



Golden Chain

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BUDDHIST CHURCH

32975 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City, CA 94587-3165

Office: 510-471-2581

E-mail: sacbcoffice@gmail.com

www.SACBC.org

Resident Minister: Rev. Doei Fujii

Mobile: 510-509-5477

eijirofujii@gmail.com

OCTOBER 2019

I am a link in the Buddha's golden chain of love that stretches around the world. I must keep my link bright and strong. I will try to be kind and gentle to every living thing and protect all who are weaker than myself. I will try to think pure and beautiful thoughts, to say pure and beautiful words, and to do pure and beautiful deeds, knowing that on what I do now depends not only my happiness or unhappiness, but also that of others. May every link in the Buddha's golden chain of love become bright and strong, and may we all attain perfect peace.

Vow #1

“If, when I attain Buddhahood,
there should be in my land a hell, a realm of hungry spirits or a realm of animals,
may I not attain perfect Enlightenment.”

Hell: Accumulation of past anger, including not only my past anger after I was born but also anger of past generations of my life streams.

Realm of hungry spirits: Accumulation of past greed, including anger since my life started many generations ago.

Realm of animals: Blaming of others. We see translations of realm of animals as ignorance or attachment to our self. For example, when I made mistakes, I blame others and say “It’s not my fault, but his fault.” I attack others.

These 3 ugly guys are the trouble makers which I can live with until the very moment I die. These are, however, not instincts. So, we can overcome them by and through Wisdom.

The Vow shows the causes of our 84,000 problems as a hell (anger), realm of hungry spirits (greed), and realm of animals (blaming of others). These are just like the three primal colors that can create millions of colors. These are also called “Three poisons” which poisons me and others. And everyday living is made of the three poisons.

Example-1: A person said to a *Nenbutsu* follower, “I thought that you were a peaceful man and that you did not possess anger any more. But you got angry. Why?” The follower replied, “Since I have anger (cause), any unhappy condition becomes a trigger of my anger. Since I have anger, it comes out any time. But my anger has no root (no chain reaction of my anger).

Example-2: I go to Las Vegas and gamble. As the result I smile (win) and weep (loss) repeatedly. I say that the machines are no good, the card dealers are no good. I went to a wrong casino. Why did you go there? It is because I possess “greed.” Why do I repeat smiles and cries? It is because I have greed. Why do you blame the casino? It is because I am living in the realm of animals (blaming of others).

So, the first vow teaches me what I am. And I come to know and learn myself by and through the first vow.



Vow #2

“If, when I attain Buddhahood, humans and devas in my land should after death fall again into the 3 evil realms (3 poisons), may I not attain perfect Enlightenment.”

Devas: A higher ranked being such as saints, or a being who has more excellent power and ability than human beings.

After death: The 3 poisons die in the world of Immeasurable Working (*Amida*).

The three poisons: Anger, greed, and attachment.

This vow tells me that I never repeat the 3 poisons in *Amida's* World. Probably you feel that the first vow is good enough, but why do we see an identical vow here?

This vow here teaches me “the non-retrogressive stage (never return the previous stage of the 3 poisons).”

In another word, the vow teaches me that I have been repeating the 3 poisons everyday endlessly. Or, I have been accumulating something wrong second by second. The vow shows me “This vow is for you because I know you. I want you to be freed from them forever.”

I appreciate this vow very much because I come to know what I have been doing every day or second by second.

First formula: To learn Buddhist is to learn myself.

In Gassho,

Rev. Doei Fujii
October 2019



Services for October 2019

October 6, 2019 – Shotsuki Hoyo
10 A.M.

At this monthly memorial service, we will honor those loved ones who passed away in the month of October.

October birthdays will be celebrated.
Dharma School will follow service.

Dharma message in Japanese will follow the English service.
Café Dharma will follow service.

October 13, 2019 – Family Service
10 A.M.

Dharma message in Japanese will follow the English service.
Café Dharma will follow service.

October 20, 2019 – Family Service
10 A.M.

Dharma School will follow service.
Dharma message in Japanese will follow the English service.
Café Dharma will follow service.

