



ONENESS

Buddhist Church of Florin



July 2021

Volume 7

In 2019, I had the opportunity to participate in the 150th anniversary of the creation of the Wakamatsu colony, the first settlement of Japanese people in America, about 45 miles from Sacramento. Although the knowledge of this historic site is increasing, many people (myself included) were not aware of the existence of this group of people until recently. This year, we are honoring the 150th anniversary of the death of Okei-san, a young woman who was part of the colony who passed away at the age of 19 in 1871 and who's gravesite has become a place of pilgrimage for Japanese Americans.

I learned a great deal about the Wakamatsu colony from a three-part article in the *Rafu Shimpo* written by Junko Yoshida as well as an article by Alan Ehrgott, who works for the American River Conservancy. They had done an incredible amount of research and they both are a fascinating read that I recommend anyone interested to look up. If I understand correctly, the Japanese pioneers came to America as a result of the drastic international changes happening in Japan known as the Meiji Restoration. There was a conflict between the Tokugawa shogunate, who favored isolation, and a group who sought to restore authority to the emperor, who favored modernization. Matsudaira Katamori, the daimyo in charge of the Aizu Wakamatsu province, participated in international affairs even though he was part of the isolationist faction. One of his connections was to John Henry Schnell, a member of the Prussian embassy who sold European weapons to Matsudaira and also trained his samurai in the use of firearms. As a sign of respect for his contributions and to strengthen his bond to Japan, Schnell was given a Japanese name and was allowed to marry a Japanese woman.

Eventually, the conflict between the two groups resulted in civil war with the Imperial forces victorious and Matsudaira surrendering in the Battle of Aizu. This put Schnell's life in danger and, with the help of Matsudaira, he traveled to America with other colonists from Wakamatsu along with his wife, their daughter, and a 17-year-old nanny named Okei Ito. After arriving, Schnell purchased a ranch with hopes of cultivating silk and tea. Although initially promising, the colony faced ruin with intrusion of the prospectors during the California Gold Rush whose methods polluted the water necessary for crops. On top of that, there was a severe drought which wiped out their farms. The colony disbanded with some returning to Japan, some dispersing through America, and some staying in the area.

Okei-san was one of the few who stayed after a nearby family named Veerkamp purchased the colony and hired some of the pioneers to work for them. The Veerkamps were themselves immigrants from Germany and Okei-san became a nanny to their six sons. It's said that since they only had sons, they treated Okei-san as their own daughter. Unfortunately, she contracted a terrible fever in the summer of 1871 and passed away three days later. Legend tells that she used to stand on a hilltop to gaze in the direction of her homeland in Aizu Wakamatsu. That is now where her gravesite is located. Today, there is a replica of the marble headstone that was placed several years after she passed by Matsunosuke Sakura, a former samurai who stayed to work on the Veerkamp land. The cost must have been tremendous, but he decided she deserved the honor.

As Okei-san is the first Japanese person to be buried in America, she has become a symbol for future Japanese descendants of the sacrifice immigrants face when searching for a better life in America. I think her life and the Wakamatsu colony have important lessons for us, even 150 years afterwards. We are living today in a time with so much anger, hate, and ignorance of the people around us. Conflicts arise between countries because of international politics, and they arise between people because of the fear that has been stoked by the language used to attack and blame others. The Wakamatsu colony exists because of Japan opening up to the rest of the world. The world today is more international than it ever has been, and we must begin to see ourselves all as global citizens. When the colony fell, it was immigrants that purchased the land and tried to help those who stayed. All of us have our struggles and we should try to help out our fellow travelers when we can, recognizing that there are more similarities between us than differences. Okei-san's untimely passing came during her attempt to be happier, and I believe that the best way we can honor her is to appreciate that we all still have that same wish and to support each other how we can.

Gassho,
Rev. Matthew Hamasaki

Congratulations Mrs. Kawanishi! We celebrate you!



**Happy 100th birthday
Mary Kawanishi!**

Buddhism in Everyday Life

Obon, a Buddhist memorial day, is an occasion for rejoicing in the enlightenment assured by the Buddha. It is often referred to as a “Gathering of Joy”. Obon dancing expresses joy and gratitude for the Dharma.

Bonye no Uta
(Song of Obon)

Lanterns aglow from house to house,
lighting the path of Dharma.
Those who live and those now gone all come together,
this Festival Day.

Time that flows shall not return.
But deep within the ancient moss (of the cemetery),
hearts beckon each other every year; and loved ones meet,
this Festival Day.

Namu Amida Butsu

(Gatha-Sacramento Betsuin Service Book)



July Monthly Memorial (Shotsuki Hoyo) Service

The monthly memorial service for those who passed away during the month of July will be held **Sunday, July 4, 2021 beginning at 10:30 am, via Zoom**. The persons who are noted in the Buddhist Church of Florin's (BCF) memorial records as having passed away in the month of July are listed below.

