January 2014

The ECHO

Volume 53 Number 1

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

January Highlights

- ***12/23-1/3/14***
  Office closed for Christmas and New Years
- ***12/31 Tue, 7:30PM***
  Joya-e Service
- ***1/1/14 Wed, 10:00AM***
  Shusho-e Service
- ***1/5 Sun, 10:00 AM***
  Shotsuki Hoyo
- ***1/6 Mon, 7:30 PM***
  Religious Planning Meeting
- ***1/8 Wed, 7:30 PM***
  Temple Board Meeting
- ***1/12 Sun, 10:00 AM***
  Hoonko Service
- ***1/19 Sun, 10:00 AM***
  Temple Installation

  11:00 AM
  Annual Meeting

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The Guidance of the Gumyo Bird

Happy New Year!

By Rev. Yushi Mukojima

My wife and I would like to thank all the Sangha members for your thoughtfulness in the past year. We really appreciate your friendship and ongoing support. We sincerely hope to avail ourselves to your kindness again in the coming year.

I think you will agree that the Mountain View Buddhist Temple's Hondo with the big Wheel of Dharma on its outer wall is something our temple can be proud of.

Two years ago, when the temple celebrated its 50th Anniversary, the magnificent Nokotsudo (columbarium) was expanded to commemorate this special occasion. Our Hondo has provided a precious spiritual place for our members for a long time.

I am especially impressed by the beauty of our Onaijin (altar area). Because the Onaijin is an important space meant to symbolize the beauty of Amida Buddha's Pure Land, it is really wonderful that our Sangha has inherited such a beautiful Onaijin.

Within the Onaijin there are many intricate sculptures and gorgeous ornaments, each with a deep and wonderful meaning. When we look at the Onaijin from the pews, most of us first see the wooden statue of Amida Buddha enshrined in the central altar. After that we notice the six colorful birds carved into the large table in front.

Grateful for a Community of over 500 Members

By Bob Imai

It is hard to believe that another twelve months has gone by and I'm completing my second year as president. I'm very proud to be your president and take this position seriously.

I have endeavored to oversee the continuous development and evolution of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, but also to honor the great history, accomplishments and sacrifice of our past Sangha members, key pioneer leaders and past presidents.

A new year brings new opportunities, new successes, new reasons to celebrate and be thankful. As we move forward into a new year I'd like to take this opportunity to say **THANK YOU ALL** for your support throughout the past twelve months.

It's only through the support of the Sangha, Board of Directors, selfless volunteers and friends that the Temple is successful.

We bid farewell to **Reverend Koyama** and his family and celebrated the ten plus years that they were here and wish him well in his new assignment at Palo Alto Buddhist Temple.

We welcomed **Reverend Mukojima** and his family as our new resident minister. 2013 was a wonderful year for the Mountain View Buddhist and again it all because of you.

It is with sincere gratitude and appreciation that I wish you a happy holiday season, and a healthy, promising new year.

In gassho,

Bob Imai

january | 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 NO SUNDAY	30 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo @	31 OFFICE CLOSED TOSHIKOSHI SOBA 7:30pm - Joya-e	1 NEW YEARS DAY OFFICE CLOSED 10am - Shusho-e	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 10am - Tri-City 2:30pm - Miroku @
5 8:30am - O-asaji 10am - Service 10am - Shotsuki- 11am - Dharma 11am - Japanese 11:30am - YBA	6 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo 7:30pm - Religious	7 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Nakayoshi 7pm - Shodo Kai	8 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple choir 7:30pm - Temple	9 9am - Senior 7pm - FPC Meeting 7pm - Tri-City Adult	10 7pm - ABA meeting 7pm - Fuji Club	11 9am - BWA meeting
12 8:30am - O-asaji 10am - Hoonko 10am - Service 11am - Dharma 12pm - Dharma	13 11am - Senior 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo	14 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Shodo Kai	15 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple choir	16 9am - Senior 7pm - Tri-City adult	17 6pm - Tri-City Youth	18 5:30pm - Tri-City
19 8:30am - O-asaji 10am - Service 10am - Temple 11am - Dharma 11am - Temple	20 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo	21 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Shodo Kai	22 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple choir	23 9am - Senior 7pm - TrCity adult	24 4pm - Mtn. View 6pm - Tri-City Youth	25 8am - Mtn. View 4:30pm - Rotary
26 8:30am - O-asaji 10am - Service 11am - Dharma	27 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo	28 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Shodo Kai	29 7pm - Bpy Scouts 7pm - Temmple	30 9am - Senior 7pm - Tri-City adult	31 6pm - Tri-City Youth	1 2:30pm - Miroku @