October 27, 2019 – Family Service
This service is hosted by the Athletic Association
10 A.M.

Dharma School will follow service.
Dharma message in Japanese will follow the English service.
Otoki lunch will be provided by the AA.
Everyone is invited to stay for lunch following service.
Dharma School will have a Bake Sale.



この世には面白くて 楽しくてつまらないようなものは何もない

これは坂本龍馬（さかもと・りょうま、1836-1867）が言った言葉だと記憶している。彼は「この世はつまんない」といっている。この世はつまらないからこそ、我々はスポーツや文学や芸能など色々なものを作り出しているのかも知れない。面白いもの・楽しいもの・夢中に成れるようなものを人々は探して何とか日々を、ごまかして、過ごしているのかもしれない。

さて、大統領トランプ氏は富豪（ふごう）であり彼の月給は何と1ドル。年収12ドルである。彼は今までの大統領とは違い「金持ちの御用聞き役」はしなくていいから、どのような反対者が何を言おうが「我が道を行く」ことができる。人の顔色をうかがうことはしなくていい。そんな今の彼をみると「人生が面白く楽しくて仕方がないのかも知れない」とも思える。

だが、そんな彼の任期は、しかし、あと4年少々と短い。任期が切れれば再度もとの実業家にもどるのだろう。そして「ああ、大統領と時はおもしろく楽しかったが、辞めたらつまんなくなった」となるのではないだろうか。この私も引退すれば「緊張のない、間延びした、つまらない日々が待っているのかな」と思うことがあり、「はやくボケてくれないだろうか」とも時々思う（笑）。

ところがである、仏法の中には「楽しいもの」と「楽しくないもの」とを同時に味わえる境地（きょうち）がある。つまりは「喜び」と「悲しみ」が同時に味わえる世界がある。何とも不思議ではないか。その不可思議（ふかしぎ）なる世界は智慧（ちえ）と慈悲（じひ）とによって出来上がっている。物事の本質を見きわめる智慧によれば、この世はどこまでも空っぽで仮（かり）のものでしかないとみえて来る。そのよううつろい流転（るてん）し続ける世に身をやつす者を、しかし、最高の境地に導かんがための働きがある。ありがたいことではないか。では、どのようにしてその境地に至（いた）れるのだろうか。

「アミダ仏とは光である」と親鸞聖人（しんらん・しょうにん）はいう。何のことだろうか？ 光は物事を明らかにする働きがある。その光は私を照らすと「私の人生はつまらない」との暗い影を結ぶ。「この世はうつろい・空っぽで・いつかは消え去る」とみえて来る。この影をみてなげき・悲しんでいるのが私達ではないだろうか。

だが、考えてもらいたい。暗い影がみえるということは同時に「我、光の中にあり」ということではないのか。真っ暗だったら影も何もみえないではないか。「暗い影があるがゆえに、我すなわちすくいの中にあり」と言えるのである。「つまんない」と「つまんなくない」とが同時に味わえるのが「光」なのである。「悲しみ」と「喜び」が同時に存在する境地とは、すなわち、仏陀（ぶつだ）の世界なのです。この影から身を光の世界に転じることを廻心（えしん）と言い表します。あなたの人生は「つまんない」ですか？

合掌、 藤井道栄（9-2019）

OCTOBER SHOTSUKI HOYO

Family, relatives and friends are invited to attend the monthly memorial service for the following on Sunday, October 6, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

DECEASED

1928	Torao Hisaoka
1934	Yukie Takayama
1939	Kou Tanaka
1963	Magoichi Sekigahama
1964	Naka Yasuhiro
1969	Yaeka Haraguchi
1973	Tama Sakuda
1976	Yoshiye Yamamoto
1978	George Yonekura
1984	Annabel Cavan
1984	Bryan Randall Hall
1989	Masutaro Kitani
2004	Teruko Tamasu
2005	Sae Hamada
2006	Emiko Miyakawa
2006	Glenn Rice
2007	Marie Cuccia
2009	Noboru Kawaguchi
2009	Nobuko Marge Okada
2010	Jimmy Isao Tanaka
2017	Kazuyuki Uemura
	Yama Mori
	Shizuo Kawaguchi
	Arnold Hsieh
	Mitsu Mukai
	Sumiko Kamiji

