The ECHO

March 2025

Volume 64 Number 3

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

March
Highlights

- ***3/2, Sunday, 10:00 am***
  BCA Eitaikyo Service
  * *Watch Party in MVBT Hondo*
- ***3/9, Sunday, 10:00 am***
  March Shotsuki Hoyo & Girl Scout Sunday
  * *11:00 am: Japanese Language Service*
  * *11:00 am: English Language Discussion*
- ***3/10, Monday, 7:00 pm on Zoom***
  Buddhist Study Class
- ***3/16 Sunday, 10:00 am***
  Spring Ohigan Service
  * ***Guest Speaker:***
    Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji
- ***3/16 Sunday, 12:30 pm***
  Spring Ohigan Seminar
  * ***Guest Speaker:***
    Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji

Sharp Quills of Ego

Currently, my daughter is an 11th grader. She's now experiencing a stressful life every day because she gets overwhelmed with her classes, homework, college-prep activities, and so on. Although I have heard that the junior year of high school is tough, it goes beyond my imagination. My wife and I sometimes feel like targets of our daughter's stress and frustration, so these days when we talk with her, it is with great caution. Sometimes as her parent, I give her advice. But whenever she feels grumpy because of this, we sometimes end up arguing. I know that she is at a sensitive stage of her life, but, when I think about myself as a teenager doing the same things, once again I cannot help but feel the hardships my parents endured for me. I am now learning how important it is to be patient as I witness my daughter's behavior.

Rev. Yushi Mukojima

Of course, if Mika and I were still hoping to become parents, but instead remained childless, we would likely be unhappy in that situation. So, it feels ironic to be blessed with two children, yet also feel stressed because of the heavy responsibility of parenthood.

There is a famous phrase about this dilemma in *"The Buddha of Infinite Life"* by Sakyamuni Buddha, which goes:

> *If we have no fields nor house, we become anxious and wish to possess them. If we have fields and house, we worry about them because of their administration and maintenance. In the same way - whether or not we have domesticated animals; manservants and maids; money and*

(Continued on page 4)

Highlights In This Issue

Spring Ohigan Service & Seminar	*8*
Temple, BWA & ABA Cabinets	*9-10*
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Girl Scout Cookie Sale	*13*
Hatsumairi Service	*14*
MVBT Membership JOIN or RENEW	*15*

MVBT President's Message - Onaijin Flowers

We often take for granted the beautiful adornments of our onaijin. One of the lovely features of the altar is the floral arrangements. We are so fortunate to have **Julie Nakatani**, an Ikebana Sensei, arrange the flowers every week and create floral designs for special services as needed. It also requires cleaning up and planning for the next week's arrangements. It takes a lot of WORK!

The next time you are at service, please be sure to appreciate the beautiful arrangements. Look not only for the main floral design, but spot the other two (twin) designs on the altar.

(Continued on page 6)

The **ECHO**

March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 BCA National Council Meeting **YBA Spaghetti Dinner (5:00-7:00 Dinner, 6:00-8:00 Bingo)**
2 10a-12p BCA Eitaikyo Service 11:30a-12:30p YBA Lunch 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class 12p-1p Miroku Monthly Meeting 12:30p-2p YBA Meeting 2p-4p Jun Daiko	**3**	**4** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30p-8:30p MVBT Ukulele Club 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**5** 6p-9p Boy Scouts	**6** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 7:30p-9:30p Thursday Night Basketball 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**7** 6p-8p MVBT Pickle Ball	**8** Int'l. Women's Day
9 Daylight Saving Begins 10a-12p Shotsuki Hoyo Service & Dharma School & Girl Scout Sunday 12p-2:30p Girl Scouts 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class 2p-4p Jun Daiko	**10** 1p-3p Senior Activities Committee Meeting 7p-8:30p Buddhist Discussion Group	**11** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30p-8:30p MVBT Ukulele Club 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**12** 7p-9p Boy Scouts 7:30p-9:30p MVBT Board Meeting	**13** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 7:30p-9:30p Thursday Night Basketball 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**14** 6p-10p ABA General Meeting 6p-8p MVBT Pickle Ball	**15** 9a-12p BWA Meeting 4p-12a Cub Scouts overnight
16 12a-9a Cub Scouts overnight 10a-12p Spring Ohigan Service 12:30p-2p Spring Ohigan Seminar 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class 2p-4p Jun Daiko	**17** Saint Patrick's Day	**18** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30p-8:30p MVBT Ukulele Club 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**19** 7p-9p Boy Scouts	**20** Spring Begins 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 7:30p-9:30p Thursday Night Basketball 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**21** 6p-8p MVBT Pickle Ball	**22**
23 10a-12p Sunday Service & Dharma School 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class 2p-4p Jun Daiko	**24**	**25** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30p-8:30p MVBT Ukulele Club 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**26** 7p-9p Boy Scouts	**27** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 7:30p-9:30p Thursday Night Basketball 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**28** 6p-8p MVBT Pickle Ball	**29** 5p-11p ABA Activity
30 10a-12p Sunday Service & Dharma School 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class 2p-4p Jun Daiko	**31** 7:30p-8:30p RPC Meeting					

Volume 64 Number 3

"Let us live with Kindness and Gratitude beyond words..."