If the year 2021 is a special service year (see table) for a dearly departed relative, please contact Reverend Matt Hamasaki, Buddhist Church of Sacramento at 916-926-2221 to make special memorial arrangements. Please inform Lois Kashiwase of any corrections or additions to the list.

Abe, James	07-02-2013	Otani, Chieko Loretta	07-25-2020
Abe, Masatoshi	07-14-1991	Otani, Masuno	07-21-1980
Abe, Shotaro	07-30-1923	Otani, Morizo	07-04-1967
Baishiki, Stanley Ray	07-24-1986	Oyama, Shigeo	07-03-1989
Fukumoto, Jean Sakayo	07-01-1987	Sadoyama, Matsu	07-15-1991
Furukawa, Fumiko	07-10-1916	Saigo, Fumiko	07-31-2000
Furukawa, Shigeo	07-06-1952	Sentani, Baby	07-06-1911
Hamakawa, Edward	07-24-2004	Shiizaki, Toshie	07-09-1926
Imahara, Mika	07-16-1940	Shiizaki, Toshie	07-09-1926
Kadokawa, Hideo	07-10-2012	Shimosaka, Yoshiaki	07-01-1936
Kanemoto, Tahei	07-23-1942	Shintaku, John	07-06-1963
Kato, Toshie	07-06-1958	Sonoda, Masaru	07-05-1950
Kawaji, Shunjiro	07-02-1941	Sugimoto, Chuichi	07-21-1981
Kawamoto, Chieko	07-13-1906	Sumida, Masato	07-11-1924
Kawamura, Takeo	07-17-1913	Takahashi, George Mitsuo	07-30-2001
Kawanishi, Yachiyo	07-20-1981	Takahashi, Sakae	07-29-1936
Kishaba, Masahiro	07-22-1947	Takeoka, Jane Hidemi	07-01-1950
Kishaba, Yasuhiro Mack	07-12-2000	Tamura,	07-08-1913
Kohagura, Shizu	07-23-1923	Tanaka, Barry Miles	07-19-2003
Kurima, Baby	07-20-1941	Tanaka, Tomokichi	07-20-1970
Kuroda, Hideo	07-22-2002	Taniguchi, Jack Daihachi	07-14-1967
Maeda, Rinzo	07-18-1936	Taniguchi, Jim Susumu	07-26-2004
Matsumoto, Takara	07-23-1940	Tsuda, Mitsuyo	07-27-1936
Miyano, Kiyono	07-20-1998	Tsukamoto, Mary	07-16-2006
Mukai, Mitsuye	07-07-2017	Usami, Genjiro	07-26-1952
Nagao, Chizuru	07-17-1952	Wakabayashi, Hideichi	07-06-1973
Nakagawa, Jim Shigeo	07-21-1987	Yamamoto, Asako	07-16-1978
Ohta, Komi	07-21-1992	Yamanaka, Tora	07-15-1975
Okasaki, Etsuko	07-05-2020	Yamashita, Bradley	07-07-1988
Onodera, Eiko	07-22-1991		

2021 Memorial Service Schedule

Please schedule a service if your loved ones passed away in the following years:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Service</u>
2020	1 st Year	1997	25 th Year
2019	3 rd Year	1989	33 rd Year
2015	7 th Year	1972	50 th Year
2009	13 th Year	1922	100 th Year
2005	17 th Year		

VIRTUAL SHOTSUKI SERVICE

Please share the zoom link with any relatives or friends who may be interested in watching. Hope to see everyone Sunday, July 4th.

Topic: **Shotsuki Service**

Date: July 4, 2021 at 10:30 am

Buddhist Church of Florin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83339406274>

Meeting ID: 833 3940 6274

One tap mobile

+14086380968,,83339406274# US (San Jose)

+16699006833,,83339406274# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 833 3940 6274

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83339406274>



JULY 18 (SUN.), 2021

10:30 A.M.

OBON-HATSUBON (ZOOM) SERVICE

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: REV. TAKASHI MIYAJI



Join this **special virtual service** to view and listen to **Rev. Dr. Miyaji's** (So. Alameda BC's minister & IBS assistant professor) **Obon message** and for the **Hatsubon Memorial Service** recognizing the members who have passed away since the last Obon.



OBON, OBON IS FESTIVAL TIME



**Obon photos
for
Obon Service slideshow**

Send (digital photos preferred) to Jan Takeuchi (jktakeuchi.bwa@gmail.com) who will forward to Mike Kusama who is working on a Florin Obon slideshow for the Obon Service. Jan can digitalize old photos if necessary.

VIRTUAL OBON/HATSUBON SERVICE

Please share the zoom link with any relatives or friends who may be interested in watching. Hope to see everyone Sunday, July 18^h.