FAMILY

Hisaoka Family
Takayama Family
Tanaka Family
Sekigahama Family
Mrs. Yaeko Yasuhiro
Mrs. Miki Tsutsui
Sakuda Family
Mrs. Shizuko Yamauchi
Mrs. Toyoko Yoshioka
Mr. & Mrs. Abel Cavan
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Hall
Kitani Family
Mr. & Mrs. Koji Tamasu
Hamada Family
Mr. Yasuho Miyakawa
Mrs. Jane Rice
Mrs. Ann Cuccia
Mrs. Harumi Watanabe
Mr. & Mrs. Hideo Okada
Ms. Cynthia Kawamura
Mr. & Mrs. Tet Uemura
Mrs. Takae Wong
Kawaguchi Family
Mrs. Sylvia Ma
Mr. Ed Mayeda
Mrs. Sachi Fudenna & Mrs. Michi Handa

[illegible]

Memorial Service 2019

Memorial year for those who passed away in:

2018 – 1 year	2007 – 13 year	1987– 33 year
2017 – 3 year	2003 – 17 year	1970 – 50 year
2013 – 7 year	1995 – 25 year	1920 – 100 year

If this is a special service year for a departed relative, please contact the church office at (510) 471-2581 to schedule a memorial service.



Hanamido History

Thank you to Mrs. Takiko Hatsushi for having the original boards from the Hanamido framed. On the underside of these boards, kanji was found quoting what the Buddha said upon his birth. The history of our Hanamido and the discovery of the kanji is posted next to the kanji. Amy Hatsushi had the boards mounted and framed. The “glass” is a special plastic that blocks the Sun’s rays so the boards will be preserved. The framed boards are hanging on the back wall inside the hondo.

(Note: The framing is perfectly square; the picture of it is not. Kfujii)



What’s Up Dharma School?

SACBC Dharma School has started a new school year! We still have room for your children or grandchildren, please encourage them to join us. Contact either co-Superintendents: Betty Yamasaki or Cathleen Yoshida. Or just come to a DS class.

Our first Dharma class was held on Sept.15 and enjoyed listening to Ms. Kathy Velasco’s Dharma talk on O-higan and how it is connected to the Six Paramitas. We did an activity practicing the Six Paramitas by writing gratitude notes and students are to HAND deliver them. Some of us also made beautiful golden Bodhi leaf display.

Keiro Kai to be held on **Nov.3** with doors opening at 11:00am. Dharma school students and parents will be busy starting next week working on a fun program & decorations. If you recently turned 70 years old (or will be 88 years young!), "Congratulations!" Please contact Victoria so we can include you with our other invitees to Keiro Kai. If you are 70 years old or older and have not received an invitation in the past, likewise, don't be shy and call the office so we can include you as well. Save the date: November 3rd, 2019. You do not want to miss out on this special party hosted by the SACBC Dharma School. Invitations will go out soon!

Any baby pictures of our guests would be VERY MUCH appreciated.

Bake Sale will be held on Oct.27, so please get your YUMMY dessert before the Otoki (hosted by the Athletic Association).

With Gratitude...Dharma School would like to gratefully thank Cindy Sakihara who served as Co-Superintendent for 7 years! She “graduated”, but has graciously agreed to continue helping DS in many capacities (including chairing Keiro Kai).

Welcome back Michiko-san! (Mrs.Fujii) We hope you are getting much rest and wishing for a speedy recovery!



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PAVING THE PARKING LOT!



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As most of you have noticed by now, our big parking lot is pretty full during the weekdays. Our agreement with Genentech is going well and they are happy with the location and size of our lot. So far about 160+ cars have been using our lot and there have been no problems. They expect the number of cars to increase as they get into their busy season in the fall.

