Gregg Yonekura, and Susan Yonekura.

Don't find your name above? Let us know at the Temple so we can take care of it together.

Scholarship Committee

Scholarship Committee

TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED AT OBON SERVICE ON JULY 23rd

The Temple Scholarships are named to honor two important temple leaders through the 1990s, Ben Honda and Tets Kashima. These two scholarships are paid for through the generous donations of temple members each year, and by the support of temple members and friends at the Obon Again resale shop.

This year's awardees included high school graduates, and undergraduate students continuing their studies.

Last month, the Temple's Scholarship Committee met to review the scholarship applications that were submitted by six wonderful applicants. The scholarship awards were presented during the Temple's Obon Service on Sunday, July 23rd. It was nice to get back to presenting the awards in person, during the Obon Service. Awardees in attendance were presented with their scholarship award, a certificate, and a small gift to congratulate their hard work and continued studies.

Full names and details of the scholars receiving the awards will be published in the September Bussei Script.

27TH GOLF TOURNAMENT SUMMARY AND HUGE THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EVENT



Volunteers, Beverly Yamamoto, Nancy Nakatani, Fred Nakatani, Wayne Yamamoto, Gregg Yonekura and Avis Honda (not pictured) are all set to greet the golfers.

Grueling competition seems far from the minds of golfers who gather each year for the annual BTSD tournament.

Sunday, June 25 was no exception.

Fifty-two golfers gathered at Riverwalk Golf Club in Mission Valley to rekindle friendships and prepare for a relaxing day of golf under pleasant, sun-drenched San Diego weather. The atmosphere was ideal for the temple's 27th annual tournament.

The event hosted golfers from the temple as well as the local community and from Arizona, Las Vegas, Orange County and Oxnard.

Golfers of all skill levels played in the four-person scramble (best ball) event. Players checked-in, had some morning snacks and warmed up on the driving range before venturing out to their respective tees for the 8 a.m. shotgun start. As the play ended, golfers gathered for lunch, awards ceremony and raffle drawing. There were a lot of smiling faces after an enjoyable day.

Team winners included — First place net: Jeanine Chan, Janet Yoshida, Rob Yoshida and Warren Yoshida; Second place net: Gio Donofrio, Chad Yagura, Ryan Yamamoto and



Golfers relax before heading to the course.

Kevin Yoneda; Third place net: Breven Honda, Ralph Honda, Ryan Tsukamoto and Wayne Tsukamoto; Low gross: Ryan Calafata, TJ Menvielle, Derek Yagura and Brett Yamamoto.

The contest winners included - Men's Long Drive (75-years-old and younger): Ryan Tsukamoto; Men's Long Drive (76 and over): Don Ueno; Women's Long Drive: Jeanine Chan; Par 3 Closest to the Pin: Jim Inouye (holes 7 and 11) and Ron Yagura.

Sheila Yagura won the top drawing prize -- a three-day, two-night aloha package at the Fremont Hotel in Las Vegas. Congratulations to all of the 38-drawing prize winners.

Many thanks to those who supported the Panda Express Virtual Community fundraiser and enjoyed their meals on June 16. The event benefited the golf tournament and netted \$344.18 for the temple.

A heartfelt thank you is extended to all the generous sponsors and donors, who once again, supported a successful tournament. This year was no exception.

The monetary sponsors included - Hole-in-One: Kenji and Akiko Hiji; Birdie: Muraoka Enterprises (Roy, Tad and Ken Muraoka); Beverage Cart: Setsuo and Jan Iwashita, Ron and Barry Morinaka; Closest-to-Pin: Sumiko Yanagihara; Long Drive: Miki Honda, Avis and Ralph Honda, Roy and Karen Okuhara, Dennis and Elaine Otsuji; Hole sponsors: 3D's Travel (Doug Ojiri), California Bank and Trust, Finest Sweet Treats (Tom Yanagihara), MKA Inc. (Michael Kinoshita), Genki Homecare (Derek Yagura, GM), Kiku Gardens Bento Program, John and Tsune Hashiguchi, Ron and Holly Hiding, Ed Hill, Trace and Mildred Kawasaki, Richard and Ruth Kaneko, Chiyoko Masumoto, Keiju Terada (in memory of Rev. Koju and Yuikye Terada), Alan and Akiko Tomiyama, Ron and Sheila Yagura, Ann Yamamoto, Jane Yamamoto, Susan Yonekura; Anonymous: In memory of Sangha members.

Thank you to the merchandise donors who helped make the drawing successful: Burning Beard Brewing, Fremont Hotel and Casino Las Vegas, Ichiban Restaurant Hillcrest, Kanpai Restaurant, Riverwalk Golf Club, Sushi Deli, Del Mar Fair, Avis and Breven Honda, Rich and Ruth Kaneko, Harold and LuAnn Lee, Ron and Sheila Yagura and Gregg Yonekura.

Appreciation to the volunteers Avis Honda, Fred and Nancy Nakatani, Wayne and Bev Yamamoto and Gregg Yonekura for helping make the event run smoothly.

The 28th annual tournament will take place at Riverwalk GC on Sunday, June 23, 2024. The committee encourages participation in the annual event as a golfer or doner. Please consider being a part of next year's festivities.

Gassho,
Ralph Honda, Rich Kaneko and Ron Yagura
2023 Golf Tournament Committee



Alan Tomiyama and Dennis Otsuji are ready to lead the golfers to their tees for the start of the tournament.