November 2015

The ECHO

Volume 54 Number 10

Volume 54 Number 10

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

The Obutsudan is the Family Treasure

There were huge wildfires in Northern California several weeks ago. Because we are suffering through a record drought and heat wave this year, such unfavorable conditions helped create these terrible wildfires. They have caused enormous damage, and I sincerely hope that normalcy will return to all the victims as soon as possible.

When I served in San Diego, there were destructive wildfires a number of times. We had some Temple families who evacuated to the Temple and had to spend several days there. One year, we had a long-time Temple family whose beautiful home was completely destroyed although fortunately the family escaped unharmed.

By Rev. Yushi Mukojima

Several years later, this family was able to rebuild their home, and Mika and I were invited to their housewarming party. At that time, I learned the story of what happened to them. As the fire descended on their neighborhood and they were forced to evacuate, they carried their ***Obutsudan*** (family Buddhist altar) and their dog out first. I am sure that there were many important items inside the house full of precious memories, and many expen-

(Continued on page 4)

November Highlights

- ***11/8 Sun, 10:00 AM***
  Shotsuki Hoyo Service

  11:00 AM
  Japanese Language Service
- ***11/11 Wed, 7:30 PM***
  Temple Board Meeting
- ***11/15 Sun, 10:00 AM***
  Eitaikyo Service
  Guest Speaker:
  Rev. Patti Usuki

  12:00 Noon
  Keiro Kai Luncheon
- ***11/29 Sun, 10:00 AM***
  Eshin-ni-ko / Kakushin-ni-ko Memorial Service
  Guest Speaker:
  Rinban Ken Fujimoto

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Facilities Planning Committee

At the October 15 Facilities Planning Committee meeting, Colliers International our consultants, presented updates on the proposals from the prospective developers. Each proposal was discussed with the committee while always keeping our goal in mind of "least amount of land with the most amount of income".

During the next month, the chairpersons of the committee will work with Colliers to interview the developers face-to-face to discuss their proposals in more detail.

The committee will reconvene after the face-to-face meetings on Nov. 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the YBA Hall Board Room to determine the developer to be recommended to the MVBT Board of Directors.

If you have any questions about the FPC, please contact Mel Inouye, FPC Committee Co-Chair at fpc@mvbuddhisttemple.org.

In Gassho,
Facilities Planning Committee

novmber 2015

Mountain View Buddhist Temple Calendar — **Nov 2015 (Pacific Time)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 6:30am - Boy Scouts 10am - Sunday 12pm - Miroku 12pm - YBA General 12:15pm - Taiko -	2 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7:30pm - Religious	3 6pm - Taiko - Adults 7pm - Cub Scouts @	4 6pm - Boy Scouts - 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir	5 8am - Senior 6pm - Adult Taiko @	6	7
8 10am - Shotsuki 12:15pm - Taiko -	9 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	10 6pm - Taiko - Adults 7pm - Cub Scouts @	11 Office Closed Veterans Day 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir 7:30pm - Temple	12 8am - Senior 6pm - Adult Taiko @	13 7pm - Fuji Club @ 7:30pm - ABA	14 9am - BWA Meeting
15 10am - Eitaikyo 12pm - Keiro Kai 12:15pm - Taiko -	16 11am - Senior Group 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	17 6pm - Taiko - Adults 7pm - Cub Scouts @	18 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir	19 8am - Senior 6pm - Adult Taiko @	20	21
22 10am - Sunday 12:15pm - Taiko -	23 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	24 Office Closed 4:30pm - Miroku @ 6pm - Taiko - Adults	25 Office Closed 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir	26 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day 6pm - Adult Taiko @	27 Office Closed	28
29 10am - Eshinni- 12:15pm - Taiko -	30 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	1 6pm - Taiko - Adults 7pm - Cub Scouts @	2 6pm - Boy Scouts - 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir	3 8am - Senior 6pm - Adult Taiko @	4	5 8am - BWA - Udon

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Religious Planning — November 2015

November 1, 2015, Sunday, 10:00 a.m. — Sunday Service

Rev. Mukojima is out-of-town
Dharma Talk by **Hayley Arima**

November 8, 2015, Sunday, 10:00 a.m. — Shotsuki Hoyo

11:00 a.m.: Japanese Language Service

November 15, 2015, Sunday, 10:00 a.m. — Eitaikyo Service

Guest speaker is **Rev. Patti Usuki**, who is resident minister at San Fernando Valley Hongwanji BuddhistTemple
12 noon: Keiro Kai Luncheon

November 22, 2015, Sunday, 10:00 a.m. — Sunday Service

November 29, 2015, Sunday, 10:00 a.m. — Eshinni-ko & Kakushinni-ko Service

Guest speaker is **Rinban Ken Fujimoto**, head minister at San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin