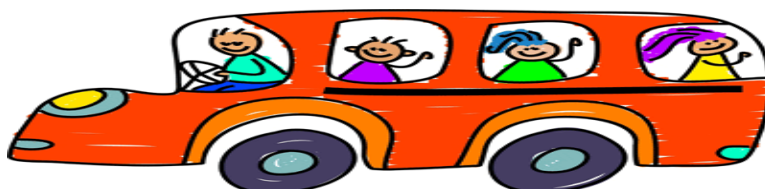
John and I recently met with them and discussed the following:

1. **Lighting** – As many of them arrive in the dark and will soon be leaving in the dark, they would like to have the parking lot lights on. So, we're looking into adding either a photocell switch or timer to the existing lights. For overall security, it's probably better that our lot be lit at night anyway. UC Police have previously mentioned that a big dark lot like ours could be a potential trouble spot as well. SACBC will pay for this as a needed safety and security improvement.
2. **Paving** – Genentech would like to pave the parking lot before the rainy season and it becomes too muddy. We will be getting quotes and Genentech will select a contractor. This will be done in full compliance with city codes with all necessary permits. Genentech will pay for the work so there will be no initial cost to SACBC. We still need to discuss what the reimbursement terms will be but I suspect that it will be credits against their monthly rental and/or an extension of the agreement. But again, there will be no out-of-pocket costs to SACBC.

Paving the big lot has been a significant improvement that we've always wanted to do but the cost was always prohibitive. With Genentech willing to pave it for us, this is a great opportunity to finally get it done. Apparently, Genentech sees this as an investment to secure a commute lot that works well for them.

Our agreement with Genentech is working out better for us than expected. In addition to this paving project, the significant additional revenue will help us make much needed other repairs and improvements to our aging facilities as well as build up our reserve funds in the long term.

In Gassho,
Ken





BWA NEWS by Nancy Minamide

The theme for the 16th World Women's Convention was "Live the Nembutsu." The conference was held in San Francisco at the Marriott Hotel. SACBC had 20 attendees. They were Nancy Dodd, Karen Fujii, Sachi Fudenna, Yvette Hornig, Michi Handa, Joanne Rogers, Rev. and Mrs. Fujii, Emily Nakamoto, Mary Nakagawa, Rev. and Mrs. Matsubayashi, Nancy Minamide, Terry Sato, Karen and Ken Suyama, Pat Takemoto, Judy Tokubo, Kathy Velasco and Yaeko Yasuhiro. In addition, John Arai and Reina Fujii came to volunteer at the various events. The guest speakers were enlightening and everyone enjoyed their talk. It was nice to meet other members from Japan, Canada, Hawaii and Brazil and renewing friendship. The 17th World Women's Convention will be held at the Kyoto Hongwanji on May 11 and 12, 2023. Save money to attend.

Heads Up - At my dinner table, there was a man from the Palo Alto Buddhist Church. He told me he was a member of their BWA organization. If you did not know, it is the law that we cannot limit our membership by race, creed or gender. So now we need to open our membership for men to join our organization. Be flexible to change. It's our future.

Our thanks to Karen Fujii for organizing and buying items for the omiyage bags. Thank to Pat Takemoto for making room reservations at the Marriott. Thank you to Karen Suyama for registering our attendees on line. Thank you to Terry Sato for handling all the finances related to the convention. Above all thank you to all members for your continued support of our organization, especially the rummage sale and BWA Bingo Night.