Topic: **Obon/Hatsubon Virtual Service**

Date: July 18, 2021 at 10:30 am

Buddhist Church of Florin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83339406274>

Meeting ID: 833 3940 6274

One tap mobile

+14086380968,,83339406274# US (San Jose)

+16699006833,,83339406274# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

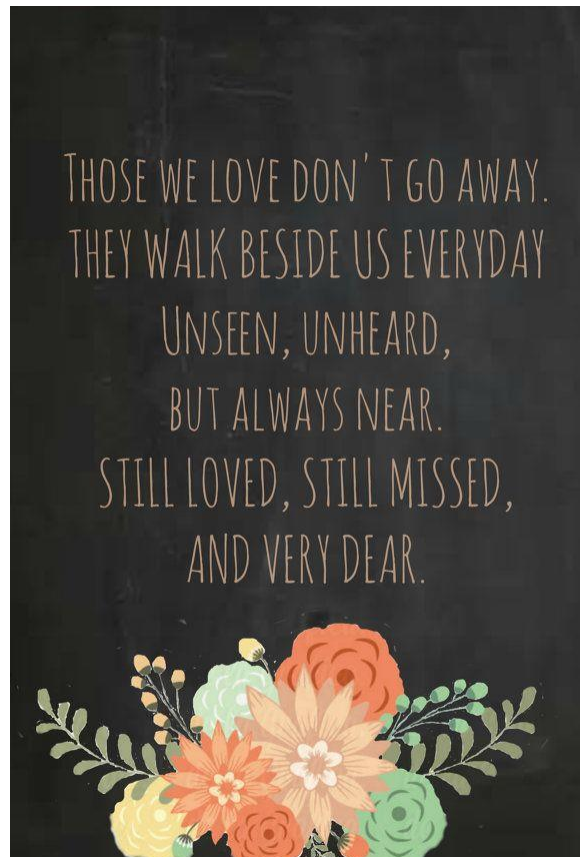
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 833 3940 6274

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kblgb0Gzww>



ONLINE PAYPAL DONATIONS

You can now make online donations/payments to the church by visiting our website at florinbuddhist.org and clicking on the "Donate" button near the bottom of the home page. This is convenient for you to make online donations/payments for such things as, osaisen, shotsuki, special services, membership and other services/events.

Contact Kathy Menda at (916) 392-1896 or (916) 761-9469 if you have questions.



Buddhist Church of Florin Governing Board Meeting Highlights

Meeting Date: June 10, 2021

Fundraisers: *Eric Fujii* reported the BCF Golf Tournament at Teal Bend on Thursday, June 3rd was a tremendous success! Huge thank you to donors, golfers and everyone that came out to support the BCF golf tournament!

Treasurer, Kathy Menda: Reported still have outstanding first quarterly reports for 2021 that were due April 30th.

Kendo, Dennis Martinez: The board approved for Sacramento Kendo Club to start holding practices outdoors starting June 18, 2021.

BWA, Peggy Okabayashi: The Sacramento Children's Home Crisis Nursery & Residential Program were the recipients of May Dana Projects. BWA donated \$500 in Home Depot gift cards to defray cost of supplies needed to repair the Old Temple stairs.

Jr. YBA, Ginny Syphax: Thank JYBA for keeping in touch with our Keiro members by delivering Keiro goodie bags during Memorial Day weekend. JYBA Awake-a-thon on July 9-10, 2021 and the beneficiary for this year's event will be BCF.

BEC: Sunday, July 4, 2021, Shotsuki Service, Rev Patti and chaired by JYBA.
Sunday, July 18, 2021, Hatsubon Obon Service, Rev Matt, guest speaker Rev Takashi Miyaji.

Facilities Maintenance Kenny Teranishi/Gary Okamoto: Parking lot repairs and seal coat have been completed. Special thank you to Gary Okamoto for opening up church grounds multiple days in the AM and closing late for Ace Asphalt. Thank you for Gary Okamoto, Lloyd Okimura and Kenny Okabayashi for repairing the gate keypad for emergency responders.

Audio/Visual Committee, Mike Kusama: Committee Members are Margie Sunahara, Walter Menda, Ginny Syphax, Peggy Okabayashi, Kelvin Kishaba, George Akiyama, and Lois Kashiwase.

Braden Mizusaka, submitted a video of his High School Senior Project for the board members to view. The BCF library was the beneficiary of his project. The purpose of the project was to help the church utilize the library with easier access by organizing and categorizing the library. He was able to put together a database that categorized all the books and labeled the bookshelves for easy access.

Next Meeting – Thursday, July 8, 2021, at 7:30 PM via Zoom



Thank you Sharon Okamoto for the pictures!





