



**LAS VEGAS BUDDHIST
SANGHA NEWSLETTER
MARCH, 2013**



MARCH SERVICE: Our March (Spring Ohigan) service will be conducted by Reverend Alan Sakamoto of the Orange County Buddhist Church on Sunday, March 10, 2013 at 10 a.m. at the JAACL Activity Center, 1401 Arville, which is just south of Charleston. The Ohigan (the other shore) service is conducted twice a year during the equinox when the days and nights are of equal length and the weather is supposedly neither too cold nor too warm. Harmony throughout the universe is stressed. Reflecting upon this harmony of nature through following the Six Paramitas, Buddhists are to devote themselves to these Paramitas in their lives: The Path of Giving—*Dana*; The Path of Right Behavior—*Sila*; The Path of Endurance & Patience—*Ksanti*; The Path of Endeavor or Effort—*Virya*; The Path of Meditation—*Dhyana*; The Path of Wisdom—*Prajna*. *Spring Higan* is right around the corner when we should "cross-over" and see how the universal "others" touch our lives. If there is a Sangha volunteer who will use the theme of the Six Paramitas with the Dharma Class activity for Ohigan, please email ycsuzuki@cox.net or 228-3071. As at the February service, we hope to see a lot of members at the March 10th service.

FEBRUARY'S DHARMA MESSAGE: Rev. Turner's Dharma message started out by his funny miscue during his ordination, where he wanted desperately to impress the presiding Sensei by using the Japanese that he was learning. Instead, when he was presented with "a bowl of gohan," he thanked him with "gracias" instead of "arigato." His message was a discussion of the three toxins: anger-snake; ignorance-bird; greed-pig. He brought with him props of stuffed snake, pig and bird. The analogy was to create positive awareness and work on these positive awakening in ourselves "just as we are" from the negative toxins that we possess. As we learned, we need to work with what we possess (in Japanese: "sonomama"). These teachings were brought out also in his class, "Buddhism as it Relates to Every Day Life," which was held on Saturday and Sunday.

FEBRUARY GUESTS: Bradley and Jeffery Nishi came with their parents as well as Jerry and Arlene Ogata, parents of Sangha Board Member Jon Ogata; and Koichi Iida (and wife Katie), who is a friend of Wayne Tanaka and a substitute teacher.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS were brought to the service Flowers brought by Brenda Creed, Shoji Fukawa, Rosie Kakuuchi.

TOBAN: Sho Fukawa, Takako Ogata, Sadako Wanless, Patty and Fred Yamano and Rev. Jon Turner.

GET WELL WISHES: were sent to board member Michael Tanaka who is back from UCLA Medical and is recovering from surgery.

FEBRUARY DHARMA CLASS ACTIVITY included Cathy, Michael & Megan Arakaki, Eileen Castle and son Miles Roebuck, Gay Kurashige with Nicholas, Chelsea & Jimmy; Caryl Suzuki, and Guest June Monroe. Despite the cold, windy day, they marched holding the LV Buddhist Sangha banner in the Chinese New Year's parade down Fourth Street from Hoover to Stewart. They walked behind the Kaminari Taiko group that was playing on the top of one of the double-decker red buses.

MONTHLY DONATION: Ken & Gladys Akita; Sharleen Aoki, Alice Branton; Sho Fukawa; Sally Hanagami; Harriet & James Huber; Stan & Nancy Isa (January); Alice Kado; Rosie Kakuuchi; Kumiko Kashiwada; Kurashige Family; Pati Lira; Hank & June Maruyama; Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga; Daniel Miyake; Ben & Karen Mizusaki; Bill & Nanette Muraoka; Dennis & Margaret Nakata; Mits Nakayama; Takako Ogata; Eleanor Oshiro; Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse; Muriel Scrivner; Kazuo & Edna Shiotani; Mike & Becky Suyeyasu; Roy & Caryl Suzuki; Sadie & Wayne Tanaka; June Tateishi; Agnes Tsuchiyama; Sadako Wanless (annual); Scott & Tami Watanabe; Grace Wertz; Mas Yamada; Fred & Patty Yamano.