Religious Planning — March 2025

March 2, 2025, Sunday, 10:00am — BCA Eitaikyo Service

Watch Party for the service in the MVBT Hondo

March 9, 2025, Sunday, 10:00 am, Shotsuki Hoyo and Girl Scout Sunday

11:00 am Japanese Language Service
11:00 am Engliish Language Discussion Group

March 10, 2025, Monday, 7:00 pm, Buddhist Study Class, Online Meeting

To join, send email request to staff@mvbuddhhisttemple.org

March 16, 2025, Sunday, 10:00 am, Spring Ohigan Service

Spring Ohigan: Higan, meaning Other Shore, is a service conducted in the spring on or about the vernal equinox. The practice of the Six Paramitas is emphasized on this occasion.

Guest Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji**, Dean of the Institute of Buddhist Studies. Will give two Dharma Talks: one for Dharma School students and another to adults

March 16, 2025, Sunday, 12:30 pm, Spring Ohigan Seminar

YBA Hall Board Room following refreshments in Main Hall. Includes Seminar and Lunch.

March 23, 2025, Sunday, 10:00am — Sunday Service

March 30, 2025, Sunday, 10:00am — Sunday Service

JOIN US

In-Person Sunday Dharma Messages are presented by Rev. Mukojima, Minister's Assistant John Arima & Rev. Devon Matsumoto.

Th ese Services are also Hybrid to allow the Sangha to attend the service on Zoom. The Link to the Zoom Livestream can be found in Putra's Post that is emailed before the service.

JOZAI: SUNDAY SERVICE DONATION

Put your Jozai into the Dana Box
Go to MVBT website & Press the Dona Box

Shotsuki Hoyo Service **Study Class** **Dharma School - 11:00 am**

Check Temple Website for latest information about Temple activities

2025 150 Club News

At the February Board meeting of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, the February winner was **Colleen Kobashigawa**.

Congratulations to Colleen!

Thank you for participating in the 150 Club for 2025!

Everyone, please stay safe and healthy!

150 Club Committee

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo Article Deadline	Echo Sent to Sangha
MAR	Zones 10 & 11	N / A	N / A
APR	Zones 12 & 13	Mar 14 (Fri)	Mar 19 (Wed)
MAY	Zones 2 & 3	Apr 11 (Fri)	Apr 16 (Wed)

Please note the article deadline and mailing dates. This will provide time to layout, proof, finalize, print, assemble and mail the issue.
Thank you. ***Arigato Gozimasu***. ありがとう ございます。
Email all articles to echo@mvbuddhisttemple.org .

Sharp Quills of Ego - Cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

> *wealth; clothes, food and furnishings - we worry about them. Accumulating worries and compounding sighs, we live in constant anxiety and fear.*

This teaching is called ***"umu dozen,"*** which means that, whether or not we possess the things we desire, we still share the same anxieties and worries. It is not a question of which problem is better to have, because our anxieties and suffering will be present despite whatever choice we make.

Although the modern world that we live in has changed tremendously compared to ancient times, human nature is constant. We still worry and suffer. Why is this?

In his ***"Notes on Once-Calling and Many-Calling,"*** Shinran Shonin observes:

> *We foolish beings are full of ignorance and afflictions. Our desires are countless, and anger, wrath, jealousy and envy are constantly overwhelming us. To the very last moment of life, they do not cease, disappear nor exhaust themselves.*

Afflictions are the workings of the mind that confuse us and make us worry and suffer. And the root of afflictions that cause human suffering is our own ego. Because of our attachments to ego, various afflictions arise in our thoughts and disturb us, throw us off balance and make us suffer.

There is an interesting story called ***"Porcupine's Dilemma."*** On a winter morning, a pair of porcupines, almost frozen from the cold, tries to get close to one other in order to share body heat. But the closer they get, the more they hurt one another with their sharp quills. Because they can't bear the pain, they move apart. But they also can't bear the freezing cold, so they timidly try to get closer again. With this method - trying to get close, then moving away from one another, repeatedly - eventually they find just the right distance that makes them feel moderately warm without hurting one another.

This story expresses well our personal relationships. No matter how close two people may be, if they become too familiar, it sometimes causes friction. This is true of relationships between spouses, partners, girlfriend-boyfriend, friends, parent-child, and so on. The closer we become and the more interests we have in common, the greater likelihood that our selfish thinking - namely, the porcupine's sharp quills - will hurt the other's feelings to the point when we begin to hate one another.

It has already been sixteen years since I became a father, and I am deeply affected by this story. When I first became a parent, I accepted whatever our baby daughter did. I raised her while trying not to hurt her feelings, but to understand her instead, using gentle words. However, from the time she began to develop a sense of self and I saw her quills, I sometimes prioritized my own selfishness. Because of this, it is sometimes hard to maintain the right space with her. Sometimes we can't communicate effectively with each other when we keep distant from each other. Also, when we are too close, we hurt one other because we tend to say anything without hesitation.

