

UPAYA Newsletter of the Buddhist Temple of Alameda

2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda CA 94501 (510) 522-5243 btoa.org

Volume XXXVII, No. 2

Message from Rev. D.

Spring Ohigan

We turn the calendar page and the spring season announces its arrival. At the temple we are planning for the Spring Ohigan Service. **Ohigan marks a time when we come to mindful awareness of where we are and deep appreciation of what we have.** The Nembutsu Path provides us a way of life that is grounding and stable. We are provided the gift of this path by those who have come before us. We carry this forward and share it with family and friends who surround us today. In this way, we live within the movement of compassion.

This year, we are fortunate to have special Guest Speaker Rev. Michael Endo! Rev. Michael serves as Assistant to the Bishop and is a member of the Buddhist Church of Oakland. Rev. Michael has had numerous opportunities to work closely with Hongwanji

and BCA staff through his position in assisting the Bishop. His family has been a mainstay at the Oakland temple forever. These are roots that provide him with a depth of appreciation that he can share with us. Rev. Michael has many friends here at our temple as well. **The Spring Ohigan Service this year will be held on Sunday, March 17 at 10:00 AM.** Please mark your calendar to be here and to welcome Rev. Endo to Alameda!

Hanamatsuri – Flower Festival

Each April at the temple, we celebrate the birth of the historical Buddha. April 8, 565 BC is the date we recognize as the day Prince Siddhartha was born in Northern India. His parents, King Suddhodana and Queen Maya of the Sakya clan were so happy to welcome the baby prince into this world, that they named him Siddhartha. The name means "Every Wish Fulfilled".

This year, we will have special guest, Dii Lewis from the Berkeley Buddhist Temple. Dii comes to share his voice, guitar, and music with our members. Dii is known in the BCA circles for his wonderful music and has been a part of many collaborations with temples and musicians throughout BCA. I first met Dii during chanting classes at the old IBS as students of Rev. Kusada. That must be close to 50 years ago now!!

We will also have a Hanamatsuri play presented by the Dharma School students, teachers, and friends! Like flowers blooming in the garden, we now have more than two students at the temple!! The Dharma School has vibrant energy and we will be able to have them re-enact the story of Hanamatsuri for us to recall.

At the temple, **we build the Hanamido or Flower Shrine** to symbolize the mystery of the flowers that bloomed out of season that day in Northern India. The Hanamatsuri Service is always one of the most colorful and memorable services on the temple calendar. This year **our Hanamatsuri Service is Sunday, April 14, at 10:00.** Please come to enjoy Dii's visit and the Dharma School presentation at this very special service. We will see you at the temple!

> Gassho, Rev. Joshin Dennis Fujimoto <u>revdjoshin@gmail.com</u> (916) 416-0919



March & Apríl 2024

Everyone is Welcome to Attend Services "In Person"

Mask Optional

We will continue to live stream on our YouTube Channel.

March

3 10	10:00 9:30 10:00	Shotsuki Hoyo (Mor Dharma School Family Service	nthly Memorial)
17	10:00	Birthday Sunday Spring Ohigan Serv	rice Speaker, Rev. Endo
24	9:30	Dharma School No Family Service of Hidden Treasures So	due to
7	10:00 11:00	<u>April</u> Shotsuki Service Sangha Time	
13	10:00	Hanamido Set Up	
14	9:30	y Sunday Dharma School Hanamatsuri Servic Sangha Time	ce
21	10:00 11:00 11:30 2:00 4:00	Family Service Sangha Time Obento for Movie (Carving the Divine Buddhist Artist Show	Movie @ Rhythmix
28	9:30 10:00 11:00	Dharma School Family Service w/Ask Rev. Dennis Sangha Time	
5	10:00 11:00	<u>May</u> Shotsuki Service Sangha Time	
12		y Sunday Dharma School Parents Day Family Service Sangha Time	
19	10:00	Gotan E Service w/Ask Rev. Dennis	
	11:00	Sangha Time	
25	(Saturc	ay) Memorial Do Cemetery Vi	
26	NO SEF	VICE (Saturday Visitati	on)



Dii Lewis Guest Speaker

Hanamatsuri

April 14th

SAVE THESE DATES:

BEC LECTURE SERIES

<u>SPRING DATES</u> Apríl 4, 11, 18, 25 FALL DATES October 3, 10, 17 & 24

Classes are taught by Rev. Dennis Joshin Fujimoto and hosted by the Alameda Buddhist Education Committee.

