

# NICHIREN NEWS

JANUARY, 2024

5191 24<sup>TH</sup> STREET – SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA – 95822 – (916) 456-8371

~ Happy New Year ~

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January, 2024

1	12:00am	New Year service
7	---	no service
14	11:30am	Kaji Kito
14	12:00pm	Church meeting
21	---	no service
28	11:00am	Tsuito-e
28	noon	New Year Party

### February, 2024

4	---	no service
11	11:30am	Setsubun service
18	---	no service
25	11:30am	Nichiren Shonin birthday service and Kaji Kito
25	12:30pm	Church meeting

## SETSUBUN

The Setsubun service will be held on **Sunday, February 11, 2024** at 11:30am. This is a special service for members who were born in the year of the Dragon (12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 84, 96 years old). As always, we will have a raffle after the service so please bring "paper products" for the raffle.

## OCTOBER, 2023 SALE

### (ADDITIONAL INFO)

The food sale for October 2023 was very successful. Food and donations totaled \$9,308. Expenses were \$1,807.62. The net sales were \$7,500.38. A big thank you to all who helped.

## CHURCH MEETING

### HIGHLIGHTS - 11/26/23

- Discussed the mochi sale details.
- Discussed Golf Tournament.

## GOLF TOURNAMENT

### THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

The Tournament will be at the Wild Horse Golf Club with a sign up deadline of March 31, 2024. The registration fee will be \$100 per person. At this time the plans include a continental breakfast provided by the golf course, snack packs and a lunch provided by the Church. There will be cash prizes and a raffle.

## MOCHI TSUKI

Thanks to all the Church members, family & friends for their hard work during our annual mochi tsuki. The mochi tsuki took place on Saturday, December 16, 2023. All supplies were donated.

Mochi (\$9)	\$ 1,674
An Mochi (\$11)	\$ 902
Kasane (\$9)	\$ 270
Tsukemono	\$ 390
Dried Persimmons	\$ 50
Total	\$ 3,286

## CHURCH NEW YEAR PARTY

The annual Church New Year party will be held at noon on Sunday, January 28, 2024 at the Church. The luncheon is \$25 per person (12 & under are free). If you would like to attend, please call the Church.

A memorial service for Church members will be held before the party. The service is at 11:00am at the Church.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We gratefully acknowledge the generous donations from the following:

### Mochi Tsuki:

Ruby Gotow & Fusako Okamoto/An supplies & preparation; Ruby Gotow/dried persimmons; Fusako Okamoto/tsukemono; Kiyoko Kuwabara/supplies, containers, plastic bags/ties & mochiko; Kathy Mine/donuts; John Hughes/mochi machine; Cindy Kadokawa/gloves  
**Mochi Tsuki Rice donations:**  
 Jane Hitomi/\$46; Lily Hitomi/\$46; Merry Hitomi/\$46; Yoshiko Hitomi/\$46; Kiyoko Kuwabara/\$62

### Membership-\$240:

Yoshiko Hitomi; John Hughes; Richard Hughes & Alexis Wilson; Kyomi Igarashi; Jon Kitamura; Janet Kyotani; Keiko Lucas; Takashi Mizuno; Deandra Murray; Liz Nettle; Fusako Okamoto; Steve Saxton

### Memorial:

In memory of Yozo Yamada - Dominick & Janet Derosa/\$100; Shirley Greene Kechriotis/\$100; Steve Greene/\$20; Suzie Greene/\$100; Mayumi Hamakawa/\$100; Frank Hirota/\$50; Charles Kobayashi/\$30; Deborah Kossman & Carin Rudich/\$100; Deborah Tyson/\$30

### Special donations:

Joe Hitomi/\$1,507.57 (bazaar supplies, & membership) & cleaning up the back parking lot; John Hughes/\$200 pest control & \$310.70 to repair refrigerator Kyomi Igarashi/\$1,000; Keiko Lucas/paper products; Fusako Okamoto/flowers for Church services & tsukemono for all our sales.; Steve Saxton/\$110;

**Fujinkai membership:** Yoshiko Hitomi/\$10



# Happy New Year everyone!

In Japan, it is customary to visit the temple on New Years day and pray for your family's health and happiness. In this newsletter, I would like to talk about the meaning of praying on New Years day.

To celebrate the new years and to pray for peace, happiness, and health on New Years day is called "shu shou e" in Japanese. The origins of this custom go back to Ancient China where the ceremony was first practiced. The first written record of this ceremony in Japan is said to have been held at the temple built under the emperor of the time in AD759. After AD765, every prefecture had a big temple where these ceremonies could also be held. During that time, the people prayed for the country's peace and also for good harvest.

In AD827 "shu shou e", which had once been restricted to certain temples, was now publicly given permission to be practiced in several other temples. Through the centuries, it is said that people made a custom to practice "shu shou e" to mainly pray for one's personal benefits. Aside from "shu shou e", it was customary in every prefecture to pray every new years day at a local shrine. During the Edo Period (1600s), people started believing that by praying, they would be blessed with good luck and happiness.

In present day Japan, the "shu shou e" has been renamed "hatsu mou de" due to the incorporation of different styles of praying that have been practiced throughout Japanese history. In any case, the way that the people pray for peace and happiness has not changed. We will gain protection and benefits from the Buddha if we consciously hope for this peace and happiness and work towards achieving this goal.

At our temple, we have a purification service every month. By striving to attend the services and pray, you will be able to obtain benefits from the Buddha. Therefore, this year, let's make an effort to attend these services as I will be purifying your family alters and praying for your family's happiness from the temple at midnight on New Years day.



**FUN-RAISER**

# NICHIREN BUDDHIST CHURCH SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT

**Thursday, April 18, 2024**

**Wildhorse GC, Davis**

- \*Field is limited to 136 players
- \*Scramble Format 18 holes
- \*Free range balls
- \*Continental breakfast and after-round teriyaki beef sandwich will be provided
- \*Team prizes will be awarded (Women Division and Men/Mixed Division)

**\$100 per Golfer**

**8AM Shotgun (Check-in starts at 6:30am)**

## REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DUE by March 31, 2024

<b>A)</b>	<b>GOLFER'S NAMES:</b>	<b>\$100 per Golfer</b>
	#1	\$
	#2	\$
	#3	\$
	#4	\$
		Donation (Optional) \$
		<b>Total Payment Due: \$</b>

**B) GROUP'S EMAIL ADDRESS** to provide your team with tournament info:

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### C) PAYMENT

- DUE DATE 3/31/2024 \*checks will be deposited AFTER the tournament
- Make check payable to NICHIREN BUDDHIST CHURCH
- Mail to GAIL TANAKA, 579 Valim Way, Sacramento, CA 95831

**Need more info? Contact GAIL at [TGTsport@gmail.com](mailto:TGTsport@gmail.com)**