MEMBERSHIP: Ken & Gladys Akita; Ann & Noboru Aoyagi; Emiko Aoki; Sharleen Aoki; Cathy Arakaki; Alice Branton; Dennis & Brenda Creed; Sho Fukawa; Hana Fukumoto; Mabel Fukumoto; Clara Hamasaki; Sally Hanagami; Deborah Harlig; Richard & Carolyn Higa; Sandy Hiyane; Tomico Honda; Dr. David Hopper; Harriet & James Huber; Sadae Kasamoto; Kumiko Kashiwada; June Ikeda; Stan & Nancy Isa; Alice Kado; Rosie Kakuuchi; Georgianna & Albert Kobayashi; Wayne Kozai (new); Kurashige Family; Pati Lira; Hank & June Maruyama; Aiko Mayeda; Bill & Nanette Muraoka; Dennis & Margaret Nakata; Kumiko Nakata; Mits Nakayama; Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga; Daniel Miyake; Frances Miyasato; Ben & Karen Mizusaki; Steve & Myrtle Noguchi; John Ogata; Takako Ogata; Eleanor Oshiro; Mary Ozaki; Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse; Alice & Paul Sakamoto; June Tateishi; Jason & Marlo Sando-Tsuchiyama; Muriel Scrivner; Kazuo & Edna Shiotani; Michael Tanaka; Sadie & Wayne Tanaka; Agnes Tsuchiyama; Flora Tsuma; Scott & Tami Watanabe; Mike & Becky Suyeyasu; Roy & Caryl Suzuki; Grace Wertz; Mas Yamada; Fred & Patty Yamano. If your name is not listed, please send your \$20 dues or if we have inadvertently omitted your name, let the treasurer Pati Lira know at 4874 Nardini Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89141. Or you may call Pati regarding any errors at 363-5408. Thank you.

MEMORIALS: Brenda Creed - Richard Izumi, father; Dennis Creed-Virginia Morton, mother; Sho Fukawa-parents; Hana Fukumoto-Fred Fukumoto, husband; Rosie Kakuuchi-Jack Kakuuchi, husband; Daniel Miyake-Yoshiko Miyake, mother; Dennis Nakata-Sakashi Nakata, mother; Roy Suzuki-Takeko Suzuki, mother; Flora Tsuma-Shijo Tsuma, husband.

SPECIAL DONATION: Cynthia Nishimoto-Nishida; Jerry & Arlene Ogata.

CLASS DONATION: \$120.00 was collected from Dr. Dave Hopper & Eileen Castle, Margaret Nakata, Ellie Oshiro, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, and Patty Yamano, who participated in Reverend Jon Turner's presentation. Reverend Turner's class was thought provoking and included *A Recipe for Enlightenment*; *Asperger Diagnosis*; *Broken Heart Syndrome*; *Can \$500 million make you happy*; *Putting Out the Fire*; *Sandi Meisner on Acting*; *The List*; and *Why Bronze Medalists are Happier*. The other classes still being planned were not accepted as PDE classes for the CCSD teachers, but Sangha members are encouraged to attend the Saturday classes before each Sunday service as follows:

Saturday, March 9: Six Paramitas with Reverend Alan Sakamoto.....1 to 4 p.m.

Practices of a Buddhist: Giving, Precepts, Effort, Patience, Meditation, Wisdom.

How to apply the Six Paramitas to our everyday life.

Saturday, April 13: Life of the Buddha and its relevance for today with Reverend George Matsubayashi.....1 to 4 p.m.

A review of the life of the Buddha: Early life, Renunciation, Ascetic practice, Enlightenment.

Turning the Wheel of the Dharma; Passing into Nirvana.
The Buddha's message and its relevance for our world today.

Saturday, May 11: Resolving Life's Problems Through Buddhism with Reverend Marvin Harada.....1 to 4 p.m.

The matter of life and death.
Buddhist perspectives on life and death.
Resolving marital, or relationship issues in life through Buddhism.
Resolving work issues through Buddhism.

Saturday, December 7: Buddhist Calligraphy Workshop: Reverend Akio Miyaji.....1 to 4 p.m.

Basic stroke order of calligraphy.
Basic Chinese characters.
Buddhist meaning of Chinese characters.

