

Florin BWA Activities Bulletin



2026 Florin Obon Odori

July 18

Obon tradition

Obon is a time to express "gratitude to our departed loved ones and ancestors," and to "consider what they gave to this world so we could be here today." With this compassion, we are "brought to dance joyfully in gratitude."

(buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/obon-gathering-of-joy)

Obon time brings families and communities together through traditional dancing, food, and memorial services. (Smithsonian Folklife)



Contained are photos of BWA members on Obon day.



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JULY

2026 Obon Odori



Drone odori photos
taken by Gary Takeuchi

Other odori photos taken
by photographer, Ace
Blakkolb

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Odori Practice



Kathy Menda & Ace Blakkolb

You've probably seen Ace taking photos during practice and on Obon day. He's been taking Obon photos for 40 years! All these photos were taken by Ace. **Lois Kashiwase** (L), BWA Board member, was the Obon coordinator again this year.



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BWA members helped at various stations throughout the Obon day.

Photos by Ace Blakkolb

Boutique Donations	
Louise Teranishi	Quilted Pouches and Coin Purses
Cindy Kakutani	Quilted Pouch, Purse Pouches, Embroidered Apron
Kiyomi Ishimoto	Small and Large Hair Ornaments
Jeanne Nakamura	Assorted crocheted crafts
Lois Kashiwase	Greeting cards, Denim Print Kleenex Holders. Denim zipper clutch



WELCOME BACK & thanks Cindy Kakutani who crafted Boutique items (See Boutique Donations) and helped at the Boutique table. Cindy now resides in Honolulu but is also a Florin member.

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JTak

Bake Sale

NAME	ITEM
Bake Sale Donations	
Donna Kunisaki	Rice Krispies & Brownies
Jan Takeuchi	Strawberry Blondies
Paul Kashiwase	Rice Cracker Cookies
Sharon Okamoto	Magic Cookie Bars
Shirley Gee	Brownies & Oatmeal Cookies
Sandy Okuno	Lemon Bars, Guava Cake, Pistachio Nut Cake
Sharon Arase	Peanut Butter Mochi
Susan Takeda	Lemon Bars
Janet Sonoda	Lemon Bars & Pecan Bars
Jennifer Kubo	Furikake Chex Mix
Cindy Kakutani	Furikake Chex Mix & Rice Krispies Bars
JoAnn Kusaka	Peanut Butter Mochi & Brownies
Connie Yee	Cookies
Kathy Menda	Cookies
Jeanne Nakamura	Kettle Corn
Alice Okimura	Cookies



Nearly two hundred age sushi trays were made for the Obon snack bar. All proceeds were donated to the Church.

BWA Crafts Day

Every Second Wednesday/month

Crafts Day ideas for the future boutique sales:

Seat belt covers

Happi coats,

Clamshell oven mitts

Pickle ball paddle covers

All are welcome to participate

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Kimekomi senseis &
class participants

Obon day
cultural display

Kimekomi
sponsored by Florin BWA



Thank you Sensei **Isako
Wasano** for the July
Kimekomi donation

New class session begins in September (3rd Sat. of each mo.)

For more information, contact Kimekomi senseis **Isako Wasano, Yukie Baishiki, or Peggy O** for additional information. if interested in receiving an informational flyer, just respond to this email (BWA News).

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AUGUST



Summer Camp 2026

August 12

Jtak/8-'26

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Summer Camp

August 12

Jtak/8-'26

CAMP DONATIONS

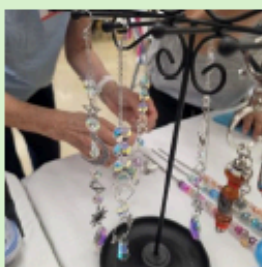
- Lois Kashiwase
- Liz Kono
- Donna Kunisaki
- Kathy Menda
- Sharon Okamoto
- Julie Sato-Ruzich
- Sharon Yamamoto
- Elaine Yoshikawa



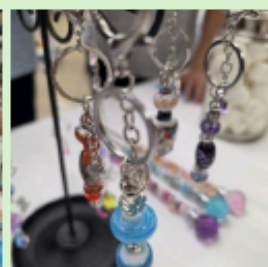
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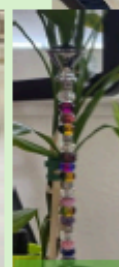
AUGUST



Hanging Crystals



Glass Bead Key Chain



Fairy
Garden
Stake



Card Making



Asian style rock
decoupage



Dana Projects



Aug. 12, 2026

Summer Camp

Itak/8-'26
August 12



JULIE SATO-RUZICH



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Thanks Virginia U. for taking these photos.



Five BWA women participated in the Ohana Walk on a beautiful (almost fall) morning in Sept. along the Pocket canal.