**Buddhist Church of Florin
Dharma School Scholarship
2020-2021**

Every year the Buddhist Church of Florin's Dharma School awards \$150.00 scholarships to graduating seniors from high school who meet or exceed the scholarship requirements. At this time, I would also like to acknowledge the help I received from Jennifer Kubo and Tyson Fong (who stepped in this year for George Akiyama) assisting me with this scholarship process. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Ginny Yamamoto Syphax
DS Scholarship Chairperson

This year, we have two scholarship recipients. Our first recipient is Braden Mizusaka. Brayden has been a Dharma School student since 2011. Brayden also played on Florin's basketball teams for 11 years. He is the son of Lenny & Leslie Mizusaka. Braden is a graduate of Inderkum High School in Sacramento, California.



Braden helped at church fundraisers, attended yearly church camping trips and for his senior project, he organized the church library. He has also volunteered in the community at North Natomas Regional Park where he helped with field maintenance.

Braden's hobbies are playing/watching baseball and basketball, playing videos with school and driving! In the Fall, Braden will begin his upper-level education at Sacramento City College. He is undecided on a major. But in the future, he would like to have a job helping athletes train.



Here is Braden's essay:

Buddhism has acted as the support system for the person I am now and who I want to be in the future. The two most significant teachings that I've always carried with me are the three poisons and to just start. These two teachings are daily reminders to me to keep myself in check and to stay motivated. Greed, anger, and selfishness are three aspects of my life that have hindered me, whether it's with friends, in school, or even in Baseball. I always felt like things had to go my way and that I needed attention in order to feel a sense of confirmation, and if I didn't, then I'd feel very upset with myself and others. This brought lots of toxicity to my life. But after this era of COVID, I went back to the teaching's that I once took for granted, and used it to better myself. I wanted to become a more patient and selfless person, and I wanted to be kinder to all living things. "Knowing that on what I do now depends not only my happiness or unhappiness, but also that of

others" is a perfect example of my pursuit of selflessness and avoiding the three poisons. This line has always given me a moment to reflect on my actions and what I've done for others. This helped me gain awareness of my actions, even though I just recently started to really focus on it.

I couldn't be more thankful for Dharma School. It was a humbling yet memorable experience that has allowed me to meet lifelong friends and understand concepts like the three poisons. Events like Undokai and Setsubun really brought the fun to church, where it was usually to sit and listen, here I was able to grow alongside other members my age and create lasting memories. If it wasn't for Dharma School, then I really don't know where

my mind would be and where I'd base my behavior off of. Dharma School allowed me to also become the disciplined person I am, where I'm constantly told that my maturity is beyond my age. Along with the Buddhist teachings assisting me in my daily life, Dharma School shaped me into the person I am. It was where I was able to comprehend the concepts discussed in service and apply it to my daily life. Another impact that Dharma School has had in my life is the connections that I was able to build along the way. Thanks to Dharma School, I was able to reach out to Mrs. Yuki to complete a senior project for school, where I was able to participate in a small part of the Church's restoration or clean-up. Dharma School has given me the ability to become the selfless person that I strive to become, and it will influence me as I grow older in this world. Dharma School will allow me to be a better son, a better student, a better husband, and a better father.

Both Dharma School and Buddhism have allowed me to see things from a different perspective in my life. It has humbled me, and allowed me to understand the appreciation of everything that's been given or earned. A moment in Service that I will never forget is when Reverend Koichi Mizushima guest spoke. He mentioned a line that I always use in order to motivate myself: "Just start". With this ingrained in my mind, I used it to motivate myself in workouts, assignments, and even in my volunteer project for the Church. It allowed me to become more productive and has even been a factor in my motivation to get a job. This quote was truly inspiring to me because of how it essentially tended to my habit of procrastination. Other Dharma School lessons from Reverend Tadao, such as the Eightfold Path, were ones that I initially took for granted. It was only until I fully understood it's purpose that it began to be similar to a set of rules for me to live by, along with "Just start" and the Three Poisons. Dharma School has molded me into becoming a well rounded, caring person. My only wish is for these teachings to allow myself to influence the next generation.

As a person who was born with a lot of pride, resiliency, and strength, I believe that Dharma School and Buddhism has helped act as stepping stones to help me live with my multiple personalities. Dharma School has brought me lifelong friends who I've grown up with, and it is almost surreal that this chapter of our lives is already coming to a close. I'm forever thankful for Dharma School even though I may have taken it for granted in the past, and the lessons from Buddhism that I've been taught are ones that will influence me forever. If I could turn back time, I'd utilize Buddhism more in my life to make others happier, to be less selfish, and to create bonds that could never be broken. However, Buddhism has given me a plan, and that plan was to grow with these teachings. These teachings over time have allowed me to gain a greater understanding for its purpose and why it applies to everyone's lives.

