

Betsuin Board Bullets
April 05, 2012 Betsuin Board of Directors Meeting
by Joyce Iwasaki

The intent of the Betsuin Board Bullets is to highlight Board actions, decisions, special events and projects. Please contact the Betsuin board officers, directors, or the ministers for more details on any item.

Guest attending the Board Meeting: Karen Akahoshi
Member, Sangha Support Committee

o **Presentation**

On behalf of the Betsuin Sangha Support Committee, Karen Akahoshi announced that instead of having the Dana Day Project this year, it was decided to sponsor an event that will be dedicated to raising funds for the Japan Earthquake/Tsunami Relief Effort. The donations collected from this event will be routed through the Betsuin, sent to the Buddhist Churches of America Headquarters, and from there, will be sent to the Hongwanji Headquarters in Kyoto for disbursement to the devastated areas.

The event is scheduled for Sunday, May 27, 2012 in the Annex, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and will feature the film, Great Grandfather's Drum, an appearance of Kay Fukumoto (Maui Taiko's founder), a performance by San Jose Taiko, a raffle drawing, and food for purchase provided by various Betsuin organizations.

Various organizations and Sangha members are encouraged to sell tickets (\$20 donation for general admission; \$10 donation for those over 80 years old and under 12 years old). For tickets to sell or purchase, please contact May Horio at emhorio@yahoo.com.

Great Grandfather's Drum is an inspiring story of spirit, traditions and community. It connects the past with the present by combining the history of Japanese Americans in Hawaii and sharing the contemporary story of the taiko drum through the group Maui Taiko.

Karen reminded us that the Dana Day Project's initial concept was for participating Betsuin organizations and our Sangha to raise funds for the Katrina Hurricane victims in 2005. Since then, The Dana Day Project has identified various projects which benefit from our efforts.

o **Motions**

It was moved/seconded/passed to accept the March 01, 2012 Board of Directors' Meeting as corrected.

It was moved/seconded/passed to elect Mas Nishimura for the 2012 President-Elect position.

It was moved/seconded/passed to approve the Japanese Language School's proposal to conduct a Japanese Conversation 2012 Summer Session.

It was moved/seconded/passed to allow the purchase of a 5000-lumen projector for the annex not exceeding the amount of \$3500.

o **Ministers' Report**

One Year Memorial Services for the victims of the Japan Tsunami/Earthquake victims were held on March 25, 2012. The Dharma talk focused on ways the Hongwanji has helped not only with physical rebuilding projects, but by providing spiritual and social support as well. All offerings collected that day was close to \$1000 and will be sent to the Buddhist Churches of America Headquarters to forward the funds to the Hongwanji Headquarters in Kyoto for disbursement to the devastated areas.

The Ministers Assistants' group is taking a pictorial inventory of the Betsuin's altar pieces for insurances purposes. Mas Horiuchi agreed to head this project.

Reverend Sakamoto has been invited to join the White River Buddhist Temple Sangha for their Centennial services and activities on May 19 – 20, 2012.

Gotan-E Service (Shinran Shonin's Birthday Observance) will be on May 20, 2012 with Reverend Kiyonobu Kuwahara of the Jodo Shinshu Center as the guest speaker.

The Coast District Council meeting is on May 23, 2012 @ the San Jose Betsuin. The SJ BWA will prepare and serve the udon dinner to the attendees.

The Baccalaureate Service is scheduled for June 03, 2012.

- o **2012 Priority Setting Committees**

- Infrastructure Committee

- The Committee handed out a summary of the Committee's facilities research and recommendations for the Board to consider. The packet included building structural improvement options, long-range considerations for phasing potential new structure concepts and additional options for the Board to study. Discussion will continue at subsequent Board meetings.

- Membership Committee

- The Membership Committee continues to work with the Office staff to understand the process for tracking new members as well as tracking donation history of existing members.

- The Committee met on March 27, 2012. One of the agenda items continues to include providing enticing, pertinent and convincing membership information for potential, new and existing members.

- Education Committee

- The Education Committee met on March 18, 2012 focusing on Dharma School and ways to provide additional teacher training and an all-Dharma School activity. Other topics of discussion include the Library, the concept of a Bookstore/Reading Room, the concept of providing an after-school tutorial program, and the idea of asking Dharma School students to assist during the Obon Buddhism 101 sessions.

- The next meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2012 at 12:30 in the Betsuin Office.

- o **Japanese Language School (JLS)**

- The concept of a second session for a Summer Japanese Conversation Class for 2012 was approved during this Board meeting. JLS will proceed by offering five Saturday sessions from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and will consist of two class levels.

For more information, please go to www.sbjls.org.

- **Communications Committee**

The new Betsuin website has been launched. The site's webmaster is Roy Batchelor (roy@monkeybots.com). Organizations and groups are encouraged to identify its own web person to stay in touch with Roy who will offer tutorials, suggestions, and encouragement to each group's web contact person for posting purposes.

- **EcoSangha Committee**

The EcoSangha Committee submitted a list of environmentally friendly practices to the Betsuin Office staff for facilities users. The EcoSangha Committee hopes this will encourage the facilities users to keep in mind how each event can help with creating a cleaner, safer, and healthier environment.

- **Garden Committee**

Jim Sugai, a member for the Betsuin Garden Committee, was recently honored at the San Jose Jr. League's Volunteer Recognition Luncheon. The event honored 80 area volunteers of which 14 received the special Crystal Bowl status. Because of this, the Betsuin was offered a display table at the event. Mas Horiuchi, VP of Membership, organized Betsuin information for the event. Mr Sugai volunteers for other organizations and was recognized for these other activities as well.

- **Dharma School**

Twelve San Jose Dharma School teachers are attending the Federation of Dharma School Teachers' League (FDSTL) annual conference on April 29, 2012 at Thunder Valley Casino.

- **Board Recruitment and Development Committee**

The committee met on March 09, 2012. The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2012.

The committee is developing the 2013 Board Orientation Workshop.

The Committee identified Sangha leaders who will be approached as potential board members to serve in 2013.

- **Fifth Annual Betsuin Golf Tournament**

Monday, June 04, 2012

San Jose Country Club

\$175/golfer; \$325/couple

\$130/student (25 and younger)

\$40/person dinner only

Awards Banquet: Betsuin Annex catered by Kubota Restaurant

Entry Deadline: May 20, 2012

\$25,000 Hole-In-One sponsored by J. Morey Company and the Betsuin Golf Tournament Committee

Sponsorships available:	
Tournament Sponsor	\$1750 Registration fee for a 4-some 2 special raffle tickets Acknowledgment at the event and in media coverage
Hole Sponsor	\$200 Donor appreciation signage at a hole Acknowledgment at the event and in media coverage
Raffle Donor	Item description and donor's name during raffle drawing Acknowledgment at the event and in media coverage
Special Raffle	Only up to 300 tickets will be sold \$50 donation \$4000 first prize 10 prizes of \$100 each Raffle tickets can be purchased in the Betsuin Office and from Golf Tournament Committee members.

Profits go toward the Betsuin Building Fund.

Golf Tournament Committee members: Greg Aso, Mas Horiuchi, Denise Imamura, Peter Imamura, Rod Iwamura, Joyce Iwasaki, Bud Mine, Bob Terasaki, Larry Utsurogi, Rinban Fujimoto.