Mountain View Buddhist Temple ❖ 575 N. Shoreline Blvd ❖ Mountain View, CA 94043 ❖ (650) 964-9426 ❖ www.mvbuddhisttemple.org

Religious Planning—January 2014

December 23, 2013 – January 3, 2014—Office Closed for Christmas & New Years

December 29, 2013, Sunday

NO SERVICES AT TEMPLE

December 31, 2013, Tuesday 7:30PM—Joya-e Service

January 1, 2014, Wednesday 10:00AM—Shusho-e Service

January 5, 2014, Sunday 10:00AM—Shotsuki Hoyo

11:00 AM Japanese Language Service

January 12, 2014, Sunday 10:00AM—Hoonko

Guest Speaker: **Rev. Dennis Shinseki** from Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Church

January 19, 2014, Sunday 10:00AM—Temple Installation

January 26, 2014, Sunday 10:00AM—Temple Installation

NOTE: Rev. Yushi Mukojima will be a guest speaker at Watsonville Buddhist Temple

Shotsuki Hoyo Service

O-asaji (Morning Chanting)—8:30 AM

Adult Discussion—11:00 AM

Dharma School—11:00 AM

The Guidance of the Gumyo Bird (Cont'd fr P.1)

In Shin Buddhism, there is one of the most important sutras called the Amida Sutra. In it, Sakyamuni Buddha describes to his disciple Sariputra both the Pure Land and Amida Buddha's outstanding virtues in great detail.

There is an interesting passage in it that goes, "Sariputra, in the Buddha Land there live a number of wonderful birds of different colors—crane, peacock, parrot, mynah, Kalavinka and Gumyo bird, the bird of double lives. Six times each day and night, these birds sing melodious tunes."

According to Sakyamuni Buddha's words, there are six kinds of birds in the Pure Land. These are depicted in the carvings in the large front table in our Onaijin.

Although the first four birds exist in nature, the Kalavinka and Gumyo bird are imaginary and are found only in sutras and stories. It is said that these birds sing elegantly and all those who listen to their song cannot help but be of the mind to seek the Buddha Dharma. All of these birds are beautiful and precious, but for me, the most interesting one among them is the Gumyo bird.

In the sutra, it is described as a rare bird with two independent heads sharing a common body. There is a Buddhist tale about the Gumyo bird which goes like this.

A long time ago, there were many beautiful Gumyo birds. There was one in particular with a most beautiful shape and song. Its two heads boasted about themselves, proclaiming, "The feathers on my head are incomparably lovely and my voice is the most beautiful." Unfortunately, each head hated the other and there was no end to their quarreling. Then one day, one head happened to think, "If the other head were to die, I would truly be the best in the world!"

The next day, this head made the other head eat fruit which it had secretly poisoned. Of course, that head died soon after, so the remaining head finally became the most beautiful bird in the world. At that moment, the bird started flying while singing proudly.

However, its joy was short-lived. The head that was killed off gradually rotted and eventually even the body they had in common rotted as well. So this Gumyo bird lost its life.

Two heads and a common body. If one head dies, the other must, too, before long. I think that there is much meaning in this tale.

Because we each have our own personality, values, culture, religion, and way of feeling, we are all different from one another. There is also gender, nationality, skin color and ability that make each of us unique. Thus we believe without question that our minds and bodies are ours alone. Yet we cannot live by ourselves alone. We cannot live without the loving support of our families, friends and others we may not even know. And furthermore, we are able to live only because we depend upon the sacrifice of innumerable others. The body itself is just one entity, but it is intricately connected to others like a net made up of a series of knots. So we can truthfully say that we are living the same life together, influencing and supporting each other. That is to say, we are just like the Gumyo bird.

We cannot live by ourselves alone.

The Guidance of the Gumyo Bird (Cont'd fr P.4)

However, if we deny the evidence that our lives are linked with those of innumerable others, insist on misunderstanding that I alone am just and superior, and choose to live in way that denies and hurts others, then we are on a sure course of self-destruction like the Gumyo bird.

Despite a Gumyo bird's foolishness, these birds now grace the Pure Land to teach the dignity of life in their lovely voices: "The way we destroy others is the same way we destroy ourselves. The way to let others live is exactly the way that we should live." There is also a phrase in the Amida Sutra: "All six birds were miraculously created by Amida Buddha with the desire that they spread the voice of the Law."