Congratulations Braden, Lenny and Leslie!



Our second recipient is Devon Akiyama. Devon has been a Dharma School student since 2011. Devon played on Florin's basketball team in his earlier years. He also has been an active member of Florin's Jr. YBA since 2016. He is the son of George & Merri Akiyama. Devon is a graduate of West Campus High School in Sacramento, California.

Devon has been regularly attending temple services, helped at church fundraisers, held several positions with Jr. YBA. Always eager to come, participate and help when asked...never complaining. Devon's boy scout eagle project was to renovate the outside of the outside kitchen. Devon said to me, this project is important to me. BCF, Dharma School and Jr. YBA have given so much to me, it's my turn to give back. Devon is also very active in his school/community. A very active member of the Key Club which is equivalent to the Kiwanis Organization which he was the Vice President. He was also Lieutenant Governor of the Sacramento area Key Club and Service Publicity

Team Member for California, Nevada and Hawaii Key Clubs. And that's not all! He founded the first Model United Nations at his school. With all of that, Devon still managed to serve as the Secretary of West Campus' National Honor Society and a long time member of the California Scholarship Federation.

Devon's hobbies include playing video games with friends, learning about history and going outdoors.

It was no surprise that Devon was accepted to every college he applied for. This Fall, Devon will begin his upper-level education at University of California at Berkeley where his studies will focus on economics and maybe a minor in history. In the future Devon hopes to pursue a career in management.

Other scholarships Dev has received (so far, he tells me) is from Florin JACL, Sacramento Pioneer Association, Sacramento City Teachers Association, East Sacramento Kiwanis Club, Florin Nakatani Scholarship, and this Florin Dharma School scholarship. Wow, great job Devon!



Here's Devon's essay:

I officially joined the Buddhist Church of Florin in 2011 and actively participated on the Florin Basketball team, Sunday services, and Dharma School weekly classes. I remember working on a variety of skills during Dharma School like developing my public speaking from chairing services. However, the skills that have stayed with me the most are the lessons of core Buddhist principles like the Eightfold Path, Impermanence, the Six Paramitas, and even Interconnectedness. I think that it is now in my senior year of High School, marked by quarantine and isolation, that I have relied most on Dharma School lessons in my daily life.

Firstly, school itself has always been my number one priority; and I see education as the foundation for a rewarding, productive future. The start of education, however, is not limited to the classroom setting or the virtual platform of distance learning. In fact, for me, it is the lessons from Dharma School, like the Eightfold Path that continue guiding me throughout school and in my pursuit of advanced learning. Practicing the Right View, Thought, and Mindfulness, for example, has given me the motivation to stay focused on my goals and put in the hard work. As a result, even with the demands of four Advanced Placement classes, I have maintained my grades and active school participation, earning a cumulative weighted GPA of 4.34.

A second way in which our Dharma School lessons have supported me is in overcoming the challenges of distance learning on a virtual platform and remaining fully engaged in my school clubs. Remembering the teachings of Impermanence, for instance, has encouraged me to see the temporary conditions of each situation and to aim for appreciating the opportunities that come from those events. One such opportunity resulted from my fascination with history and world relations. Motivated by this interest, I collaborated with friends and founded the first Model United Nations Club at my high school. As the president of a new club created in a COVID environment, I contacted school and student officials to secure an advisor and meeting time for the club. Once created, it was my duty to nurture the club with proper advertisement, biweekly meetings, group discussions, and team bonding events. Recognizing the impermanent nature of the online learning platform, I was actually able to appreciate its flexibility and develop other ways to maintain my club commitments and fully enjoy the activities. More than just at school, the Dharma School teachings are also supportive in my community service as well.

I enjoy engaging in off-campus extracurricular organizations and have continued my active participation during the shutdown. One of the highlights of these activities has been earning my Eagle Scout rank, the highest in Boy Scouts. In a strict COVID environment, I completed my Eagle Service Project to restore the Florin outdoor kitchen while adapting to new quarantine guidelines. The church has supported me and my family for several generations, and the Sangha has helped raise me on essential Buddhist principles. One of the most memorable of these is the Six Paramitas, more specifically, Dana or selfless giving. With that in mind, my Eagle Project was developed to express my gratitude and to help our church. Finishing under budget and ahead of schedule, the project helped to beautify a central part of the property and will support the Sangha for years to come. Additionally, the idea of dana has helped to shape the entirety of my high school experience. In four years, I have accomplished almost 1,000 hours of community service to help those around me, something that I can connect back to my early days volunteering on projects with Dharma School.