Vacationland BAZAAR

Sunday, June 23rd One Day Only

OBON DORI

Saturday, July 20th

Rev. Michael Endo Guest Speaker

Spring Ohigan March 17th

ABWA NEWS

Dana Food Drive

Donation Update: ABWA will add an additional amount to the total received and donate \$2,500 each to the Alameda Food Bank and Alameda County Community Food Bank. Thank you to all for your very generous donations!

Toban Groups:

We will continue with the same groups as in the past. However, we will call on members from other groups or temple members to help out when necessary. A draft of the 2024 Toban list was distributed to the ABWA members and Toban helpers. After the necessary corrections and changes are made, the final copy will be distributed.

Otoki and Events - Toban Assignments:

This year the ABWA Toban responsibilities will cover 6 events, 2 for each group.

EVENT	DATE	GROUP
ABWA NY's Party	March 10	2
Hanamatsuri	April 14	3
Gotan-e	May 19	1
Obon	July 21	1
ABWA Memorial	Oct. 20	3
Ho-onko	Nov. 17	2

ABWA New Year's Party/Luncheon:

We look forward to having a luncheon to celebrate the New Year (and Spring) on **March 10**. It will be held at Sushi House at South Shore. Group 2 is in charge of coordinating it. Hopefully, by the time this Upaya is received, ABWA members and Toban helpers will have been contacted with more information regarding time, cost, menu and RSVP's. Hope to see you there!

Next Meeting:

Our next meeting will be held on **Sunday, April 7 at 9:00AM** before the Monthly Memorial service. A reminder with the agenda, minutes and financial report will be sent out in advance.

Gassho, Lenni Terao-Doerr, ABWA President



<u>Coffee Hour</u> If you would like to receive notifications for our monthly Zoom Coffee Hours, please email Wayne for the link.

wnakano@ix.netcom.com



DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

Dharma school has continued this year with some wonderful adult members who have volunteered to be guest speakers. We've had Joan DeStefano, Amy Tomine, and next up are Doug Doerr and Jane Naito. We'd love any of you to come in to share your Dharma experiences and get to know the students and vice versa. We hope to encourage all of you to contact us and offer some time to meet the students.

We hope to see you at Hanamatsuri and our Mother's Day celebrations!

Metta, The Dharma School team







February

Birthday Sundays 2nd Sunday of the Month

Please join us on Birthday Sundays and celebrate our sangha members' birthdays with us. Some have donated pennies, quarters, or dollars for each year they are celebrating.

The kids love hearing all the coins being dropped into the osaisen box. All donations are used for Dharma School Programs.

2024 Membership Drive

Membership Form Enclosed

It's that time of year again. We hope you will renew once again and become a member of our sangha at BTOA.

The membership dues you pay will be going to the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA). We hope that you will add a little extra with your membership dues to help us with our educational programs, maintaining our facilities and to compensate our resident minister.



Buy a gift membership for a family member or friend. We will send them a welcome gift and let them know that you have given them the gift of BTOA membership.

New adult memberships are only \$100.00.

Discount on first year only.



BTOA Annual New Year's Party!

Thank you to Tom Hashimoto for preparing the prime rib, Wayne Nakano for cooking the sides, his special horseradish, and gravy, Jane Naito for the vegetarian Tofu Egg casserole, Yumi Yasuda for making the rice, Hiko Shimamoto for picking up the cake, Gayle Okada for taking the RSVP and all of the board members who came out to help set up and clean up.



HANAMASURI Hanamido Creation Saturday, April 13th 10:00 AM

The **hanamido** is a representation of the beautiful garden of Lumbini where the Buddha was born. Come join us on Saturday, April 13th as we create the lovely own hanamido for our Hanamatsuri service.

Members are uncouraged to bring flowers from their garden to decorate the hanamido.



HANAMASURI OTOKI Sunday, April 14th

Please join us for otoki (lunch after service).