That is to say, Amida Buddha transforms himself into these beautiful birds in order to spread the Buddha Dharma.

As we hail in the New Year, I sincerely hope that each of us will take the time to refresh our minds by remembering the lesson of the Gumyo bird.

By respecting, supporting, and appreciating one another, we can make this coming year meaningful. Namo Amida Butsu.

A Full Month of Activities for ABA

ABA members had great Italian food at their Meet & Mingle Dinner on November 8, 2013 right here at the MVBT. Thanks to **Alice Ishida, Reiko Tsuchida** and **Judy Nakano** for taking care of the dining part. Dinner was delicious.

For the entertainment portion of the evening ABA members got to try their gaming skills. Special thanks to **Dennis Tsukagawa** for making his gaming equipment, personnel and knowledge available to ABA for the evening. Thank you to **Ken and Mieko Nakano; Sterling and Joanne Makishima** and **Dennis Tsukagawa** who make up the Entertainment Committee for all of their hard work in putting together the final challenge, the "Battle of the Sexes", which was won by the females this year.

DONATIONS

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Satake Family
Ed Tsumura
Mel & Audrey Inouye

Boy Scout Troop #87 Leads Canned Food Drive

In December, Boy Scout Troop 87 will have many fun, exciting activities. During this month's meetings, the scouts will be able to earn the Personal Management merit badge and the Engineering merit badge. On the 18th, Troop 87 will be cooking and eating a mystery meal during their meeting. On the last Wednesday of December, there will not be a meeting because that is Christmas Day!

On the weekends, Troop 87 will be giving back to the community by helping the less fortunate. On the 22nd, the scouts will head to St. Anthony's in order to help the less fortunate have a wonderful holiday. On the 14th, we held a Court of Honor in the gym. This is where the Scouts receive badges and awards for all of the things that they have completed. The Troop also set up tables for the Temple's annual Mochitsuki event.

Troop 87 will also be going on a camping trip to, at Sunset Beach. This camping trip will last from the 27th to the 29th!

Looking ahead to next month, Troop 87 be going on another camping trip at Pico Blanco from January 2nd to January 4th. There will also be a pancake breakfast at the church on the 12th. The last event already scheduled for next month is a trip to Sky High.

It looks like there are many fun things planned for Troop 87!

Happy Holidays from Dharma School!

The Dharma School wishes everyone a happy holiday season and Happy New Year!

If you are in town, don't forget to come out to the annual temple cleaning, Osoji, on December 22nd. Come dressed to clean and help make our temple sparkle for the New Year.

Thanks to those who supported our eat-out fundraiser in October. The Dharma School earned $351.96. We ate $1759.81 worth of food that night! Thanks also to those who couldn't make it but donated anyway. We really appreciate it.

DONATIONS
Gratefully Acknowledged

Thomas & Deborah Ho
Lauren's birthday

Stuart Ishida & Catherine Borillo
Dylan and Cassidy's birthdays

Ryohei and Joyce Tamaru
Allyson Itow's birthday

Satake Family
In memory of James Satake

150 Club Winners

We have 2 winners for the month of December. We have the monthly winner and we have the Grand Prize winner too.

Each month we pick a monthly winner and then at the end of the year we pick the Grand prize winner and all monthly winners are eligible for that too.

The winner for the month of December is **Naomi Higaki**. Congratulations Naomi!

Winner for the Grand Prize is **Stephanie Kitasoe**, my daughter, and a pleasant surprise.

To all One Hundred and Fifty participants of the 150 Club, **THANK YOU** for helping Mountain View Buddhist Temple.

Be sure to get in on 2014 150 Club, your Zone Chairs have tickets.

In Gassho,

Glenn Kitasoe

Keiro Kai 2013 Appreciation Luncheon

On November 10th, The Mountain View Buddhist Temple hosted a Keiro Kai luncheon honoring all our members over 70 years old. It was a wonderful event and 110 Keiro attended.

The luncheon began with a warm welcome from Mike Inouye, our MC, and Bob Imai, our temple president. We opened the event with a joint flag ceremony from MVBT Boy Scout Troop 87 and Girl Scout Troop 60736. Lunch started with Gassho by Reverend Mukojima and a heartfelt toast to the Keiro by Bruce Morimoto. Thank you all for your support and kind words.