These projects, which have included food bazaars, omigaki cleaning of the onaijin, and pancake breakfasts, have given me many opportunities to practice the idea of Interdependence. Working together with other Dharma School students and Sangha members, I have grown up with an appreciation for the collective impact we can have while supporting our church through fundraisers and regular maintenance. The celebration of annual Jodo Shinshu holidays and special events have also reinforced the concept of Interdependence and our connections to each other. For instance, as a member of the Florin Dharma School every year since elementary school, I have joined other DS students in many Hanamatsuri Service celebrations including Hanamido preparations, plays, and craft projects. For this year's celebration, I had the chance to help with a photo presentation featuring former ministers, guest speakers, and DS students at previous Hanamatsuri Services. Seeing those photos, I appreciate how close knit our church community is and how we have continued to practice Interdependence over the years and under many different circumstances. Buddhism, and more specifically Dharma School, teach us that we are all together in this world, and especially in a time marked by separation, it is vital to continue and embrace the bonds created within the Buddhist Community.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted us all in ways that could not have been predicted. Reflecting on this experience, I realize how proud I am of everything that I accomplished and the challenges that I overcame. It is because of the teachings from Dharma School of the Eightfold path, Impermanence, the Six Paramitas, and Interdependence that I have been able to become an active and hard-working member of my community.

Congratulations Devon, George and Merri!

CONGRATULATIONS

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

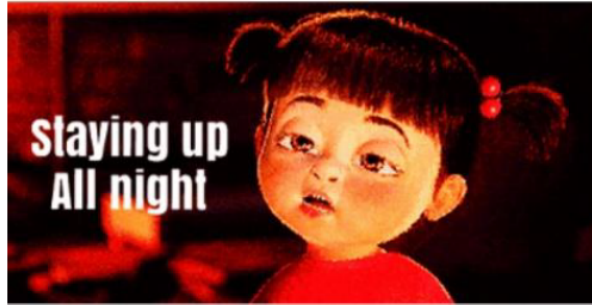


Drive-By Graduation

Thank you to everyone who came!

(missing in pictures: Denise Fong, Kris Takeda Miller, Jennifer Kubo, Judy Yuki & Ginny Yamamoto Syphax)





FBC JYBA's AWAKE-A-THON

Jr. YBA will be having their annual Awake-a-thon starting Friday, July 9 at 7 PM through Saturday, July 10 ending at 7 AM. This 12-hour Awake-a-thon is held annually to raise funds for a charitable organization. This year JYBA has chosen the Buddhist Church of Florin (BCF). This will be the first time BCF has been chosen. Because of the reduction in BCF fundraisers, JYBA thought BCF needed the extra funds. If you would like to contribute to this fundraiser, please use the form below.

*****CUT HERE*****

Yes! I would like to contribute to JYBA's Awake-a-thon fundraiser.

Name:

Address:

Donation amount:

Please make checks payable to: **Buddhist Church of Florin**

Send this form and your check to:

Florin JYBA
c/o Ginny Yamamoto-Syphax
3318 Yosemite Park Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!

Check #:

Received:



Buddhist Church of Florin Dharma School News & Events July 2021

“B.R.A.I.D.” – Building Respectful Awareness & Inclusion through Dharma

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny
matters compared to what lies within us.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

This quote came to mind at the High School and College Graduate drive thru celebration. Witnessing the great people these graduates have become was an amazing and humbling experience. Although we have not been members for very long, Ella and I see the genuine caring and love each member gives the youth of this church and this helps to mold “what lies within us.” For a long moment, I stood in awe of this special and treasured epiphany. We hope everyone has a wonderful summer, and thank you for all the positivity you bring to our lives.

Nadine, Henry, and Ella

Dharma Zoom

Summer Break June- August

Dharma Zoom Dates

September 19, 2021 10:30 AM Theme for Sangha Member TBA

September 26, 2021 10:30 AM Theme for Sangha Member TBA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460705891>

Meeting ID: 834 6070 5891

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,83460705891# US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 834 6070 5891

+14086380968,,83460705891# US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kON6iCAan>

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Dharma School Fireworks!

Due to the need of social distancing. This year the Dharma School 4th of July celebrations will be slightly different.

What: **Bring your own dinner** and chairs

Where: BCF parking lot

When: Sunday, July 4, 2021 @ 7 PM

What else: Fireworks donation accepted.

Who: Please let Judy Yuki (916) 826-5606 know if you will be coming. Thank you!

We hope in 2022 we can go back to the potluck/fireworks celebration.



June News
July 2021

BWA News



THANK YOU/ARIGATO

Special donations-	Yukie Hoffman	Marsha Legg		
Gift card donations-	Lois Kashiwase	Peggy Okabayashi	Hiroko Saigo	Connie Yee
Purse Drive -	Lois Tanaka	Shirley, Tomio Ito		

BCF Golf Tournament Bakers – Thanks for the delicious brownies!

DANA Cultivating Generosity –

May Dana Projects – Sacramento Children’s Home Crisis Nursery and Home Residential Program –baby items, clothing, personal items, gift card donations will be delivered on June 17. Thank you donors and volunteers!