When I consider my behavior through our family's history and contemplate why we quarrel now more than before, I find that I - who have always felt uneasy about my daughter's sharp quills - have forgotten that I have even sharper quills (self-centeredness) than she does. While arguing that I was simply giving her parental advice, I just pushed my selfish thoughts on her. I have to admit that I have countless selfish hopes for my daughter, and whenever those don't turn out, I get angry and point my sharp quills of ego at her. But on reflection, I realize the blame belongs solely on me, who views the world through my egotistical thoughts.

While illumined by Amida Buddha's light of wisdom, Nembutsu followers become aware of how important it is to be shamed by our arrogant, selfish attitude and to instead reflect deeply upon such a foolish way of living. And by listening to the Dharma repeatedly, may our greed, anger, wrath, jealousy and envy all transform into the mind of knowing enough, rejoicing and seeing things as they are. And at the same time, the feeling of humility and gratitude naturally grows in our hearts to gently embrace and soften our quills of selfishness. This mind and heart of gratitude is indeed the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu."

Even though my daughter suffers from lots of stress during her challenging junior year, she still tries to do her best every day. I am really proud of her. As her father, I will acknowledge and accept her efforts unconditionally and constantly strive to support her under the guidance of the Nembutsu in any way I can without showing my quills of ego.

In Gassho,

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」二〇二五年三月法話

ー自我というトゲー

駐在開教使 向嶋裕史

現在、私の娘は高校三年生（ジュニア）なのですが、学校の授業をはじめ宿題や大学進学の準備などに追われ毎日ストレスを抱えて生活しています。ジュニアは特に大変な年だとは聞いていましたが想像以上です。最近親の私達が娘のストレスのはけ口となっているので、毎日腫れ物にさわる思いで娘と接しています。ときには親としてアドバイスをすることもあるのですが、それがかえって娘を不機嫌にさせてしまい、口喧嘩をしてしまうことがあります。なんとも難しい年ごろですが、私自身もそういう時代があったかと思うと親の苦労を改めて痛感します。親として忍耐強く見守ることの大切さを学んでいるところです。

さて、私達人間は、子供がいない時は子供がいないことで悩みますが、一方、子供を持てば子を持つが故に生じる数多くの問題に直面し悩み苦しみます。

この事について、お釈迦さまは『仏説無量寿経』の中で、「田畑や家が無ければ、それらを求めて苦しみ、有れば、管理や維持のためにまた苦しむ。その他のものにしても、みな同じである。地位、名誉、財産、家族、これらがなければないことを苦しみ、有れば有ることで苦しむ」とおっしゃっておられます。

これは「有無同然」という教えであり、あればあったで、なければなかったで、いずれも同じように悩みが生じるということです。どっちの悩みを持った方がまだ恵まれているという問題ではなく、いづれの道を生きても人間の悩みや苦しみは尽きることがないということです。

私達を取りまく生活環境は昔に比べて大きく様変わりしましたが、人間の心は昔から何ら変わることなく苦しみ続けています。では、なぜ悩み苦しむのでしょうか。

親鸞聖人が著された『一念多念文意』というお書物の中に、「凡夫というは、無明煩悩われらが身にみちみちて、欲も多く、怒り、腹立ち、そねみ、妬む心多く、暇なくして臨終の一念にいたるまでとどまらず、消えず、絶えず…」と記されています。

煩悩とは、人の心を惑わせたり、悩ませ苦しめたりする心のはたらきです。そして人間の苦しみを作り出す煩悩の原因は自我にあります。自我に対する執着からさまざまな煩悩が起り、それが心を乱し、安定を失わせ、苦しませているのです。

「ヤマアラシのジレンマ」というお話があります。ある冬の朝、寒さに凍えたヤマアラシの夫婦がお互いを暖め合おうと近づきますが、近づけば近づくほど自分達のトゲで互いを傷つけてしまいます。その痛さに耐えられず、互いの距離は開いてしまいますが、冬の寒さには勝てず、再び恐る恐る近づきます。この様に、近づいたり離れたりを何度も繰り返していくうちに、適度に暖かく、しかもあまり互いに傷つけないですむ、ちょうどよい距離を見つけ出したというお話です。

この話は私達人間の対人関係をうまく表しています。どんなに親しい間柄でも近づきすぎるといやなことがあります。それは、夫婦関係であったり、親子関係、友人関係、職場の人間関係といったもので、互いが親しくなり、近づき合えば合うほど利害関係も密接になって、私達の自我、即ち「ヤマアラシのトゲ」が相手を傷つけ、憎しみ合う感情になってきます。

親になってから早十六年目を迎えましたが、この「ヤマアラシのジレンマ」の話が痛いほど心に響いてきます。親になったばかりの頃は、幼かった娘が何をしても受け入れていました。娘を傷つけず、娘の気持ちを理解し、つねに優しい言葉を掛けて育ててきました。しかし、娘に自我が芽生え彼女のトゲを見るようになってから、親である私までも自我を優先してしまい、これまで保っていたほどよい距離が中々測れなくなり、時には離れすぎて意思の疎通が図れなくなったり、その反対に近づきすぎて互いを傷つけてしまっています。