This year the entertainment committee created a photo collage, story, and haiku to help reflect the deep gratitude we feel for our Keiro and their support of the temple and Sangha. The MVBT choir and taiko came together for the first time supporting the story with beautiful music. We were also fortunate to use Ei ja nai ka, a piece created by PJ Hirabayashi and Yoko Fujimoto which commemorates Japanese American history through movements that reflect the jobs of our pioneers that built this country and our temple. Thank you to the MVBT choir, taiko group, YBA, and dharma school for the beautiful closing song and dance.

Special thanks goes to our contributors to the Keiro Kai luncheon, Mr. and Mrs. Naomi Higaki, Yamagami Nursery, Dale Ando, Haruye Hoshi & Alan Hoshi, the Fuji Club, and many of our temple members.

We would also like to thank the Fuji Club for the plants for the tables, the ABA for taking care registration at the event, the Dharma School for the beautiful placemats and for organizing and serving the drinks and cupcakes, the Boy Scouts for setting up the tables and helping with the decorations, and the YBA for pitching in to help where ever needed.

Arigato, 2013 Keiro Kai Committee

January

Monthly

Memorial

Service

Sunday
Jan 5, 2014

10:00 am

Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial Service)

The Shotsuki (Monthly Memorial) Services are conducted and sponsored by the temple in memory of the past members who have passed away during a given month. It is not meant to be a substitute for families to observe their Family Memorial Service for their loved ones. The Shotsuki loved ones are:

Ronald Asada
Tsuyuko Virgina Asada
Ichiro Endo
Shigeko Betty Fujii
Tomizo Furuichi
Yoshiye Furuichi
Hidemi Furuzawa
Mary Hiramoto
Kiyoye Hirano
Tom Hirano
Frank Hirohata
Masaburo Hoshi
Kiyoko Inamori
Grace Ishii
Minoru Ishii
Tamaye Ishikawa
Shirlee Ishimaru
Itsuyo Kato
Katsuko Kochi
Umeyo Koyama
Joe Matsumoto
Tsuya Nagasaki
Haruyo Nakano
Misao Nakano
Yashichi Nakano
Kisaye Nishimoto
Katsumi Nishimura
June Okino
Brad Okuno
Satoru Okuno
Tsuyako Osaki
John Saito
Doris Sakai
Shinajiro Satake
Larry Shimamoto
Tomoye Shimamoto
Tom Sugimoto
Shig Tachibana
Linda Takahashi
Shinsaburo Togashi
Yoshimitsu Tokutomi
Thomas Tsukamoto
Yoshio Yamaguchi
Yumi Yoneda
James Yoshino
Ben Yoshizumi
Henry Yusa

If a name has been inadvertently left off or you would like to add a family member to the Mountain View Buddhist Temple list of Shotsuki names, please contact Rev. Mukojima.

E-mail **ymukojima@gmail.com**

Phone (temple office) **(650) 964-9426**

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo	Article Deadline
JAN	Zones 1 & 2	Jan 17 (Fri)	Jan 10 (Fri)
FEB	Zones 3 & 4	Feb 14 (Fri)	Feb 7 (Fri)
MAR	Zones 5 & 6	Mar 19 (Wed)	Mar 14 (Fri)

Please note the revised article deadline, printing dates and email submission process. This will provide time to lay-out and production. Thank you.

Email all articles to echo@mvbuddhisttemple.org

Senior Activities Resumes January 9th!

We will resume Senior Craft Hours on January 9, 2014. Please mark this date on your calendar.

SENIOR CRAFT HOURS
Thursdays, 9:00AM-12:00PM
Please join the group and enjoy the morning with good friends and fellowship. Everyone is welcome to just socialize. We have patient friends, willing and ready to teach you whether it be card playing or craft. We are looking for more card players to start up another table. Let us keep our mind active and join in the fun.

1/16—BINGO
Looking ahead, we'll celebrate 2014 with Bingo and lunch .

2/20—DAY TRIP (THURS)
Join us for a day trip planned to Graton Casino, a new casino that just opened. With this popular day trip planned, we are requesting a second bus, so we can accommodate everyone interested. Don't miss out on a fun day with your friends!

LINE DANCING
Thursdays, 9:30AM-10:00AM
Instruction led by **Naomi Ariyama**. An invigorating half-hour.

SENIOR KNITTERS
Whether you are a beginner or an expert in knitting and crocheting, **Debbie Kitani** has been very helpful to the Senior Craft Class every Thursday morning. Debbie has many new ideas and her knowledge will make your knitting and crocheting enjoyable.