Shotsuki Hoyo Service

O-asaji (Morning Chanting)—8:30 AM

Adult Discussion—11:00 AM

Dharma School—11:00 AM

Donate to the Upcoming Services

Eitaikyo Service,

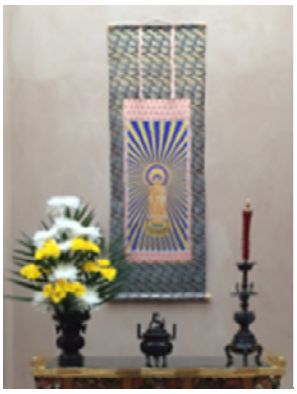
Eshinni-ko and Kakushinni-ko Service

Bodhi Day, Joya-e and Shusho-e

Use the MVBT online donation "DONATE NOW," or send a check to the Temple office

The Obutsudan is the Family Treasure (Cont'd from P1)

(Continued from page 1)



sive things inside as well. But their first impulse was to protect the Obutsudan that had been handed down by their parents. Even the most sincere Jodo Shinshu Buddhist in a panic might not be able to think and react as this family did, however, I deeply respected their devotion. As soon as all the guests had arrived, I chanted "Jusei-ge" with the family and their friends in front of the Obutsudan. Even now I can see people wiping the tears from their eyes as they recited the Nembutsu. I will never forget such a precious day during which all of us shared our happiness and joy.

I think that most of our members have an Obutsudan at home. Inside we can see Amida Buddha, the central object of our reverence, enshrined in the center. Because Amida Buddha is enlightenment and truth itself, it has no color nor form. However, it is really hard for us ordinary people to envision the invisible truth when we put our hands together. We need something to direct our attention towards. That is why Amida Buddha manifested the Dharma body as compassionate means to provide a concrete embodiment—a wooden statue, a picture, the written name Namo Amida Butsu—to show us where to direct our attention when we put our hands together.

The Obutsudan always has a candlestick, flower vase and incense burner. First, the **candle's flame** symbolizes Amida Buddha's light of wisdom. Even if we have excellent eyesight, we are not able to see anything at all without light. Our minds are always shadowed by the darkness of delusion created by our blind passions: greed, anger, ignorance, and so on. But illumined by the light of wisdom, we are able to see clearly the things that we may never have noticed before. We always believe that ***I*** help others, ***I*** endure others' faults, or ***I*** forgive others' mistakes. However, when we encounter this precious light, we realize the fact that ***others*** always help me, ***others*** always endure my faults, and ***others*** always forgive my mistakes. In this way, we are able to learn the teaching of interdependence that shows clearly that we are always supported by the cordiality of countless people and live because of the generosity of others.

Flowers symbolize Amida Buddha's life of compassion. When we are happy, flowers double our joyfulness. But when we are having a hard time, flowers relieve our suffering. We know that flowers will wither soon, so flowers on the altar make us realize the law of impermanence that shows us clearly that our youth is declining every moment and inevitably we will die. Therefore, flowers illustrate how important it is to treasure each moment of living to the fullest no matter what life might hold for us.

The **smell of the incense** symbolizes the working of Amida Buddha's virtue. Incense has the effect of purifying our confused mind that is filled with self-centered thoughts. The sweet smell of incense can calm an uneasy or angry mind. With the smell of incense, everyone without exception, irrespective of age or gender, is able to appreciate true peace of mind that is to say, the world of Nirvana (or the Pure Land).

Whenever you cook rice at home, please be sure to offer some to the Buddha in the Obutsudan. Rice represents all lives that allow us to live at this moment. When offering cooked rice, we should rejoice in this life in which we can recite the Nembutsu to express our deep gratitude to all lives which have supported us. Long ago, when I visited a member's home, there was a golf ball placed on the rice stand in the Obutsudan. At first glance it really looked like rice so I almost missed it. But Amida Buddha knows everything, so we should take care not to have such a lazy mind.

Sometimes when I visit a member, and offer my respects at the Obutsudan, I cannot see Amida Buddha at first because there are so many photos of the deceased and ihai ("spirit tablet," common in other Buddhist schools, but not used in Jodo Shinshu) inside the altar. If the home altar is cluttered in this way, we cannot see clearly the precious working of Amida

(Continued on page 6)

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」
二〇一五年十一月法話

仏壇　かほう
駐在開教使　向嶋諦史

― お仏壇は家宝 ―

数ヶ月前、カリフォルニア州北部で大規模な山火事がありました。今年は深刻な干ばつと猛暑に見舞われたことから、記録的な山火事へと発展しました。相当な被害が報告されていますが、被災された方々が一日も早く平常な生活を取り戻されるよう心から願っています。

私がサンディエゴに駐在していた時も、何度か山火事が発生し、ご門徒の方々が仏教会へ避難されたことがありました。また、自宅が全焼し、多大な被害にあわれた門徒さんもおられました。