OCTOBER 2019

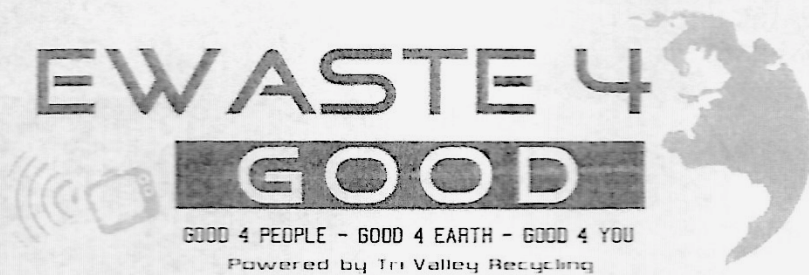
SACBC ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NOTE: Rev. Fujii is off on Mondays & Tuesdays. You can still contact him for urgent matters on these days. (510) 509-5477		1 6:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	2 2:30p Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	6:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	4 5:00p Bingo (JLS)	5 8:30a-12p JLS BWA Rummage Sale 9am-3pm
6 9-9:45a Study Class Shotsuki Hoyo BWA Rummage Sale 11am-3pm	7 2:30p Exercise 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	8 6:00p AA	9 GC Deadline 2:30p Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	10 6:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	11 5:00p Bingo (SACBC)	12 8:30a-12p JLS
13 9-9:45a Study Class Dharma Family Service Café Dharma	14 2:30p Exercise 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	15 6:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	16 2:30p Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	17 6:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	18 Bingo Faa fouina)	19 8:30a-12p JLS Bonsai Show
20 9-9:45a Study Class Dharma Family Service Café Dharma Bonsai Show	21 ****OFFICE 2:30p Exercise 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	22 CLOSED	23 2:30p Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	24 6:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	25 5:00p Bingo (Heiwa Taiko)	26 8:30a-12p JLS
27 9-9:45a Study Class 10a Athletic Assoc Service Otoki following service	28 ****OFFICE 2:30p Exercise 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	29 CLOSED	30 2:30p Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	31 6:00p AA 7:00p Kendo		

NOVEMBER 2019

TENTATIVE-SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NOTE: Rev. Fujii is off on Mondays & Tuesdays. You can still contact him for urgent matters on these days. (510) 509-5477					1 5:00p Bingo (JLS)	2 8:30a-1p JLS 9a-7p Keiro Kai setup
3 9-9:45a Study Class Shotsuki Hoyo 11AM KEIRO KAI LUNCHEON	4 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	5 8:45a Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	6 6:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	7 8:45a Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	8 5:00p Bingo (SACBC)	9 8:30a-1p JLS
10 9-9:45a Study Class 10a Eitaikyo Service	11  Veteran's Day 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	12 8:45a Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	13 6:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	14 8:45a Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	15 5:00p Bingo (O'Nami Taiko)	16 8:30a-1p JLS Scout Lei Class 1p-4p
17 9-9:45a Study Class Dharma Family Service Café Dharma	18 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	19 8:45a Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	20 Golden Chain Deadline 6:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	21 8:45a Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	22 5:00p Bingo (Community Multimedia Academy)	23 8:30a-1p JLS
24 NO SERVICE	25 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	26 8:45a Exercise 6:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	27 6:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	28 OFFICE CLOSED Thanksgiving 	29 NO BINGO	30



Free E-Waste Pickup Fundraiser
Please Help Support

Southern Alameda Co. Buddhist Church

All you have to do is go to the following website:

www.eWaste4good.com

Fill in your information and enter our organization as the beneficiary. Within a few days a dispatcher will call you to schedule an at home or office pickup date. Then, your electronics will be picked up, recycled and the proceeds will be sent to our organization. You can also call eWaste4good at 800-317-3112

Thank You for
Helping Us!!



Thank You for
Helping Us!!

Items we pickup, working or not:

All Televisions
Computer Monitors
Fax Machines
Desktop Copiers
Telephones
Vacuum Cleaners

Video Games
Computers
Calculators
Cell Phones
Printers
Household Phones

Scanners
Laptops
Stereo Systems
Medical Equipment
Power Tools
Small Appliances

Networking Equipment
Keyboards
Mice
Misc Wires and Cords
Speakers
And Much More!



OCTOBER EVENTS

5 – Sat	BWA RUMMAGE SALE	9:00AM – 3:00PM
6 – Sun	SHOTSUKI HOYO	10:00AM
	BWA RUMMAGE SALE	11:00AM – 3:00PM
27 – Sun	Athletic Association Service 10:00AM	
	Otoki following service – DS Bake Sale	

Study classes with Rev. Fujii will continue every Sunday before service, 9:00AM to 9:45AM.