今改めて、この興味深い話を通して我が身を振り返って見ますと、最近娘と言い争う場面が増えたのは、相手のトゲばかりを気にしていた私が、実は自分の方がもっと鋭いトゲ（自我）を持っているということを忘れていたことに気づかされます。親のアドバイスと言いながら、私の勝手な思いを押し付けていただけでした。子に対する欲が多く、それが思い通りにならないと怒り、腹立っている私が娘に対して自我という鋭いトゲを向けていたのです。全ては自分中心に物事を考えていた私の責任だったと反省せざるをえません。

念仏者は、阿弥陀仏の智慧の光明に照らされて、つねに自己中心的で傲慢であった我が身を恥じ、その愚かな生き方を反省することの大切さに気付かされます。そして聴聞を繰り返す中で、欲の心、怒り、腹立ちの心が、足る心、慶ぶ心、謙虚な心、物事を正しく見る心へと転ぜられていきます。更に転ぜられた心には感謝の気持ちが自ずと芽生え、その心が私達の自我というトゲを優しく包み込み和らげて下さいます。この感謝の心こそが「南無阿弥陀仏」のお念仏なのです。

たくさん苦悩を抱えながらも、ジュニアという大変な年を毎日全力で駆け抜けている娘を誇りに思います。親として娘のストレスを無条件で受け止め、自我のトゲを娘に向けないようお念仏の導きのもと精一杯支えていく所存です。

MVBT President's Message - Onaijin Flowers — cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

Since Julie is anticipating some conflicts between the Temple and her personal schedule, we have gathered a few folks to train to be able to provide floral arrangements in her absence. We have several training sessions scheduled and if anyone is interested in joining our group, please let me know at juliesatakeryu@mvbuddhisttemple.org

Here are photos from our first training session.

In deepest gratitude for all the efforts of our Sangha,

Julie Satake Ryu
2025 President, Board of Directors

Dharma School News

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BCA Eitaikyo Service

On Sunday, March 2, the BCA Eitaikyo Service will be live-streamed in the MVBT Hondo. Some Dharma School classes may not be meeting, so please check with your Dharma School teachers if your students' class(es) will not be in session that day.

Save The Date: Family Fun Night

This year's Family Fun Night will be on Saturday, April 5. Stay tuned for more information!

Young Buddhist International Study and Cultural Exchange Program (YBISCE)

Applications have just been released for this summer's YBISCE program that offers young Jodo Shinshu followers (16 - 18-year-old students) from North America, Hawai'i, Canada and South America a unique opportunity to experience Japanese culture while deepening their spiritual connections.

This summer's program will run from July 2 - 10 and includes visits to Kyoto, Hiroshima, Nara and Tokyo. Applications are due March 15.

February Birthday

Happy Birthday Riley!

From Left: Curt Fukuda, Riley and Rev. Mukojima

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Donations

Donations are gratefully acknowledged from:

- **BWA** from Dana Youth Fund
- **Ricky Chu** from Rayco Group Inc

In Gassho,
Brent Izutsu
Dharma School Superintendent

MVBT Dharma School

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA News

BWA Dana Youth Fund. We thank our Sangha for their generous donations to our BWA's Dana Youth Fund drive. During the service, the BWA presented gifts to Dharma School, YBA, Miroku, Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts.

BWA Dana Youth Fund Gift Presentation

BWA Memorial Service and Luncheon

Dharma & Adult Talk. On January 19, our special guest speaker, **Mrs. Janet Umezu** gave a wonderful Dharma School talk and adult talk about Eshinni-ko, Kakushinni-ko, Lady Takeko Kujo and Lady Yoshiko Ohtani. She spoke about these four inspiring women's contributions to our Jodo Shinshu faith and founding of the Buddhist Women's Association (BWA). This is why we honor them each year at this special BWA Memorial Service, along with all our BWA members who have passed.

Luncheon After Service. Following the service, the BWA members and guests enjoyed a three-course luncheon with Mrs. Janet Umezu at Ristorante Don Giovanni.

Guest Speaker, Mrs. Janet Umezu

BWA members at Ristorante Don Giovanni with Mrs. Janet Umezu and Rev Mukojima

Dharma School helpers holding pictures of Eshinni-ko, Kakushinni-ko, Lady Takeko Kujo and Lady Yoshiko Ohtani

BWA Udon Fundraiser

On February 2, the BWA members and friends worked hard to put together 300 udon orders. A special thank you to the husbands, too. Thank you to our Sangha for your support for a successful Udon Fundraiser.

ABOVE BWA Udon Fundraiser

(Continued on page 8)

Spring Ohigan Service, Seminar & Lunch on Sunday March 16
Guest Speaker Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji will be the Guest Speaker at the Spring Ohigan Service and Seminar on Sunday, March 16. He will give two Dharma Talks, one to the Dharma School students and another to the adults. Following the Dharma Talks, Rev. Miyaji will lead a Seminar.

Biography

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji has been serving as the Dean of the Institute of Buddhist Studies located in Berkeley, California, since August 2024. He is also the minister at the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church in Union City. He has been at SACBC since August 1, 2020.

He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a Bachelor's Degree with a double major in Philosophy and Japanese language and literature; Institute of Buddhist Studies at Berkeley, California, with a Master's in Buddhist Studies; Ryukoku University in Kyoto, Japan, with a Master's Degree in Shin Buddhist Studies; and completed the doctoral coursework at Ryukoku University.