Thank you to all the volunteers and many friends involved with our Senior Activities and Craft Group, supporting our functions and fundraiser during the past year. We are grateful and appreciate your support.

With your support, we are able to subsidize our trips and provide lunch. Let us continue to grow.

Arigato.

Senior Activities & Crafts

Happy Holidays & Happy New Year

YBA Holiday Sleepover December 20th!

The YBA will have its annual Holiday Party, Sleepover and Family Potluck Dinner on Friday, December 20th. We have many activities planned for the night, including our gift exchange and cupcake-baking competition.

The YBA also had a lot of fun helping with Mochitsuki on December 15.

Remember to save the date for the Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, February 8.

Hope to see everyone there!

In Gassho,

Haley Sawamura
MVYBA President

YBA Activities

Girl Scouts

The MVBT Girl Scouts participated in the 13th annual HOPE Good Turn Days service project. Our scouts collected bags of used clothing during November.

On November 16, the Girl Scouts hosted a luncheon for our BWA as an expression of our gratitude to them for all that they do for the temple and for being such great women role models.

The Girl Scouts used funds that they had raised, planned the menu, cooked and served the BWA ladies. The Girl Scouts had a great time and enjoyed being able to do something for BWA. Thank you to all of the BWA women who attended.

The Girl Scouts also helped with mochitsuki.

BWA Updates for December

The BWA would like to thank our Temple Girl Scouts for the delicious lunch served on November 16th after our meeting. Not only was the salmon fillet lunch with miso soup, sunomono, vegetable, rice and takuwan (made by the girls) very tasty they also served apple crisp a la mode for dessert!

The game room was decorated with pastel tablecloths, chochins and beautiful centerpieces. The girls made us feel very special that will live in our memories for a very long time. It was the first and only time that we were so honored.

With the guidance they are receiving from their mothers and Girl Scout leaders, the future of Buddhist women are in good hands.

We would like to thank all of our Temple members and friends for their generous donations and kind support for our Eshinni-ko/ Kakushinni-ko, BWA Memorial Service and Udon Fundraiser.

REMINDERS

Japanese Cooking Class in February, fliers and sign ups out soon.

$20 dues for 2014 now being accepted.

DONATIONS

Gratefully Acknowledged

Chieko Umeda Family

Funeral

Dennis Tsukagawa—

Mother's 8th Year Memorial

NEXT MEETING

Jan 11, 2014, 9AM in YBA Hall

Buddhist Women's Association

february | 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 8:30am - O-asaji 10am - Service 11am - Dharma	27 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo	28 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Shodo Kai	29 7pm - Bpy Scouts 7pm - Temmple	30 9am - Senior 7pm - Tri-City adult	31 6pm - Tri-City Youth	1 2:30pm - Miroku @
2 8:30am - O-asaji 10am - Service 10am - Shotsuki 11am - Dharma	3 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo 7:30pm - Religious	4 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Nakayoshi 7pm - Shodo Kai	5 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple choir	6 9am - Senior 7pm - Tri-City adult	7 6pm - YBA -	8 YBA Spaghetti 9am - YBA @ Sangha
9 8:30am - O-asaji 10am - Boy Scout 10am - Service 11am - Dharma	10 11am - Senior 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo	11 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Shodo Kai	12 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple choir 7:30pm - Temple	13 9am - Senior 7pm - Tri-City adult	14 7pm - ABA meeting 7pm - Fuji Club	15 10am - YBA @ 5:30pm - Tri-City 5:30pm - YBA @ YBA 9:30pm - YBA @
16 8:30am - O-asaji 10am - Nirvana 10am - Service 11am - Dharma	17 Presidence Day 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo	18 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Shodo Kai	19 7pm - Bpy Scouts 7pm - Temple choir	20 Senior Activity 9am - Senior 7pm - Tri-City adult	21 6pm - Tri-City Youth	22 10am - YBA @ 10am - YBA @ YBA 2:30pm - Tri-City 9:30pm - YBA @
23 8:30am - O-asaji 10am - Service 11am - Dharma	24 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Kendo	25 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Shodo Kai	26 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple choir	27 BCA National 9am - Senior 7pm - Tri-City adult	28 BCA National 5:30pm - Tri-City	1 BCA National 2:30pm - Miroku @

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Find a pdf version online at:
www.mvbuddhisttemple.org

In gassho,
The Echo Staff

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