数年後、その門徒さんから新築祝いに妻と招待されたのですが、当時の話を聞いてみますと、周りから襲い来る火災で避難を余儀なくされた際、真っ先に持って逃げたのが、お仏壇と愛犬だったそうです。家の中には、家族の思い出がたくさん詰まった物や非常に高価な物まで大切なものが多数あったことだと思います。しかし、ご両親から受け継がれたお仏壇だけは必ず護らなくてはならないという強い思いが火災から免れることを可能にしたのです。浄土真宗の門徒と言えど、誰にでもできることではありません。ただただ頭の下がる思いでした。

招待された方々が集まるなり、お仏壇の前で家族や友人の皆さんと一緒に重誓偈をあげさせて頂きましたが、その時の涙を拭いながらお念仏を称えていた門徒さんの姿が今でも心に深く残っています。何とも忘れがたい尊い時間でした。

さて、皆さんもご自宅にお仏壇を持っておられると思いますが、浄土真宗のお仏壇は真ん中に、ご本尊として阿弥陀仏が安置されています。阿弥陀仏は悟りであり、真実そのものですから本来、色も形もありません。しかし、真実を見ることのできない凡夫の私達には、何もないところに手を合わせることは大変難しいことです。その為、阿弥陀仏が、方便法身という具体的なお姿、すなわち、「御木像」や「御絵像」、または「名号」となって私達に手を合わす方向を示して下さっているのです。

そして、お仏壇には、必ず蝋燭立てと花瓶、そして、香炉が備わっています。まず、蝋燭の灯明は、阿弥陀仏の智慧の光を表しています。私達はいくら視力を誇ってみても光なくして物を見ることはできません。煩悩の厚い雲に覆われた闇の心が、智慧の光に照らされて今まで見えなかったものが見えてくるのです。私達はいつも、「私が周りの人を助けてあげているんだ。私が周りの人のために我慢してあげているんだ。私が周りの人を許してあげているんだ」と思い込んでいます。しかし、智慧の光に触れて初めて、いつも周りの人から助けられ、我慢され、許されていたのは実はこの私だったのだと気づかされるのです。私達は多くの方々の真心によって支えられ、さまざまな恩恵にあずかって生かされていたのだと諸法無我の教えを学ばせていただくのです。

花は阿弥陀仏の慈悲のいのちを表しています。花は私が幸せな時は、その幸せを倍増してくれます。その一方、私が苦しい時には、その苦しみを和らげてくれます。更に、花はすぐに枯れてしまうことから、その姿を通して、若さは刻一刻と衰え、必ず死を迎えるという諸行無常の理を教えてくれています。ですから、人生何があろうとも、一日一日を大切に生き抜くことの尊さを学ばせていただくのです。

お香の薫りは阿弥陀仏の徳の働きを象徴しています。お香は、煩悩に穢れた私の心を浄化し、その甘い薫りは、常の私の中に巣くう不安や怒りの心に安らぎを与えて落ち着かせてくれるのです。お香の薫りによって、老若男女、全ての人が分け隔てなく平等に安らぎの世界、つまり涅槃寂静（お浄土）の世界を味わうことができるのです。

また、ご飯を炊いた際は、必ず仏さまにお仏飯をお供えして下さい。お仏飯は私達を生かして下さる全てのいのちの象徴です。お供えの際は、生かされている我がいのちを慶び、これまで支えて下さった全てのいのちに感謝の気持ちもってお念仏を申しましょう。ずいぶん前の話ですが、ある門徒さんのお家にお邪魔した時、お仏壇に供えてある仏飯器にゴルフボールが置いてありました。見た目はご飯にそっくりで、私も危うく気づかないところでしたが、阿弥陀仏はすべてを見ておられます。横着な気持ちを持たぬよう気を付けたいものです。

また、お宅によっては、お仏壇の中に故人の写真や位牌（当派では不必要）などが飾られていて、一番大切な阿弥陀仏が全く見えないときがあります。そうなると、先に紹介した仏さまのおはたらきの説明がつかなくなるので、もはやお仏壇の意味がなくなってしまいます。決して阿弥陀仏を隠すことがないよう、写真などはお仏壇の外側に置くようにして下さい。

阿弥陀仏のお徳がつまったお仏壇は、私達の心の拠り所、家庭の精神基盤となって、常に私達を支え、阿弥陀仏の智慧の光と慈悲のいのちで真実の道へと導いて下さっています。どうか、門徒の皆さんには、生かされている日々の感謝と共に、阿弥陀仏の安置されたお仏壇を大切に受け継いで頂きたいと切に願っております。

The Obutsudan is the Family Treasure (Cont'd from P4)

(Continued from page 4)

Buddha, and the Obutsudan loses its meaning. So please place photos and ihai outside the altar so that they don't hide Amida Buddha's image.