RSVP: Gayle Okada 510-276-3483 gayle.okada@gmail.com

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Steve Costa and his wife who stopped by our services last month to drop off this photograph of the Sunday School Teacher Conference taken on July, 1941 that was likely hosted by our Temple. It was taken at the bandstand at Lake Merritt.



2024 Buddhist Temple of Alameda Membership Form

Main Contact Information				
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Home Telephone	Cellular
Address (Street, City, Zip code)			Email Address	
Spouse/ Partner Information (O	NLY IF MEMBER)			
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Cellular	
			Email Address	
Children - Under Age 31 Living	at Home (ONLY IF MEMB	ER)		
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Cellular	Email Address
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Cellular	Email Address
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Cellular	Email Address
Emergency Contact – Will Remain Confidential				
Name		Phone Number		

Membership Directory		Membership Dues	QTY	Fee	TOTAL
		Individual Membership		\$175	
A membership directory will be created and dis		New Member 1 st Year		\$100	
members. If you wish to NOT be included, please check a box below.		Young Adult (18-30 years old)		\$50	
	Check box	Child (under 18 & parent is member)		FREE	
Do not list in the membership directory.		Child (under 18 & parent not member)		\$25	
Ok to list in membership directory, but do not list our cellular numbers.		Additional Donation			
Ok to list in membership directory, but do not list our email addresses.		Note: All of your membership du Buddhist Churches of America (E			
You may list me (and my spouse/partner), but do not list our children's contact information		of Alameda relies on your generous donations to support the resident minister's salary, educational programs, and maintaining facilities.			

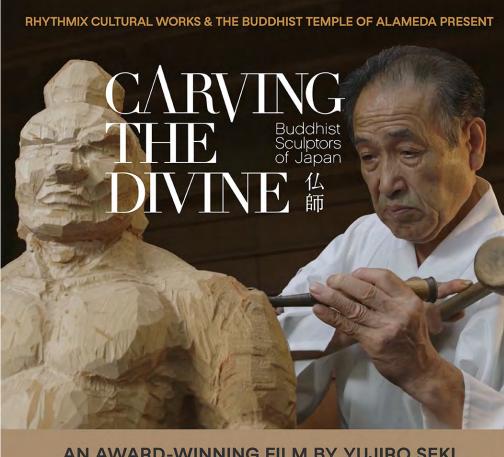
Signature	Date	
 Age information will be used to determine membership categories and keiro status only. 		

• Ages, Emergency Contact Information and Contact Information for children under 18 will NOT be published.

Please enclose form and check payable to: Buddhist Temple of Alameda 2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501

OBENTO* & A MOVIE

*obento is ONLY available for those going to the movie. This is not an obento fundraiser. Obento is from Musaski Resturant in Berkeley. Obento will be service immediately following the 10:00 AM service. The obento is for BTOA members and friends of BTOA only. Movie is open to the public.



AN AWARD-WINNING FILM BY YUJIRO SEKI SUNDAY • 2:00PM • APRIL 21, 2024 **Movie** (incl. service charge)

____ x \$23.75 = _____

___ check if movie ticket already purchased from Rhythmix

Beef Teriyaki Obento *

____x \$16.25 = _____

Vegetarian Obento *

_x \$16.25 = ____

Donation: ____

(optional)

100% of the donations will be sent to Seki-san, the filmmaker to help cover production costs for this amazing movie he created for us.

TOTAL:

NAME: _____

CELLULAR: (_____)

EMAIL:

Mail Checks to: Buddhist Temple of Alameda 2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda, CA. 94501

Or Pay Online via PayPal: @btoa1916 or Venmo: @btoalameda

Deadline: Postmarked April 1, 2024

If you would like to purchase tickets to the movie only - please purchase directly from Rhythmix online at https://www.rhythmix.org/events/carving-the-divine/

SHOTSUKI HOYO MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE Sundays, April 7 and May 5, 2024

In Person & Living Streaming on our YouTube Channel

Family members and friends are invited to the Memorial Service for those listed below.

If 2024 is a special service year as indicated below, please contact Rev. Joshin Dennis Fujimoto to arrange a special memorial service for your family.

