

New Year's Is My Favorite Time Of Year...

And as another song goes, there is wonder in most everything I see.

The wonderment began with the Joya-E New Year's Eve service and the collective ringing of the bell. The next morning was the Shusho-E New Year's Day service and celebratory toast. As Rev. Matsumoto explained in his Dharma message, these services are held to express our gratitude for the past year and to reflect upon life and all the things that made it possible. The services are most meaningful when experienced together.

The festivities continued with Mochi Tsuki and the Temple New Year's Party the second Sunday of January. The traditional pounding of mochi was lead by the beat of the taiko drum and was followed by a spirited lunch and program.



I'm always inspired by our Sangha's dedication to our Temple, with so many people giving their time and energy. This year, Craig Griffin was recognized for his many years of service. Craig has actively supported our Temple personally and professionally and it was a pleasure to be present as he received the award.

Gassho,
Scott Takeda

Congratulations
to Craig Griffin, this year's recipient
of the Temple Recognition Award

Special Thanks
to Rev. Matsumoto, Susan Gabriel, Judy Kono and Lena Yin
for organizing all our New Year's celebrations

Thank you to our volunteers

New Year's Eve

<u>Toshikoshi Soba</u>	<u>Cleanup</u>
Junko Kamimura	Emiko & Kiyoshi
Robin McGuire	Katsumoto
Yuki Otake	Jeff McGuire
Elaine Steimetz	George Yin
Lena Yin	December Toban

New Year's Day

Miki Adachi
Caroline Fernandez
Evelyn Glenn
Gail Harada
Emiko Katsumoto
January Toban

Mochi Tsuki

Bill & Judith	Judy Kono
Fujimoto	Denise Lapidus
Suzanne Furuya	Aki & Emi Nakao
Craig Griffin	Mike Nagamoto
Michael Ishikawa	Mimi Kagehiro
Kiyoshi & Emiko	Millie Nikaidoh
Katsumoto	Yuki Otake

New Year's Lunch and Program

<u>Setup</u>	<u>Manju</u>
Craig Griffin	Ron Kagehiro & family
Kiyoshi Katsumoto	

Serving, Cleanup

Jan, Feb, Mar
Tobans

Lunches

Akemi Hamai
Erin Kagehiro
Jeff & Robin
McGuire
Mike Nagamoto
George, Lena &
Tyler Yin
Suruki

MC

Mimi Kagehiro

Entertainment

Dii Lewis
Carl Wilmsen
Yasuyo Wolfe

Prizes

Temple
Board Members
BBWA
Dharma School

Thank you to everyone who helped
us welcome the New Year

Our Temple
A Place To Begin... A Place To Grow

Our Path
The path of Enlightenment, the way of Oneness

President's Message

It's hard to believe we're a decade into what was once a new millennium. I still have millennial thoughts, and more recently, 750th and centennial thoughts.

BCA's Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial observance will be commemorated this month at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Family Service on Sunday, February 28. Our Temple has joined with the Oakland Buddhist Church to rent buses to take everyone to this special service at no charge. Please contact Lena Yin to sign up.

Phase I of our Temple's renovation was completed last year with the addition of a new unisex restroom, the long-awaited renovation of existing restrooms, and the installation of glass entry doors in the hondo. Phase II begins this summer with the remodel and expansion of the kitchen.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continuing support of the Temple. As we move forward and build for the future, I offer the following...

There are six things that influence the harmony of an organization¹:

- sincerity of speech
- sincerity and kindness of acts
- sincerity and sympathy of spirit
- equal sharing in a common property
- following the same pure precepts
- having right views

Let us resolve to do the best we can and may 2010 be our year of harmony.

Gassho,
Scott Takeda

¹Buddha, Truth and Brotherhood
An Epitome of Many Buddhist Scriptures
Translated From the Japanese
Published by Dwight Goddard
Santa Barbara, CA 1934

Thank you to Donna Inouye at Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple for her research and inspiration

The General Meeting will be held on February 7, following the Nirvana Day service. I look forward to seeing and hearing from everyone.

Thank you

...to the nearly 100 volunteers who devotedly cleaned our Temple on December 20. There is a serene and wonderful feeling seeing things organized and bright again.

...to Lena Yin, Denise Kaneshiro and the December Toban for the refreshments that accentuated the occasion.