An Obutsudan reminding us daily with the precious workings of Amida Buddha serves as our domestic spiritual base, leading us to the way of the truth with the light of wisdom and the life of compassion. **I sincerely hope each of you, with the deepest feeling of gratitude, treasure each day your Obutsudan that enshrines Amida Buddha.**

In Gassho,

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736

NEW YEAR STARTED

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736 began their new year on Sept 21. On October 5 we held our Investiture/Rededication Ceremony. This ceremony is to welcome girls and leaders new to Girl Scouts, and also a time for current Scouts and Leaders to rededicate themselves to the Girl Scout program.

Over the summer the Girl Scouts and their families ran the Drinks Booth again at the Obon. Many of the Scouts earned their Obon patch. And, the Troop also coordinated the Guessing Game for the Sangha Day Picnic.

PADMA PROGRAM

We had two Brownies and one Cadette who worked very hard to complete the requirements for the Padma Award. **Kendall Ho**, **Kiera Nishimoto** and **Victoria Shinkawa** will be presented their award at a future service. Thank you to members of the Religious Planning Committee (**Reverend Mukojima**, **Sterling Makishima**, **Brent Izutsu** and **Devon Matsumoto**) for assisting with the panel interviews.

Three Cadettes will continue their studies this year to earn their Cadette Padma Award.

The Senior Scouts are busy preparing to host the Father-Daughter Dance on October 17, and many of our scouts are also participating in a Mother-Daughter Ice skating event in November.

LEADERS THIS YEAR

Brownie / Junior
Joan Aoki & Evelyn Hori

Cadettes
Joy Watanabe & Patty Sakuma

Senior
Leslie Imai & Tricia Uyeda

Troop Coordinators
Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto & Debbie Ho

If you have a girl between the grades of Kindergarten and High School who would like to be a Girl Scout, please contact us!

We look forward to a new year of fun activities, learning and growth.

Tour Highlights

Tokyo
Kyoto (Hongwanji-ha
Obama
Fukui
Takefu

Yamashiro Onsen
Kanazawa
Takayama
Nagoya

Detailed Itinerary will be available in a future Echo.
Questions & Interest: Contact Sterling Makishima — smyoshiaki@gmail.com

Obama, Japan

Obama is a city in Fukui Prefecture, Japan. It faces Wakasa Bay due north of Kyoto

Mochi Prices

Komochi
$ 4.00
(1-pound pkg)

Okasane
$ 6.00
(Kagami)
(1-pound pkg)

Noshimochi
$ 16.00
(4-pound pkg)

Mochi-Tsuki — Sunday, December 13

Mochi-Tsuki time is here again and we look forward to seeing everyone at this annual get together. Come and have fun helping and participating in the activities that make this cultural event and fundraiser a success.

Tickets have been distributed to each zone and **the final count is due Monday, December 7, 2015**. Tickets are also available at the MVBT office or thru your zone chairperson.

Work schedule is as follows:

SAT, Dec 5	8:00 a.m.	Pre-preparation, test equipment and hang plastic
FRI, Dec 11	8:00 a.m.	Wash barrels & soak rice
SAT, Dec 12	8:00 a.m.	Final setup, clean area and move equipment
SUN, Dec 13	Mochi-Tsuki Day	
	5:00 a.m.	Start steamers
	5:30 a.m.	Start cooking rice
	6:00 a.m.	Start pounding
	6:30 a.m.	Start shaping mochi
	11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Mochi Pickup
	~ 3:00 p.m.	Clean up
TUES, Dec. 15	8:00 am	Final clean up

If you have any questions, please contact **Bob Yamanaga**, Zone 7 (408) 247-1593.

ABA News

September 18: Garden Tours

Thank you to **Joyce Oku-mura-Lee** for organizing the trip to three nurseries. They turned out to be very interesting and lunch at the Corralitos Market was good, too.

October 10: ABA Dance "Together"

Russ Nakano chaired the event. Please see dance article in this issue on Page 11.

October 18: First ABA Memorial Service

The first memorial service was held and remembered all past ABA members who have passed away since the groups' inception in 1972. **Rev. Koshin Ogui** was the guest speaker.

Beginning next year, the annual ABA Memorial Service will be for members who have passed away within the year.

November 13, Firday: Meet and Mingle

Come join the fun!!!

BWA Activities

FEDERATED BWA

Mitsue Fukuda and **Reiko Murakami** attended the Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations Representatives Meeting on October 9 and 10 in Seattle, Washington.

All the BCA Districts were represented. We saw old friends and made new ones. We all enjoyed the hospitality of the Northwest District.