June Dana Projects – Loaves and Fishes Water Drive- gift cards, Wellspring Women’s Center – New purse drive

July Dana Projects –Loaves and Fishes, Toilet Paper drive, Meadowview Family Resource Center, children’s arts and craft and recreational items.

CELEBRATION – Happy 100th birthday Mary Kawanishi!



The BWA board visited Mary at her home and brought her a birthday balloon, floral bouquet and card.

Walking Group – Wed. July 7, 2021 9:00 AM,
Laguna Creek Pathway, meet at Bel Air Elk Grove
Blvd and Waterman Road.

BWA General Meeting – Sunday, June 6, 2021 The
general membership ratified the BWA Bylaws
changes.

2023 World Buddhist Women’s Convention – Wednesday, May 10 to Friday, May 12. The convention will be held in conjunction with services to commemorate the 850th year anniversary of Shinran Shonin’s birth and the 800th anniversary of the establishment of the Jodo Shinshu teaching. Group tours are being planned in conjunction with the convention.

BWA July 2021 Dana Projects



**SACRAMENTO
LOAVES & FISHES**

**Requesting:
TOILET PAPER**

In the spirit of hospitality and radical love, Loaves & Fishes is an oasis for guests seeking respite and a space of belonging. To ensure that our guests are served without judgement or barrier, we do not accept government funds. Our programs are 100% run by the generosity of individual supporters, local businesses, and community foundations.

**Requesting: ART, CRAFTS & RECREATIONAL
Items**



Sample of resources provided

MARCH

**Meadowview Family
Resource Center**

Call us if you need the following:

- Safe Sleep Baby Workshop
- Homework Help - by appointment
- Car Seat Safety Workshop

Mini Minds: a class for parents and children ages 2-5 that works to develop their social, emotional, and motor skills through play!

Crupe M.A.M.A.S.: Free ongoing support group for Spanish-speaking ladies. This group is an opportunity to meet other mothers who share the same love for crafting

NPP/SA: Parenting classes following Nurturing Parenting Program - Infant Toddler Preschool curriculum.

	M	T	W	T	F	S

Collection Dates: July Thursdays (9 a.m.-1 p.m.) [LOTUS days]

BCF Gym July 30 (Friday) (10 a.m. – 1 p.m.) [w/Board members]

If in the 95831 zip code area, may deliver to Sandy's residence
or call for pickup Sandy (916 424-6146)



[July issue]
LOTUS Club News

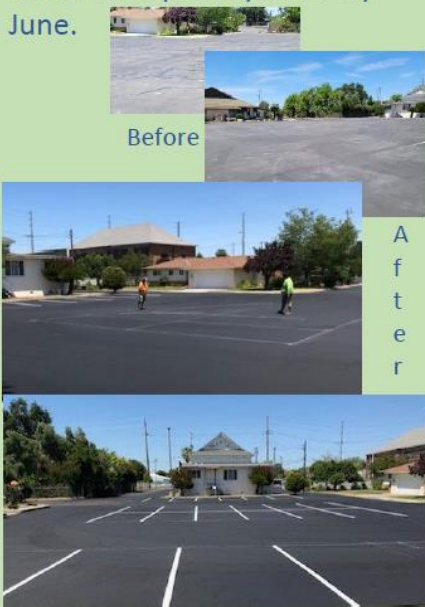
Learning Oriental Trimming ...

June, 2021 News

Land Park Pond 7-'20

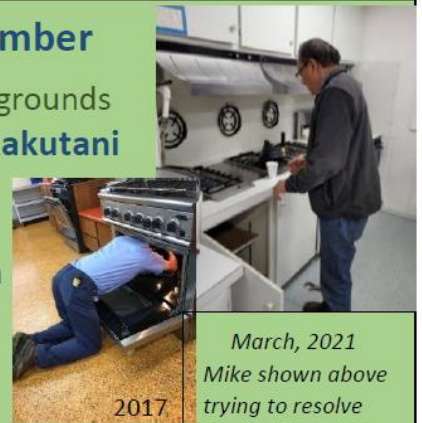
**CHURCH PARKING
 LOT REPAVED**

Thanks to **GARY OKAMOTO** who opened the gate (5 a.m.) and was on hand for the repaving of the church parking lot on multiple days in early June.



Featured Member

In addition to church grounds maintenance, **Mike Kakutani** has been applying his mechanical-analytical skills to service kitchen appliances such as stove/stove tops and is instrumental in ensuring that the sprinkling system throughout the grounds is in good working order.



March, 2021
 Mike shown above trying to resolve the problem with the gym stove burners, a previous ongoing problem particularly during food bazaar preparation. [Determined that the pipe lines needed to be enlarged.] ~ Repaired 3 stoves during the past few years.