...to Gary Oda who power-washed the Temple grounds the day of the cleanup, the following Saturday and the day before the Year-end service.

Our Temple is our gathering place
A place to hear the Dharma
The place where we are accepted as we are

Our Temple is our refuge
Our sanctuary to receive comfort in times of
uncertainty
Our haven from a world of unrest

Thank you to our volunteers

Miki & Michael Adachi	Lauren Low
Diane Ames	Bob & Ken Matsueda
Bruce & Max Buchholz	Rev David Matsumoto
Grant Din	Jeff, Robin, Mali & Noel
Willie & Caroline Fernandez	McGuire
Suzanne, Celeste & Naomi	Michael Nagamoto
Furuya	Aki & Emi Nakao
Susan Gabriel	Takashi, Miri, Skye & Mia
Craig & Linda Griffin	Nikaidoh
Lucy Hamai	Megan & Terry Mock Noble
Akemi & Anna Hamai	Gary Oda
Amy & Maya Haruyama	Dennis, Peyton & Cailyn
Hiroshi Hata	Sakurai, Emily Moya
Kevin, Kyle & Nikki Honda	Karen Sugiyama
Sara Jotoku	Craig & Helen Tagawa
Ron, Mimi & Erin Kagehiro	Makoto Takenaka
Susan Kajiwara	Zoe Tamaki
Vernon, Maya & Lia Kato	David & Emily Ushijima
Kiyoshi & Emiko Katsumoto	Edythe Vassall
Jon, Dawn & Kyra	Russell & Irene Wells
Kawamoto	Carl & Kai Wilmsen, Patty
Judy Kono	Fujiwara
Albert, Jake & Miya	Marrie Yamashita
Kutchins, Mari Mayeda	Dennis, Kathleen, Chris &
Rev Kiyonobu Kuwahara	Laura Yee
Maya Lemmon	George, Lena & Tyler Yin
Calvin, Pansy & Madison	Paul Yonemura, Maya
Lew	Murashima

Our Temple
The Place Where Our Spiritual Life And True Self Can Be Realized

Our Mission
To Live A Life Of Joy In The Nembutsu And Share It With Others

Temple Leadership

Please join me in thanking Kiyoshi Katsumoto for his outstanding work as President. He did so much more than his job and gave everything that one can offer. Thank you also to the Board and Sangha whose hard work has built the fine Temple we have today.

I look forward to serving as President and welcome everyone to join us in building for the future.

I was fortunate to participate in the BCA Center for Buddhist Education Temple Leadership seminars at the Jodo Shinshu Center in 2008 and 2009. Following is an excerpt from Roy Mayhugh's session¹:

Not everyone who belongs to a temple wants to take a leadership role. Many people would rather help where they can and stay in the background. These people are the strong body of our temples and we would never survive without them. We owe all of them our gratitude.

Some temple members are willing to take leadership positions. With strength and courage they hold our temples together and keep them moving forward. They are the heartbeat of our temples.

What these leaders do takes a lot of time and effort. There are some big jobs to be done and dozens, if not hundreds, of little jobs and decisions that need to be taken care of. The tasks are often tiring. Many of the things that get done are not even noticed by the general membership.

Our temple stands where it does today because so many people were willing to take the personal risk of leading us here. They worked long and hard to get us to this place in the history of our temple. Many of you can remember the names of some who have passed on and of others who are still with us. We owe them a debt that we can never repay.

We are very fortunate to have a group of dedicated people who work very hard to keep our temple going. These are the people who will take the heavy responsibility of keeping our Temple strong and active next year and into the future. You may be asked to be one of these people. If so, we hope you'll be able to serve.

Gassho,
Scott Takeda

¹Thank you to Roy Mayhugh of the Walnut Grove Buddhist Temple for his encouraging words.

Officers And Directors for 2010

Minister
Rev Dr David Matsumoto

President
Scott Takeda

1st Co-VPs, Religious
Art Nishimura
Marrie Yamashita

2nd VP, Social
Lena Yin

3rd VP, Membership
Ron Kagehiro

Rec. Sec.
Wayne Sugihara

Treasurers
Satoshi Steimetz
Kiyoshi Katsumoto

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Eric Lindquist

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Lucy Hamai
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