Special Service based on the Year of Death

1 year 2023	3 year 2022
7 year 2018	13 year 2012
17 year 2008	25 year 2000
33 year 1992	50 year 1975

April Shotsuki Names

Doi, Mr. Raiji 1928 Fukuoka, Mrs. Nobuko 1992 Futagaki, Mr. Shigeo 1998 Hasegawa, Mrs. Toshiye 2020 Ikeda, Mrs. Kikuno 1927 Imura, Miss Sadae 1927 Ishii, Infant Kivoshi 1916 Iwahashi, Mrs. Yukino 1963 Kaida, Mrs. Alice N. 2013 Kanzaki, Mrs. Sada 1933 Kataoka, Mrs. Yumi 1968 Kawano, Mr. Katsufusa 1957 Kihara, Mrs. Tsuru 1933 Kimura, Mrs. Ryoko 2010 Kinoshita, Mrs. Fukuno 1925 Kitaiima, Mr. Tamotsu 1975 Komatsu, Miss Louise 1993 Kuge, Mr. Don 1997 Kuge, Mr. Hatsuzo 1940 Kusada, Mr. Yaozo 1926 Machida, Mr. Jurouvemon 1939 Maniwa, Infant Kevin 1984 Matsuzaki, Mr. Yokichi 1932 Mayegoto, Mr. Gohei 1929 Mitoma, Infant 1919 Morotomi, Infant Kachiyo 1920 Nagai, Mr. Tagoro 1931 Nakamura, Mr. Kohei 1940 Nakano, Mr. Jumi 1948 Nakata, Infant 1920 Nakashima, Miss Kimi 1919 Nakayama, Mrs. Akiko 1928 Nakavama, Mr. Minoru 1945 Nakaso, Ms. Virginia Tomie 2002 Narahara, Mrs. Tokie 1952 Nishino, Infant Takashi 1931 Obata, Mr. Tomejiro 1970 Okabe, Mrs. Mieko 1979

Okada, Mr. Gary 2007 Okamoto, Nobuko 2018 Rice, Mr. Wilbur 1988 Sakai, Mr. Makitaro 1957 Sekigahama, Mr. Hiroshi 1953 Setogawa, Mr. Tsurutaro 1919 Shigematsu, Mr. Tosaka 1928 Shimada, Mr. Kumataro 1954 Shimada, Mr. Taichi 1984 Soma, Mr. Gendayu 1919 Sugiyama, Mrs. Shizue 1993 Suveyasu, Mr. Susumu 1998 Taguchi, Miss Hisako1932 Takayama, Mrs. Marue 2007 Takayanagi, Mrs. Shigeko 1997 Takayanagi, Mr. Tadao 2012 Takizawa, Mr. Thomas 1950 Tanaka, Mr. Kumao 1986 Terao, Mrs. Joyce Mitsuko 2022 Tsuchiya, Infant Hisashi 1923 Tsuchiya, Infant Tsukie 1922 Umene Yoshiko 2018 Ushijima, Mrs. Lillie Y 2013 Wada, Mrs. Komino 1985 Yamamoto, Mr. Totaro 1971 Yamamoto, Mr. Yoshisuke 1925 Yamaoka, Mr. Fumio 1990 Yamaoka, Ms. Hideko 1992 Yamaoka, Mr. Jim K. 2002 Yamaoka, Mrs. Kayo 1971 Yamashita, Mr. Hideo 1971 Yamasaki, Mr. Satoru 1992 Yanari, Mrs. Betty 2010 Yonekura, Mr. Rinzo 1965 Yoshida, Mrs. Toki 2013 May Shotsuki List 2024 Abe, Infant Seitaro 1922 Ago, Infant Kimiye 1926

Akinaga, Mr. Nobuo 1977 Akiyama, Mrs. Shina 1920 Arima, Infant Kazuo 1926 Ariyoshi, Mr. Keitaro 1934 Bruno, Mr. Thomas 1982 Doerr, Mr. Richard 2012 Fujikawa, Mr. Kenneth 1999 Fujisaki, Mrs. Yoshiko 1919 Fukuoka, Mr. Heiji 1979 Genger, Sachiko 2018 Hanada, Mr. Tetsunosuke 1917 Hasegawa, Miss Misuzu 1951 Hashimoto, Mrs. Yaeko 2008 lijima, Infant Paul 1983 Ikeda, Mrs. Kikuno 1937 Ishikata, Mr. Isamu 2002 Isoda, Mrs. Ai 1925 Jelinek, William 2006 Kaida, Mrs. Alice N. 2013