Seminar and Lunch

Following the service and refreshments at about 12:30 pm, please join us to discuss the ***Language of the Pure Land***, a special seminar given by Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji.

The lunch and seminar will follow the usual refreshments following the Spring Ohigan Service. The lunch and seminar will be held in the YBA Hall Board Room.

Look for more information and signups in Putra's Post!

If you have any questions about the Semimar or Lunch, please contact Julie Satake Ryu at

juliesatakeryu@mvbuddhisttemple.org

Please join Rev. Miyaji at the Spring Ohigan Service and Seminar.

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA News - Cont'd

(Continued from page 7)

BWA Thank You Potluck

On February 15, the BWA held a potluck to thank our outgoing **BWA President, Reiko Murakami**, who served as BWA President from 2013 through 2024. We thank Reiko for her leadership, mentorship and guidance and for keeping our BWA thriving. The 2025 BWA Cabinet will work diligently to keep the BWA strong and we are grateful to Reiko, who will continue to guide us as our BWA Advisor.

In Gassho,
Shirley Matsumoto
2025 BWA President

Photo taken at Potluck Lunch
to honor Reiko Murakami

From Left: Ray Murakami, Reiko,
Kari Murakami & Rev. Mukojima

Volume 64 Number 3

2025 Mountain View Buddhist Temple Cabinet Installations at January 19 Sunday Service

Temple, BWA and ABA

Congratulations to the 2025 cabinets for the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, the Buddhist Women's Association (BWA) and the Adult Buddhist Association (ABA). The cabinets were installed during the Sunday Service on January 19. The Temple cabinet is below. The BWA and ABA cabinets are below and Page 10, respectively.

2025 TEMPLE CABINET

President	**Julie Satake Ryu**
President-Elect	**Craig Hamasaki**
1st Vice President	**Craig Hamasaki**
2nd Vice President	**John Arima**
Treasurer	**John Arao**
Assistant Treasurer	**Sterling Makishima**
Recording Secretary	**Rotating Zone Rep.**
Corresponding Secretary	**Debbie Ho**
Auditor:	**Kevin Arakaki**
Membership	**Jean Shimoguchi**
Historian	**Eric Arakaki**
Echo Editor	**Steve Tsuchida**
Immediate Past President	**Jean Shimoguchi**

From Left: Eric, Rev. Devon, Steve, Sterling, Sensei John, Julie, Debbie, Jean, Rev. Mukojima & Craig

2025 BWA CABINET

President	**Shirley Matsumoto**
Vice President	**Lorrie Kitasoe**
Recording Secretary	**Phyllis Chan**
Corresponding Secretary	**Teri Hirota**
Treasurer	**Joan Aoki**
Membership	**Sandy Furuichi**
Religious Chair.	**Lois Okino**
Historian	**Amy Arakaki**
Official Delegates	**Joan Aoki**
	Diane Durst

From Left: Rev. Devon, Sandy, Joan, Diane, Phyllis, Shirley, Lois, Lorrie, Teri, Amy & Rev. Mukojima

2025 ABA CABINET

President	**Ken Nakano**
Vice President	**Russ Nakano**
Treasurer	**Sterling Makishima**
Auditor	**Steve Tsuchida**
Recording Secretary	**Lois Okino**
Asst Recording Secretary	**Shirley Matsumoto**
Corresponding Secretary	**Joyce Okumura-Lee**
Asst Corresponding Secretary	**Marilyn Ozawa**
Co-Social Chairperson	**Alice Ishida**
Co-Social Chairperson	**Judy Nakano**
Historian	**Will Dea**
Asst Historian	**Lois Okino**
Membership Chairperson	**Reiko Tsuchida**
Asst Membership Chairperson	**Mieko Nakano**
Hospitality Chairperson	**Joanne Makishima**
Advisor	**Jean Shimoguchi**
Ministerial Advisor	**Rev. Yushi Mukojima**

Front Row from Left: Alice & Marilyn

Middle Row from Left: Joanne, Shirley, Lois, Mieko, Ken, Will, Jean & Reiko

Back Row from Left: Rev. Devon, Steve, Sterling, Will, Joyce & Rev. Mukojima

VISIONING the Future of MVBT
Funding for Campus Improvements

As previously discussed and presented at Sangha Day Picnic and at the Annual Meeting, the Mountain View Buddhist Temple is planning on campus improvements. Any campus of our size requires updates and improvements to service our existing needs as well as planning for future needs.

How will these improvements be funded? How much will it cost? How long will it take? These are all good questions that we are working to develop answers to. We have already done a significant amount of work to begin to understand the answers.

You may wonder what the land lease funds that we have received from the Prometheus Development/Hiro Apartments are targeted for, especially since our original 2024 Budget projected a significant deficit. Fortunately, due to the work of the Close the Gap Committee, Membership Committee, Building Activities Committee, Maintenance Committee, support of Affiliated Organizations and the generosity of our Sangha, we did NOT post a deficit in 2024. This did require that the Board look at many ways to increase our revenue, not only for 2024 but into the future.