Aug., 2016
 Front Lawn Revamp
 Mike & Lon T. setting up a new sprinkling system for the Isle of Trees area.

Garden Re-established

(R/June 17) **Sharon Okamoto** and sister, **JoAnn Kusaka** checking out the uri crop. **George M** continues weekly weeding & **Ken O** uses compost from lawn clippings and lunch scrapes. Cucumber climbing wall made by **Gary O.**



May 6 First planting
 May 27 Cucumber planting above



JoAnn Kusaka
JoAnn K/Jan T

Sharon Y/Mark (L&L)
Sharon Okamoto/
Ginny Syphax
Lois Kashiwase
Dharma School

Weekly AM snacks
 Taco casserole/Spanish rice/Mex. salad; ham sandwich/mac salad; stuffed chicken
 Torta (Mexican bread)
 Banana cream pie, pie à la mode;
 White chocolate cookies, cream puffs, strawberry baskets
 Box of donuts
 Box of cookies



Buddhist Church of Florin
Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant
\$1,500

Public school education is the foundation for a harmonious and prosperous society. Unfortunately, public school teachers pay for classroom supplies and educational material with their own money because of school budget cuts. The Buddhist Church of Florin supports public school teachers by offering a \$1,500 grant for classroom supplies and education materials; and if necessary, for reopening Personal Protection supplies and equipment.

To be eligible for the Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant, you must be a full-time public school teacher in Kindergarten through 12th grade; and a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin (church membership dues are paid and current).

How to become a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin? If you are married, please join under the couple/family category or if single, the adult single category. Contact Walter Menda for a 2021 Church Membership Form at (916) 392-1896 or wmenda@pacbell.net.

Please complete the Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Application and email to Walter Menda. Applications are being accepted on an ongoing basis.

Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Application

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number and E-mail Address:

Member of Buddhist Church of Florin (Yes/No):

Name of School:

School District:

Grade:

Teaching Credential (Yes/No):

School Term (i.e., September 2021 to June 2022):

How I plan to spend the \$1,500 grant:

I certify that I have provided complete and accurate information to the items on this application. I fully understand that any misrepresentation of information may revoke any right to a grant.

Signature of Applicant

Date

If you haven't designated Buddhist Church of Florin as your charitable organization, please do...free money to BCF! Thank you!



Make a Free Donation to the Church? As Easy as 1, 2, 3, 4. 5

IF YOU SHOP ON AMAZON, YOUR PURCHASES CAN EARN \$\$\$ FOR THE BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN!

The **Buddhist Church of Florin (BCF)** has joined a neat new program, **AmazonSmile**, an easy way to support the Church every time you shop, at no extra cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you find the same low prices, selection and easy shopping, while Amazon donates ½% of the purchase to the Buddhist Church of Florin.

HERE'S HOW IN 5 EASY STEPS:

1. Go to smile.amazon.com on an internet computer
2. Sign in (email address or mobile phone) in the field.
3. Enter your Amazon Password in the field.
4. Select Buddhist Church of Florin – type in “Florin” to find it
5. Start shopping

If you're not an Amazon member yet, first click on “Create an Account”, follow instructions, and select Buddhist Church of Florin.

AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM INFORMATION:

- **How do I shop at AmazonSmile?**
To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to shop at AmazonSmile.
- **Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?**
Millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.
- **Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?**
Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding, and other account settings are also the same.

GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

Purchase gift cards for yourself, family or friends and Buddhist Church of Florin (BCF) will receive a percentage of the sale. Don't forget gifts for birthdays, graduations, baby showers, or anniversaries. For a complete list of gift cards offered, go to shopwithscrip.com. You can place your order online (**BCF's enrollment code is 2481168D38LL7**) or you can contact Ann Tsukamoto at 916-683-3401 or email awtsukamoto@comcast.net to place your order and make arrangements to pick up your order at her house in Elk Grove.

NEW!!!! If you want to place an order, your order must be received by Ann by 12 PM on the following dates.

ORDER DUE DATES: (mark your calendars!)

June 23, July 28 & August 25!!!

Your order will arrive at Ann's house the following week.

Ann has the following on hand (limited amounts) for immediate purchase:



Ann must receive your order by 12 PM on the due date.

Ann has in stock (call her at 916-683-3401) the following cards:

\$100: Raley's/BelAir

\$50: Target

\$25: Raley's/Bel Air, Starbucks, Target, Regal & Cinemark

\$10: Regal



Thursday Night Medical Series

"Living Each Day Well"

Thursday, July 15, 2021

6:30 pm

"Radio Taiso: Japan's Calisthenic Exercises"



**Juliet & Grace Bost
San Mateo Buddhist Temple**

**Please sign-up at
BetsuinPrograms@buddhistchurch.org**