Continuation: May Shotsuki List 2024

Kaji, Infant Masayuki 1930 Kamada, Mr. Tokumatsu 1940 Kato, Miss Sumiko 1954 Kazusaka, Master Haruto 1935 Ken, Mr. Umeichi 1930 Kikugawa, Mr. Sadao 1932 Kita, Mrs. Oyoshi 1967 Kitashima, Mr. Sakaye 1934 Kuwahara, Mr. Jusaku 1925 Maeda, Mrs. Dakino Toki 2008 Marlin, Mrs. Mariko J. 2013 Marubayashi, Infant Tadashi 1925 Marubayashi, Mrs. Takeko 1943 Maruyama, Mr. Hyakutaro 1936 Matsui, Mr. Seinosuke 1937 Matsuura, Mrs. Sumiko 1995 Mayegoto, Infant Kazuye 1922 Misumi, Mrs. Miyono 1930 Mitani, Mr. Jitsuo 1977 Myer, Mr. Richard 1987 Nakagawara, Mrs. Shigeno 1933 Nakano, Mr. Ataru 1983 Nose, Mrs. Kazuye 1929 Ohve, Mr. Senichiro 1980 Okada, Ms. Kazuko 1991 Okada, Mr. Kinji 2007 Okada, Mr. Minoru 1955 Okami, Mr. Taneo 1922 Okamoto, Mr. Henry S. 2014 Okamoto, Mr. Takaharu 1932 Okamoto, Mr. Tomio Thomas 2008 Rubly, Mrs. Clara 1952 Sakamoto, Mrs. Merry S. 2017 Sakata, Mrs. Akino 1934 Sekiyama, Mrs. Shina 1920 Shibata, Mr. Zenjuro 1947 Shikano, Miss Tomiye 1960 Takahashi, Mr. Eitaro 1938 Takeda, Mr. Taro 2010 Takei, Mr. Matsugoro 1921 Takimoto, Mrs. Masami 1918 Tamura, Mr. Kenichi 1947 Tanaka, Mrs. Kameye 1929 Tou, Mr. Reisui 1984 Tsuromoto, Mrs. Setsuko 2014 Wada, Mr. Genjiro 1967 Yamagami, Mrs. Hisano 1951 Yamamoto, Mr. Koei 1933 Yamamoto, Mr. Nobuso 1990 Yamasaki, Mr. Suyekichi 1981 Yamasaki, Mr. Yasuji 1941 Yamashita, Mrs. Shiae 2009 Yamashita, Mr. Tom 1993 Yonekura, Mr. Hisakichi 1919 Yoshida, Mr. Kiyosuke 1938

BTOA Leadership Retreat



In January, the BTOA Board had it first ever Board Retreat. Many of us spent the night at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley and experienced wonderful workshops lead by Sharmon Fujimoto the following day.

Thank you Sharmon!

2024 Japanese Goods & Hidden Treasures Sale

VOLUNTEERS will be NEEDED. If you're available to volunteer with the set up or cashiering and providing customer service on the sale dates, please contact Gayle and let her know when you'll be available to assist. It takes a village!

> Contact Gayle Okada 510-276-3483 gayle.okada@gmail.com

UPAYA CHANGES

Effective 2024, the Upaya is being sent out 6 times a year. This is due to a combination of rising costs in postage and lack of volunteers to create and distribute the newsletter.

We're going to try this for the year and see how it goes. Meanwhile, we will be increasing our BTOA email blasts to remind you of events that are going on at the Temple.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.



Buddhist Art??? In Alameda??? YES!