We are looking forward to the Federation of Buddhist Women's Association's 44th National Conference to be held October 7-9, 2016, at the Westin Bellevue in beautiful Bellevue, Washington. The theme is ***"Linked in the Nembutsu: Tsunagatte."***

UDON FUNDRAISER

From October 18, BWA's Udon Fundraiser tickets will go on sale. It is $6.00 and take-out only. The event will be on December 6, 2015. Tickets may be purchased from any BWA member.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest condolences to the family of Mrs. Kiyoko Muranaka. She was a long time member of our BWA.

NEXT MEETING

Saturday. November 14, 2015, 9:00 a.m. in YBA Hall

Buddhist Women's Association

YBA Activities

On October 4th, the YBA organized and ran the children's games at the Sangha Day Picnic; this year we used prizes left over from Obon Festival.

Also at the Sangha Day Picnic, we held a 50/50 Raffle for audio and visual upgrades to the Temple. A total of $282 was raised. A lucky Temple member won the other $282.

We are planning a Halloween activity for our members on October 30th! We are looking forward to night of pumpkin carving, candy trading and a scary movie!

We are also looking forward to the Central Cal YBA Conference on November 14th in Fresno and planning for the Talent Show. We are going to be sending 18 delegates to the conference this year, and we are excited for a day of fun in Fresno!

In Gassho,
Devon Matsumoto
YBA President

150 Club News

Our October winner for the 150 Club is **Carolyn Sakae**. Congratulations!

Mountain View Buddhist Temple is grateful to Carolyn and all our 150 Club participants!

Thank you!

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo Article Deadline	Echo Print
NOV	Zones 2 & 3	N / A	N / A
DEC	Zones 4 & 5	Nov 13 (Fri)	Nov 18 (Wed)
JAN	Zones 6 & 7	Dec 11 (Fri)	Dec 16 (Wed)

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

Email all articles to echo@mvbuddhisttemple.org

Dharma School News

SANGHA DAY PICNIC

Thank you to **Reiko Tsuchida**, **Toshiko Uyehara**, **Diane** Umemoto and **Carol Harbin** for bringing the donuts, juices and hot water to the Sangha Day picnic. Also thank you to all of the Dharma School families and students that attended as well. Our annual temple picnic is always a lot of fun!

DS PARENTS MEETING

We're in October now and well on our way in the new Dharma School year! Thank you to all of the parents that attended our Dharma School Parents meeting on the first Sunday back. We greatly appreciate you coming. If you were not able to attend, please contact me at inenagad@gmail.com and I can brief you on the main happenings for Dharma School.

Dharma School Students - Please come to Temple wearing your Halloween costume on Sunday, November 1st. We'd love to see you! We'll be having our annual Halloween parade right after service in the Hondo and then students will be dismissed to their classes.

DONATIONS

Gratefully acknowledged

John & Chau Arima
Kaylyn's High School Graduation

Liane Detering
In Appreciation

Cindy Hiroshige & Nate Aquino
2014-15 Thank You

Salt Lake City Buddhist Temple YBA
In Appreciation - Salt Lake City YBA Bus Trip

Ryohei & Joyce Tamaru
Evan Itow's birthday

Todd & Ashley Uyehara
Damon's birthday

Toshiko Uyehara
Jeremy Tao's birthday

In Gassho,
Debby Inenaga
DS Superintendent

HOLIDAY

FOOD

DRIVE

Dharma School DANA Project: Holiday Food Drive

One of the core values that Dharma School teaches is

DANA = Giving to Others

For our Fall DANA Project, the Dharma School is coordinating a Holiday Food Drive to support **Community Services Agency (CSA)** in Mountain View.

This organization supports low-income families in our community. Food donations to them are down this year, but the community need has increased so the MVBT Dharma School is trying to help out. The food we collect will be distributed to local families & seniors in need as well as the homeless.

Our Holiday Food Drive will run from Sunday, Nov. 1st - Sunday, Dec. 6th. Donations of non-perishable food items may be placed in the barrel located in the back of the Hondo or placed in the barrel located in the foyer of the YBA Hall. With the holidays coming up, some suggested items to donate are:

- Crackers
- Baking Mix (Bisquick/pancake mix, pie crust & filling, cake mix & icing and cookie mix)
- Spices (Salt/Pepper/Oregano/Basil etc.)
- Hot Cocoa/Tea/Coffee
- Potatoes (Boxed or Canned)
- Canned gravy or gravy/sauce mixes)
- Pudding/Jello
- Special Treats (nuts, chocolate, dried fruits, brown sugar)

Thank you very much for your support of our DANA project.

For more information, please contact:

DANA Project Co-Chairs
Lisa Nishimoto:
lnishimoto@gmail.com
Joni Furumasu:
jofurumasu@yahoo.com

ABA Fundraiser Dance — Together

The spirit of "Together" was captured under twinkling lights, memory-evoking music, and lively chatter as nearly 300 people filled the Sangha Hall at ABA's fund-raising dance on October 10. Guests were treated not only to music of their era and great food throughout the evening, but also to the opportunity to mingle with old friends and even go home as winners of silent auction items and the 50/50 raffle (which amounted to $1,000 to the lucky winner!) The dance floor, packed most of the evening, was a showplace of high energy and the smooth moves of dance steps from several decades.