It will require a large amount of capital to continue to improve and maintain our campus. MVBT is fortunate to have a stream of income from the lease and it is important to be good shepherds and plan to use these funds wisely.

The land lease funds are carefully invested to maximize a growing reserve for long-term projects that ensure the vitality and legacy of MVBT. The Board works diligently on financials and budgets to ensure operational efficiencies of the Sangha. The Temple needs to ensure that current and future generations have a financial roadmap to pursue programs that are in support of our Sangha.

We appreciate your patience as we continue to update plans for the facilities. If you have questions or comments, please email

vision@mvbuddhisttemple.org

With Gassho,
MVBT VISION Committee

Seniors Activities & Crafts Program News

MVBT Seniors Activities and Crafts

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, March 19: We have a Casino trip planned. We had good reviews going to Sky River in Elk Grove, therefore we will do that trip again. We are taking sign-ups, so please contact any of our committee members.

The price is $45 per person. We will leave the Temple at 7:00 am, so please be on the Temple grounds by 6:45am to sign in and receive your snack bag.

Thursday, April 17: We have BINGO planned for you and lunch to be provided prior to the BINGO game. Join us to win BINGO prizes and have lunch with your friends. Lunch is served at 11:30 am and BINGO starts at 12:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to join in on the fun.

Thursday, May17: Join us for a day at the movie. **Scott Hirotsu**, one of the committee members, has volunteered to pick a great movie for your enjoyment. Lunch will be served at 11:30 am and the movie starts at 12:30 pm. Please join in and enjoy the movie.

SENIOR COOKBOOKS

The Senior Cookbook is still available. It can be purchased at the Temple office or through a committee member. The price is $10. It makes a wonderful gift.

SENIOR CRAFT and ALL ACTIVITIES

The Senior Craft and all Activities starts at 9:00 am and ends at 12 noon.

DURING SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Light refreshments are provided, that includes coffee and tea. Everyone is welcome.

In Gassho,
Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto

Support Your Temple

Donate to Past & Upcoming Services

Nirvana Day Service / Pet Memorial / Spring Ohigan

Hanamatsuri / Gotan-e

(1) Use the MVBT online "DONATE" or (2) Send a check to the Temple office

Upcoming Religious Services

April 6, 2025, Sunday
Shotsuki Hoyo

April 13, 2025, Sunday
Hanamatsuri & Hatsumairi

April 26, 2025, Saturday
Federated Dharma School Teachers League Conference

April 27, 2025, Sunday
FDSTL Conference Sunday Service

May 4, 2025, Sunday
Shotsuki Hoyo

May 11, 2025, Sunday
Gotan-e & Mother's Day Service

May 25, 2025, Sunday
Alta Mesa Memorial Day Service

May 26, 2025, Monday
Oak Hill Memorial Day Service

Adult Buddhist Association (ABA) News

Mountain View Buddhist Temple ABA

2024 New Year's Dinner

January 25 was our **New Year's Dinner** at the China Stix Restaurant in Santa Clara that was attended by 55 ABA members. The Year of the Snake was brought in by enjoying an evening of delicious food, 2024 ABA activity slideshow, ice breaker games and a lot of mingling and conversation!

This relaxing evening was made possible by **Teri Hirota** and **Kathy Fujii**, who co-chaired this successful and fun event. Thanks to **Lois Okino**, who created the slideshow, and **Russ Nakano**, the Master of Ceremonies, who shared some of his hilarious jokes.

Join ABA

If you are interested in joining ABA or have any questions, please contact **Reiko Tsuchida** (Membership Chairperson), **Mieko Nakano** (Assistant Membership Chairperson) or any ABA member

Next Meeting

The next ABA is Friday, March 14, at 7:30 pm (Hybrid).

In Gassho,
Ken Nakano

MVBT's Annual Chicken Teriyaki Fundraiser - Sunday, May 4

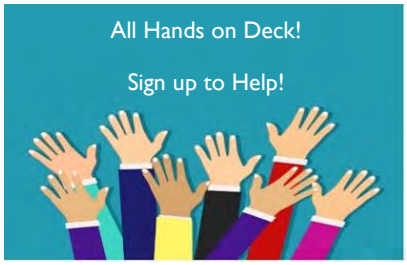
Putra's Post and Echo

Details will be available soon. Look in future Putra's Posts and in upcoming Echos.

Volunteers Needed

Also, be on the lookout for the volunteer sign-up sheet ! All Hands needed. There are various jobs to make the fundraiser happen and be successful/

Thank you!
Zone 9 & 12



Putra says
"Join us for a Chicken Teriyaki Dinner"
on Sunday, May 4

YBA Spaghetti Dinner & BINGO Fundraiser

Hello everyone!

I am **Emi Hirabayashi**, the chair of the YBA Spaghetti Dinner this year. The Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 1, from 5 pm - 8 pm. We will also have BINGO and a 50/50 Raffle.

Order Forms

Please find the link to the order form in Putra's Post. Paper forms are also be in the back of the Hondo.

The deadline to submit your order is **Sunday, February 23.**

Please come out and support our YBA at this year's Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser!