"Colors of the Infinite: Contemporary Buddhist Art" exhibit at Rhythmix Cultural Works is here in Alameda. The Buddhist Temple of Alameda and The Buddhist Churches of America Art Committee have joined with the Rhythmix Cultural Works to present this collection of art. The artwork presented are by Betty Nobue Kano, Joyce Nojima, Kai Issei Fujioka, Valerie Pham, and Joan DiStefano. Each of these artists have been participants in the BCA Virtual Art Exhibit presented by the BCA Art Committee over the past 3 years. Here are a few excerpts from their bio statements:

- Betty Kano "Asian American Women Artists Association was formed then as an attempt to bring Asian American women together to appreciate and support each other as artists."
- Joyce Nojima "Nojima is currently a faculty member at SF City College and a teaching artist in residence at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts."
- Kai Fujioka "Kai's Japanese American heritage and his appreciation for natural landscapes provide a unique perspective demonstrated in his work."
- Valerie Pham "I explore the ways my religion beautifully integrates into daily life."
- Joan Clair Di Stefano –" The Shin Buddhist teachings and temple traditions have grown to become a major influence in my life."
- Plus Rev. Dennis Fujimoto will also display a few of his sculptures.

Their artworks will be at the Rhythmix Gallery from **March 9 to April 23**. Please check the Rhythmix site for times and admissions information. <u>https://www.rhythmix.org/</u>events/buddhist-art/

An Opening Reception will be held with the artists on **Saturday March 9 from 1-3 PM**. A special Closing Reception will be held immediately following the showing of "Carving the Divine" on Sunday April 21. Come see the movie and check out the art exhibit.

"Colors of the Infinite: Contemporary Buddhist Art" Rhythmix Cultural Works, 2513 Blanding Avenue, Alameda

Come see how your fellow Bay District sangha members express their art. K GALLERY AT RHYTHMIX CULTURAL WORKS, BUDDHIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA AND BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF ALAMEDA PRESENT

COLORS OF THE INFINITE Contemporary Buddhist Art

work: Joyce Nojima, Untitled, 2023, acrylic gouac

FEATURED ARTISTS: BETTY NOBUE KANO · JOYCE NOJIMA · KAI ISSEI FUJIOKA · VALERIE PHAM · JOAN DI STEFANO



RHYTHMIX.ORG

2513 BLANDING AVE ALAMEDA MARCH 9 - APRIL 23, 2024 Opening Reception SATURDAY, MARCH 9 · 1-3PM FREE · RSVP RECOMMENDED





Buddhist Temple Of Alameda Presents **JAPANESE HIDDEN JREASURES SALE**

Saturday, March 23: 11-3pm Sunday, March 24: 12-3pm FREE ADMISSION



BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF ALAMEDA 2325 Pacific Ave. @Park St.

www.btoa.org







The Infinite Way of Shin Buddhism

The *Buddhist Temple of Alameda* will offer spring classes on Buddhism in April on ZOOM. We will utilize the words and thoughts of John Paraskevopoulos' book, "Call of the Infinite – The Way of Shin Buddhism" as he presents the way of the Nembutsu of Shin Buddhism as a means to a meaningful life through this spiritual path.

Classes will be held on Thursday evenings. 6:30PM – 8:00PM, April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024



Life responsibilities of work, home, and family increase the demands upon each of us. Declining health of those we care for as well as ourselves is an ongoing process. Age and illness confront us all. Despite such difficulties, stability and grounding allow us to proceed with strength and joy. Shin Buddhism provides such a path.

As followers of the Dharma, our practice is to live our lives guided by the principles of Wisdom and Compassion. What is the wisdom that guides our lives? How do we recognize and receive the endless acts of compassion that abound? As we live our everyday lives, we are guided to a different way of seeing life and the world that surrounds us.

These classes are free of charge and open to the public. For those interested, please email **alamedabec@gmail.com. Registration is required**. Deadline to register is April 1, 2024. The book may be purchased through Amazon. Classes are hosted by the Alameda Buddhist Education Committee, Buddhist Temple of Alameda, 2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501. For further information and updates, please view our website btoa.org. You can also call or text Rev. Dennis Fujimoto at (916) 416-0919, or email him at revdjoshin@gmail.com.



Buddhist Temple of Alameda 2325 Pacific Avenue Alameda, CA 94501

Time Sensitive Materials

Return Service Requested

BTOA Koden Thank You Cards Available for Purchase \$20.00 for a set of 50 cards/envelopes