BCF/BCF BWA Walkers & Donors

Sharon Arase
Lois Kashiwase
Shirley Gee
Carol Kusama
Jennifer Kubo
Gordon Kunisaki

Peggy Okabayashi
Sandra Okuno
Susan Takeda
Jan Takeuchi
Lois Tanaka



**RUN to Feed
THE HUNGRY®**

October **ACTIVITY/DANA** *November*

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JULY-OCT.

Oct. '26 BWA Dana Project

My Sister's
House/Run for a Safe
Haven/Register/View
Teams/ Buddhist
Church of Florin/
Donate

Run for a
Safe Haven

Oct. 10
2026

A safe haven for Asian Pacific Islander Women and Children
My Sister's House

Early Registrants

- Sharon Arase
- Lois Kashiwase
- Jennifer Kubo
- Kathleen Menda
- Peggy Okabayashi
- Sandy Okuno
- Susan Takeda
- Jan Takeuchi
- Lois Tanaka

Sept '26 BWA Dana Project



ASSOCIATED
STUDENTS, INC.
SACRAMENTO STATE

ASI Food Pantry

Collecting non-
perishable
food items

- Lois Kashiwase
- Liz Kono
- Mary Otani
- Margie Sunahara

Thanks also to Summer
Camp participants who
donated to this effort.

Aug. '26 BWA Dana Project



Collecting supplies
for young adults
aging out of SCH

- Connie Hamataka
- Liz Kono
- Mary Otani
- Susan Takeda
- Natalie Tongoi
- Virginia Uchida

Member donations also in-
cluded duffel bags & suitcase

July '26 BWA Dana Project



SACRAMENTO
LOAVES & FISHES

SCHOOL
SUPPLIES



Mustard Seed School

- Liz Kono
- Mary Otani

With the July Dana Project
donations, Sandy
purchased then donated 10
backpacks filled with school
supplies to the Mustard
Seed School.

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Sept '26 BWA Dana Project

CALIFORNIA MUSEUM



Second Sept. Dana Project

SACRAMENTO HISTORY MUSEUM

Our Florin BWA Board approved in September funding for providing **four virtual field trip scholarships** (4 classes/up to 400 students) for classes from underserved California communities.

GRATEFUL CRANE ENSEMBLE

PERFORMING OUT OF GRATITUDE



FLORIN BWA will be one of the sponsors for the Grateful Crane Ensemble performance. Other sponsors include BC Florin, Florin JACL, SBWA, ACC ... Details of the event will be forthcoming.

GRATEFUL CRANE ENSEMBLE
PERFORMING OUT OF GRATITUDE



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Hiroko Saigo Julia Mullican Mary Otani

BACK TO MONTHLY SERVICES SEPT 27, 2026

The first church service for the new term was a busy one with Fall Ohigan, Shotsuki Hoyo & Family Service. Also included was **Keiro Recognition** featuring 19 members, 8 of whom attended this day. Highlighted here are five BWA Keiro members.



Judie Miyao Lois Tanaka

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OCTOBER



**To Remember As We
Build For Tomorrow**
過去を想い、明日を拓く
Kako wo Omoi, Asu wo Hiraku

48th BCA FBWA Conference
October 2-4, 2026

Seven Florin BWA members are headed to the FBWA Conference in San Diego this weekend.

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Northern California District Family Conference

Friendship, Understanding and Nembutsu

Cultivating understanding through sharing stories of community members who came from another country.

Dharma school students will hear children's stories and experience games and treats from Iran and Vietnam.



**Reverend
Melissa Opel**

Dharma Speaker

Resident minister at
the Buddhist Church
of San Francisco

[CLICK to read more](#)



**Mohammadamin
Asadirad**

Panel Member

Born and raised in Iran,
he immigrated to the US
and graduated from
Northstate University
College of Pharmacy

[CLICK to read more](#)



**Yen
Marshall**

Panel Member

Born in Vietnam,
she immigrated to the US
and has worked for several
non-profit community
based organizations

[CLICK to read more](#)



Call or Text Judy Yuki at **(916) 826-5606** to register
before September 29, 2026

FAMILY EVENT Call/text BWA member & NC Conference committee member Judy Yuki for more info.

Call Judy ASAP if interested; she can probably still help register you.



Nov. 14

Accepting

Adult OUTERWEAR

Unfold ones to be donated to Coat Drive

NEW clothing (w/tags)

**INFANT/CHILDREN'S
items**

SELLABLE items

NOT Accepting

Adult CLOTHING

Except items mentioned above

Electronics/E-waste

LG. FURNITURE

Non-working items

8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Drop off:

Nov 11-13

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

4 p.m. – 6 p.m.



**Rummage Sale is back this year
Start saving good rummage items for November**



BWA

Help is needed on Rummage Sale Prep Days