In Gassho,
Emi Hirabayashi
YBA Spaghetti Dinner Chair

Miroku News

Service Project

We selected Alma Bonita Animal Rescue (ABAR) in Morgan Hill as the organization that we will support as part of our service project. On February 8, we visited ABAR to meet the people that run the Rescue and learn more about how our fundraising can support them. It was so educational and fun to meet the animals at the farm, learn about the animal's stories, and how ABAR helps the animals so they have a happy and healthy life. We plan to do a short presentation to the Sangha in April to share what we learned about the animals and what we can do to support them.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, March 2, at noon in the YBA Hall Conference Room.

In Gassho,
Cami Nguyen
6th Grade Miroku Member

MIROKU

middle school group

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736

Monthly Check of First Aid Boxes

Our Cadette/Brownie girls did their monthly check on the Temple's First Aid boxes, replenishing any needed supplies.

Girl Scout Cookie Sales

Girl Scout Cookie season is here! Thank you for making our booth sale on February 16 a success. We will be holding one more booth sale on Sunday, March 16, before and after service. If you can't wait that long, please contact any Girl Scout or Girl Scout Leader!

Girl Scout Sunday on March 9

Our Scouts are also preparing for Girl Scout Sunday, which will coincide with the March Shotsuki Hoyo Service, on Sunday, March 9.

In Gassho,
Girl Scout Troop #60736

Hatsumairi Child Presentation - In-Person
Sunday, April 13, 2025

ATTENTION PARENTS

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple would like to invite you and your child(ren) to the annual **Hatsumairi Service** ("First Visit Ceremony") to be held during the **Hanamatsuri Service** on Sunday, April 13, 2024, at 10:00 am.

During the ceremony, parents present their child(ren) before Amida Buddha and the MVBT Sangha and welcome him/her to the Dharma. The child is presented in front of the Onaijin (or altar), which symbolizes the truth that is embodied within the human experience.

Children of all ages are welcome to participate in the Hatsumairi ceremony.

Please fill out the application below and mail it to the Temple or email it to Rev. Mukojima by Sunday, April 6, 2025.

Rev. Yushi Mukojima
Resident Minister
ymukojima@gmail.com

The ceremony includes a pledge by all parents to raise their child according to the Buddhist Teachings, as the first step in establishing a world of stability and peace of mind for their infant. It is a time to share (with your child) the true hopes and aspirations manifested in your hearts and minds.

Child's Last Name _____

Child's First and Middle Name(s) _____

Child's Gender ___ **Boy** ___ **Girl**

Child's Birth Date _____

Mother's Name _____

Father's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** ___ **ZIP** _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please return this form by Sunday, April 6, 2024, to the Mountain View Buddhist Temple office or email the information to Rev. Mukojima (ymukojima@gmail.com).

Register for Hatsumairi by Sunday, April 6, 2025

MVBT Membership Committee News

Mountain View Buddhist Temple
2025 Membership Drive

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

First and foremost, thank you to every member for your support of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple.

We invite everyone to join or renew their membership in the Temple. As a member of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple community, you will share in the teachings of the Buddha and learn to live a life of Nembutsu, peace, compassion, and gratitude. Your membership is a means of expressing gratitude for the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha and allows us to keep our Temple operating as a leading religious, social and community space.

HOW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE USED

Mountain View Buddhist Temple member dues support the maintenance of the Temple, our minister, office staff, facilities, organizations, and all the wonderful programs that benefit the MVBT Sangha

Watch your email and mailbox for membership information and your 2024 Donation Summary.

We have continued at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple to invest in our Sangha Community by supporting all of those that participate in continuing to keep our Temple thriving.

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Provide in-person, remote and hybrid Sunday Dharma Services, Workshops and Seminars.
- Continue our tradition of both Community and Fundraising events such as:
  - ◊ Chicken Teriyaki Box Lunch
  - ◊ Obon & Bazaar Festival
  - ◊ Sangha Day Picnic
  - ◊ Keiro Kai Luncheon to honor our elders
  - ◊ Mochitsuki (did you catch us on the news?)
  - ◊ And many more
- Improve and expand our audio and video equipment to be able to stream services, activities and meetings and improve outdoor audio for Obon
- The Board has worked hard to ensure that we are being fiscally responsible and looking at all areas of potential revenue to make sure the Temple is in solid financial health
- Maintain and improve our existing facilities for the enjoyment of our Sangha Activities
- The VISION Committee, Strategic Financial Planning Committee and Facilities Planning Committee to continue to work planning the future of the Temple with your input.
- Our many programs have something special to offer our Sangha Community
  - ◊ Music programs - taiko and ukulele
  - ◊ Sports programs - youth basketball/volleyball, adult basketball/ pickleball
  - ◊ Sangha Support – seniors, caregivers, events, website and more
  - ◊ Book Club with the Engaged Sangha
  - ◊ There is so much more

YOUR MVBT COMMUNITY

Membership at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple is not just about saying you belong to a community. It's about investing in the place you love, a community that feels like home both physically and spiritually. As a member of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, you are a part of a supportive family, connected group of friends, and vibrant Buddhist community.

