

Southern District Buddhist Women's Association

Chapter Report: 2024 First Quarter

Chapter: OCBC

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OCBC BWA continues to have its Pop-up Store every first Sunday of the month. We sell items we make from delectable edibles to aprons and jewelry. We also sell items donated to us such as tenuguis, serving platters and bowls. This month we made around \$1000 as we had a lot of donated baked goods and snacks. We're open from about 9:30 to noon.

In February we celebrated and honored the BWA founder, Lady Takeko Kujo, who not only opened the doors for women in Buddhism, she was instrumental in the reconstruction of her Hongwanji after the Great Kanto earthquake in Tokyo and established Japan's first medical center, Asoka Hospital. She was also a devoted poet and her translated works can be found in a book entitled "Leaves of My Heart". After Lady Kujo's memorial service we had a delicious lunch of about a dozen varieties of salads and played Bunco. If you haven't played before, it's a lot of fun

Every 2nd Monday of the month we cook a lunch for our seniors and the volunteer maintenance crew. This month we had orange chicken, salmon, edamame, cold noodle salad, garlic zucchini squash with eggs, rice and takuan. At the lunch we celebrate all those born in that month. We also have free raffles where we give Lotto Scratchers and other goodies as prizes. We also make enough food for 80 bentos for the Tomodachi Bento Project (a Keiro funded program organized by OCBC volunteers) which feeds and visits with 80 seniors living throughout Orange County who are home bound.

Next month will be our Hanamatsuri on April 20 and 21. Come and join the festivities and say "hi" to those you may not have seen in a while! OC BWA is responsible for making the sushi, won ton and soba noodles....sooooo yummy!

Our next BWA meeting will be on May 19, 2024 following the Gotanye Service and lunch (which our BWA is cooking).