An as-yet undetermined amount of money raised through donations, tickets, bar sales, silent auction, and the 50/50 raffle will be donated to the Temple to help fund much-needed audio/visual upgrades planned on the Temple grounds. In the meantime, in appreciation for the Sangha's support, ABA will be donating $1,000 to the Temple's General Fund.

An event as successful as this one could not happen without the efforts of many, many people. Thank-you to **Russ Nakano** for spearheading the committee and infusing his unique enthusiasm in promoting the dance. Along with Russ, the Dance Committee—**Judy Nakano** (decorations), **Ron and Carolyn Murata** (registration and food), **Ken and Mieko Nakano** (music and registration), **Norm and Adele Sato** (bar, permits, and auction donations), **Sterling and Joanne Makishima** (publicity), and **Dennis Tsukagawa** (bar)—began meeting many months ago to plan all of the details necessary to ensure success.

Kudos to **Ken Nakano** and **Doug Sawamura** for doing an outstanding but thankless job of scripting the music and streaming the video projections, and making sure the dance floor was lively all evening. We couldn't have a successful dance without the right music, right? Additionally, the great sound system was provided and manned by **Glenn Machida** and **Eric Togami**.

Thank-you to **Brad and Donna Takasuka** for designing and installing the overhead lighting, which created a beautiful ambiance in the gym. We would also like to thank some of the adult children and friends of ABA members who assisted with registration check-in and at the bar. New this year was a successful silent auction with many exciting items solicited by **Adele Sato** and **Kathy Fujii**, and coordinated by Kathy with assistance from **Teri Hirota**.

Thank-you to the ABA members who helped set up on Friday night and Saturday, brought food and helped keep the snack tables full, manned the raffle table, and stayed afterwards for break-down and cleanup.

Finally, to all of you who supported us through your generous donations and who came out to have a good time that evening, we greatly appreciate your part in this success. ***Domo arigato gozaimasu.*** We did it—"**Together**"!!

Until next time…….wait, what? NEXT time??!!

Dues and Donations Committee Update

In November, the Town Hall meetings with the Temple Affiliated Organizations continue. The committee will meet with the Girl Scouts, Cub and Boy Scouts, and BWA.

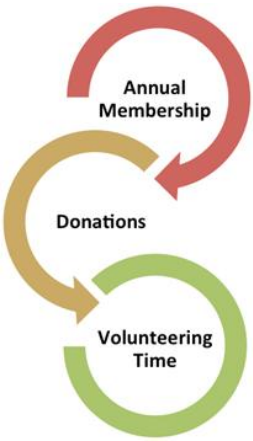
During the meeting you will received a handout titled "MVBT General Operations Fact Sheet." One of the FAQs in the handout is:

1) Why should I give?

Just like the founding members who sacrificed so much of their time and money to build from scratch this wonderful Temple, we are asking you to continue what was started by giving your support. The Temple grounds provide an inviting and safe environment for all who wish to participate. We and future generations are now simply entrusted to maintain and improve upon what they built.

In Gassho,
Dues & Donations
Committee

What Can I do?



2015 Fall O-higan: "I'm not THAT kind of Buddhist. . ."

How many of us have had this kind of conversation?

Acquaintance: "I heard you're Buddhist. So you follow the Dalai Lama? He's like your God or Pope or something, right?"

MVBT Member: "Well, I'm Buddhist, but I'm not THAT kind of Buddhist. I follow a Japanese Buddhism."

Acquaintance: "Oh, so you're Zen, like those samurai movies!"

MVBT Member: "Well, no, I'm not THAT kind of Buddhist either. I follow a teaching called Jodo Shinshu."

About thirty-five members of our Sangha joined our guest, **Rev. David Matsumoto** and our own **Rev. Mukojima** for MVBT's Fall O-higan Seminar on Sunday, September 13th, titled "I'm not THAT kind of Buddhist. . ." The seminar discussed the other popular forms of Buddhism in America (Tibetan, Thai and Zen) and how they compare and contrast with our Jodo Shinshu teachings. Coincidentally, the Institute of Buddhist Studies offers courses in these same three forms of Buddhism. Matsumoto Sensei emphasized that in order for us, as followers of Jodo Shinshu, to have meaningful and productive engagement with other Buddhists, especially in America, it is important to have a basic understanding and appreciation for other Buddhist traditions. After a brief break for refreshments, Rev. Matsumoto concluded the seminar by bringing the discussion back to our Jodo Shinshu teachings to help us understand the kind of Buddhists we are, since we're not THAT other kind of Buddhist.