If you have questions, please email us at membership@mvbuddhisttemple.org

In Gassho,
MVBT Membership Committee
Bob, Steve, Jean & Leslie

March

Monthly

Memorial

Service

* * * * *

Shotsuki Hoyo for March to be held on Sunday, March 9

* * * * *

See MVBT website or Putra's Post for details of the Service

March 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 **March** Shotsuki loved ones are:

Theodore Abe	**Shinobu Maruyama**	**Fumio Okayama**
Robert Arima	**Helen Matsumoto**	**Kinuko Sasaki**
Mine Chikasuye	**Shizuko Matsumoto**	**Rev. Sensho Sasaki**
Alice Asaka Fujii	**Tom Matsumoto**	**Rev. LaVerne Senyo Sasaki**
Satoru Fujikawa	**Mary Mayeda**	**Frank Sato**
Kazuo Furusho	**Akira Morishima**	**Kanesuke Sato**
Harriet Hamamoto	**Cynthia Muranaka**	**Hideko Dolly Sawamura**
Yutaka Hamamoto	**Haruko Muranaka**	**Brett Sugimoto**
Sekitaro Hananouchi	**Roy Nagatani**	**Tora Tamaji**
Helen Hamasaki	**Linda Nakagawa**	**Patricia Yukie Togashi**
Milton Tetsuya Hamasaki	**Haruyo Nakano**	**Thomas Takegami**
Masao Hayashi	**Harry Nakano**	**Eddy Gijo Tsumura**
Itsuyo Hori	**Kenichi Nakano**	**Shimoye Yamaji**
Ronald Hoshiko	**Rokuro Nakano**	**Yoshikichi Yamaji**
Audrey Akie Inouye	**Hidemi Nakashima**	**Kazuo Yanase**
Koriyu Kariya	**Komao Nara**	**Torao Yokoyama**
Florence Hisano Kato	**Robert Nishimura**	**Kiriye Yoshida**
Ruth Kawaguchi	**Shizuko Nishimura**	
Miya Kawamoto	**George Tetsuo Noguchi**	
Hakobu Koyano	**Shigeru Okamoto**	

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 **reverend@mvbuddhisttemple.org**

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.

2025 is the Memorial Year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2024	3rd Year Memorial	2023	7th Year Memorial	2019
13th Year Memorial	2013	17th Year Memorial	2009	25th Year Memorial	2001
27th Year Memorial	1999	33rd Year Memorial	1993	50th Year Memorial	1976

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April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30p-8:30p MVBT Ukulele Club 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**2** 6p-9p Boy Scouts	**3** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 7:30p-9:30p Thursday Night Basketball 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**4** 6p-8p MVBT Pickle Ball	**5** 4p-8p Dharma School Family Fun Night
6 10a-12p Shotsuki Hoyo Service & Dharma School 11:30a-12:30p YBA Lunch 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class 12p-1p Miroku Monthly Meeting 12:30p-2p YBA Meeting 2p-4p Jun Daiko	**7** 7p-8:30p Buddhist Discussion Group	**8** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30p-8:30p MVBT Ukulele Club 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**9** 7p-9p Boy Scouts 7:30p-9:30p MVBT Board Meeting	**10** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 7:30p-9:30p Thursday Night Basketball 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**11** 6p-10p ABA General Meeting 6p-8p MVBT Pickle Ball	**12** 9a-12p BWA Meeting
13 10a-12p Hanamatsuri Service, Hatsumairi Service & Dharma School 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class 2p-5p CD YBA Meeting 2p-4p Jun Daiko	**14** 1p-3p Senior Activities Committee Meeting	**15** Tax Day (Taxes Due) 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30p-8:30p MVBT Ukulele Club 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**16** 7p-9p Boy Scouts	**17** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 7:30p-9:30p Thursday Night Basketball 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**18** Good Friday 6p-8p MVBT Pickle Ball	**19** 10a-2p ABA Cemetary Clean Up & Luncheon
20 Easter 10a-12p Sunday Service & Dharma School 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class 2p-4p Jun Daiko	**21**	**22** Earth Day 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30p-8:30p MVBT Ukulele Club 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**23** 7p-9p Boy Scouts	**24** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 7:30p-9:30p Thursday Night Basketball 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**25** Arbor Day 6p-8p MVBT Pickle Ball	**26** FDSTL Conference
27 10a-12p FDSTL Confeence Sunday Service 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class 2p-4p Jun Daiko	**28** 7:30p-8:30p RPC Meeting	**29** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30p-8:30p MVBT Ukulele Club 8p-10p Jun Daiko	**30** 7p-9p Boy Scouts			

Upcoming Events

April 6, 2025, Sunday
Shotsuki Hoyo

April 13, 2025, Sunday
Hanamatsuri & Hatsumairi

April 26, 2025, Saturday
Federated Dharma School Teachers League Conference

April 27, 2025, Sunday
FDSTL Conference Sunday Service

Support Your Temple

Donate to Past & Upcoming Services

Nirvana Day / Pet Memorial / Spring Ohigan / Hanamatsuri / Gotan-e

Your donations go to the General Fund supporting day-to-day operations.

These donations make up one-third of the Fund Income.

(1) Use the MVBT online "DONATE" or
(2) Send a check to the Temple office

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Mountain View Buddhist Temple

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www.mvbuddhisttemple.org

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