Everyone in attendance gained a deeper appreciation for Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu's place among the other forms of Buddhism popular in America, today.

Thank you to all who helped with the logistics of the seminar, especially members of the O-asaji Group and ABA. Please keep your eye on the Religious Planning section of the Echo for the next seminar.

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Seniors Activity Group Activities

Senior Activities & Crafts

SENIOR HOURS

Every Thursdays,
9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Light refreshment of coffee, tea and desserts are always provided. Everyone is welcome to join in to share new ideas and to make new friends. We want to continue to grow.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

November 19th , Thursday: This day will be our last Senior Activities and Craft day this year due to the approaching holidays. We will plan this day with lunch and a fun time playing Bingo. Join us for lunch at 11:30 a.m. and Bingo at 12:15 p.m.

December 6, Sunday: **Jeanne Ohara** and **Toshiko Uyehara** will be chairing our Senior Craft Boutique. This is the Senior Crafts second fundraiser. The craft items sold are made mostly by our Senior ladies. The handcraft items are affordable gifts for all occasions, such as for birthdays, anniversaries and Christmas. Sales will be 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to shop and support the Senior Craft group in the foyer in the Sangha Hall. Stop and shop when you pick up your udon at the BWA fundraiser. Thank you.

NEXT YEAR

January 7, 2016, Thursday: We will resume the Senior Activities and Crafts on January 7, 2016. Mark this date on your calendar.

COOKBOOKS AVAILABLE

Only $18.00
The Senior Cook Book is still available at the Temple office or from any of the committee members.

KNIT WITH DEBBIE

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Debbie Kitani has been very helpful with the Senior Craft Class every Thursday morning, showing the ladies new ways to knit. Whether you are a beginner or an expert in knitting and crocheting, her new ideas and knowledge will make it enjoyable

LINE DANCING

Thursdays, 9:15 AM-10:00 a.m.

Line dancing with **Naomi Ariyama** instructing.

SING ALONG plus EXERCISE

10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Join **Kinji Ushiba** with the "Sing Along Group."

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
With the Sing Along, an upper body exercise is included lead by **Julie Ushiba**. What better way to start your day, with a light exercise.

In Gassho,
Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto

The **Mountain View Buddhist Temple** would like to express its heartfelt condolence to the families and friends of:

Kiyoko Muranaka	***Dec 9, 1922 - Sept 2, /2015***
Albert Okuno	***Nov 15, 1930 - Sept 20, 2015***
Akio Yamamoto	***Sept 13, 1928 - Sept 21, 2015***

May you find comfort in the embrace of Infinite Light and Life, the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

Namo Amida Butsu

What is the Eitaikyo Perpetual Memorial Fund?

永代読経

The word *Eitaikyo* is a contraction of the more formal term, **Ei-tai dok(u)-kyo (永代読経).**

Ei means eternal. It is composed of the Chinese Characters for a river with many tributaries that flows on and on. ***Tai*** means generations. ***Kyo*** means sutras or the words of the Buddha. ***Doku*** means to read or chant. Thus the meaning of Eitaikyo is to eternally chant the sutras on behalf of our loved ones for generations and generations to come.

The Eitaikyo Perpetual Memorial Fund

A special Eitaikyo Perpetual Memorial Fund was established to ensure the continuation of the teachings of the Buddha and Nembutsu. It is to be used specifically for religious purposes such as to purchase candles and incense, religious articles, altar enhancements and altar repairs. This fund is established through the donations made in memory of deceased members of the family, relative, and friends. This ensures a perpetual service for the deceased even when there is no one left in the family to observe a Buddhist Service.

Because the purpose of Eitaikyo is to ensure that a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Service be conducted eternally in memory of a loved one, an initial substantial donation is requested to place a loved one's name in the Eitaikyo Registry. An amount of $500 or more is suggested. However, due to circumstances any amount will be considered. Please consult with the resident minister.

The Eitaikyo Registry

After completing the Eitaikyo form and donating to the Eitaikyo fund, the name of your deceased loved one will be entered into a Special Eitaikyo Registry book. This is a calendar type book listing the deceased names on the day of death. This book is kept in the Mountain View Buddhist Temple's altar. Each day, the morning service is dedicated to the names that appear on the page for that particular day. Thus by donating to the Eitaikyo Fund, a sutra will be chanted in memory of your loved one for eternal generations to come. As an expression of appreciation and gratitude for the guidance, leadership and support in the growth of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, automatically entered into this Eitaikyo registry will be:

1. Past Ministers and Ministers' spouses who served the Mountain View Buddhist Temple
2. Past Mountain View Buddhist Temple Presidents who have served two or more years. No donations from the family will be expected in these cases.

The Annual Eitaikyo Service

Every November an Annual Eitaikyo Service will be conducted at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. This service will be dedicated in special memory to those loved ones newly recorded into the Eitaikyo registry within the past year. Those families will be sent an invitation to this service so that they can o-shoko in memory of their loved one during the service.

Mountain View Buddhist Temple

EITAIKYO PERPETUAL MEMORIAL FUND DONATION

No. _____

Date: _____

In Memory of

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Japanese Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Death: _____

Buddhist Name

English: _____ Japanese: _____

Place of Funeral: _____

Name of Donor(s)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Japanese Name: _____

MVBT Office Record Use Only

Amount of Donation: _____ Date of Eitaikyo (Initial) Service: _____

Acknowledgment Forwarded: _____

Remarks: _____

Signature of Minister: _____

November

Monthly

Memorial

Service

Sunday

November 8, 2015

10:00 a.m.

November Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial Service)

The Shotsuki (Monthly Memorial) Services are conducted and sponsored by the Temple in memory of the past members and their family 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 **November** Shotsuki loved ones are:

Tsutomu Akizuki	**Eugene Kono**	**Roy Ozawa**
Tomoye Aoki-Johnson	**Kinuyo Kunimoto**	**Tom Ozawa**
Takiko Fukushima	**Shigeko Masaki**	**Ichiro Sakae**
Frank Furuichi	**Gregory Matsumoto**	**Kosue Sakae**
Sunao Furusho	**Rose Morimoto**	**Akira Sasaki**
Hana Furuto	**Haruko Nakamura**	**Masako Alice Sato**
Eddie Higuchi	**Miyuki Nakano**	**Seikichi Shimoguchi**
George Hirota	**Tsuruye Nakano**	**Sei Tachibana**
Fred Hoshi	**Yutaka Nakano**	**Alice Takagi**
Akira Hoshiko	**Ayako Nakashima**	**Masaru Takahashi**
Tom Ichikawa	**Teiichi Naritomi**	**Mildred Takegami**
Kiyoko Kay Horita	**Yoshio Nishimoto**	**Kay Tanouye**
Frank Ikebe	**Nobuo Oda**	**Chieko Umeda**
Hideo Kato	**Walter Okino**	
Shigeaki Kihara	**Nuiko Okuno**	

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**

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Memorial services allow us to pay homage to loved ones who have passed away. In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, family members hold a service at certain intervals following a relative's death to express gratitude for and acknowledge their continuing influence in our lives. If you wish to schedule a memorial service for a loved one, please call during weekly office hours.

2015 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2014	3rd Year Memorial	2013	7th Year Memorial	2009
13th Year Memorial	2003	17th Year Memorial	1999	25th Year Memorial	1991
27th Year Memorial	1989	33rd Year Memorial	1983	50th Year Memorial	1966

december 2015

Mountain View Buddhist Temple Calendar — **Dec 2015 (Pacific Time)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 10am - Eshinni- 12:15pm - Taiko -	30 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	1 6pm - Taiko - Adults 7pm - Cub Scouts @	2 6pm - Boy Scouts - 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir	3 8am - Senior 6pm - Adult Taiko @	4	5 8am - BWA - Udon
6 8am - Senior Group 10am - Shotsuki 12pm - BWA - Udon 12pm - Miroku 12pm - YBA General 12:15pm - Taiko -	7 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 7:30pm - Religious	8 6pm - Taiko - Adults 6:30pm - Tri-City 7pm - Cub Scouts @	9 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir 7:30pm - Temple	10 8am - Senior 6pm - Adult Taiko @	11 7pm - Fuji Club @ 7:30pm - ABA	12 9am - BWA Meeting 5pm - Boy Scout/Fuji
13 5am - Mochitsuki @	14 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	15 6pm - Taiko - Adults 7pm - Cub Scouts @	16 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir	17 8am - Senior 6pm - Adult Taiko @	18 5pm - YBA Holiday 6:30pm - Miroku @	19 12am - YBA Holiday
20 10am - Osoji	21 Office Closed 11am - Senior Group 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	22 Office Closed 6pm - Taiko - Adults 7pm - Cub Scouts @	23 Office Closed 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir	24 Office Closed 6pm - Adult Taiko @	25 Cristmas Day Office Closed	26
27	28 Office Closed 6:30pm - Girl Scouts	29 Office Closed 6pm - Taiko - Adults 7pm - Cub Scouts @	30 Office Closed 6pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Temple Choir	31 Office Closed 6pm - Adult Taiko @ 7pm - Joya-e Service	1 Office Closed 10am - Shusho-e	2

Upcoming Services

December 6, Sunday
Bodhi Day Service

December 13, Sunday
Mochitsuki

December 20, Sunday
Osoji

December 31, Thursday
Joya-e Service

January 1, Friday
Shusho-e Service

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echo@mvbuddhisttemple.org

In Gassho,
The Echo Staff

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