MARCH MEMORIALS: If you would like the minister, Reverend Alan Sakamoto, to perform a family memorial service during the weekend of our next service, you may contact Roy Suzuki to arrange it. The minister will come in on Saturday morning. Also, if you want to bring memorial flowers on Sunday, please remember to bring a vase and to take home or give away your flowers after the service. 3/4, Nao Kasamoto, Husband of Sadie Kasamoto, and Joe Hajime Norikane, Father of Gay Kurashige; 3/5, Hector Lira, Father of Pati Lira; 3/6, Toshiyuki Matsuda, Brother of Sadako Wanless; 3/8, Maseko Yoshimura-Sakahara; Mother of Bill Sakahara; 3/13, Kiyoko Tsuma, Mother in law of Flora Tsuma; 3/18, Ronald Oshiro, Husband of Ellie Oshiro; 3/19, Sakashi Nakata, Mother of Dennis Nakata; 3/20, Sada Kitagawa, Mother of Sadie Kasamoto, and June Yamada, Wife of Masaichi Yamada; 3/24, James Hamasaki, Husband of Clara Hamasaki; 3/27, Sakae Bert Ogata, Husband of Takako Ogata; 3/28, Masaichi Tanimine, Father of Alice Branton; 3/30, Keiji Matsuda, Brother of Sadako Wanless, and Michael Hopper, Son of David Hopper; 3/31, Gumpe Honda, Husband of Tomico Honda.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS: 3/1 Kota Watanabe; 3/4 Hana Fukumoto/ 3/5 Aiko Mayeda; 3/9 Flora Tsuma; 3/15 Delwayne Arakaki, Dan Kosora, Shioji Fukawa, Becky Suyeyasu; 3/16 Clifford Moses; 3/18 Arthur Harlig; 3/19 Anne Aoki & Gay Kurashige; 3/27 Kie Watanabe.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES: 3/16 Kazuo & Edna Shiotani. Sandi Hiyane is trying to keep up the anniversary, memorial and birthday lists. However, if any member has any additions or changes that need to be made, please write it down and/or email it to Sandi whose email is shiyane2010@hotmail.com. If you give the information verbally it's more difficult to remember it at the time of the newsletter.

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING: was formally held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 30, with the following items discussed: asking for a meeting with Rev. Harada to discuss having guest ministers in place of the four who are scheduled from OCBC as well as to negotiate the fee structure per month with OCBC.

Another board meeting on February 8th was hosted by Ellie Oshiro who generously had all the board members and spouses at her home. Not only was the camaraderie evident, but Ellie had the members playing a dice game that produced two winners that split the winnings: Dr. Dave Hopper and Rosie Kakuuchi. All members are invited to attend any of the following board meetings: WED, 2/ 27; TUE, 3/26; WED, 4/24; TUE, 5/28; TUE, 6/25; WED, 7/31; WED, 8/28; MON, 9/23; WED, 10/30; TUE, 11/26; and WED, 12/18. All meetings start at 5:30 pm. If you plan to attend, let Sharleen Aoki know at 254-4021 or shaperiwinkle@yahoo.com so enough food will be available.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pati Lira reports that we have ample cash reserves in preparation for Obon expenses. Our investments are doing very well under Derek Uehara's management. Our dividend income this past year exceeded expectations.

TOBAN FOR MARCH that includes NO food, but coming early to set up and help put things away at the end: Sally Hanagami, Caroline & Richard Higa, Tomi Honda, David Hopper, Harriet Huber, Takako Ogata. We thank Dale Ito who is slowly recovering from his surgery and may be resuming his regular custodial duties for which we are always so grateful. He comes so early to set up, so if anyone has the time to come and help he's there by 8:30 as are Takako Ogata, Sadako Wanless and Sho Fukawa by 9 a.m.

HANAMATSURI Our Hanamatsuri service is scheduled for Sunday, April 7th, at 10 a.m. with Reverend George Matsubayashi as our guest speaker. More members are asked to come at 8:30 to prepare the *Hanamido*. We will also be having our annual Hanamatsuri Potluck following the service.

LAS VEGAS BUDDHIST SANGHA Service Chair Persons 2013: MARCH – Dr. Dave Hopper; APRIL – Rosie Kakuuchi; MAY – Harriet Huber; JUNE – Dr. Dave Hopper; JULY - Rosie Kakuuchi; AUGUST - Obon; SEPTEMBER – Jim Kurashige; OCTOBER – Pati Lira; NOVEMBER – Harriet Huber; DECEMBER – Rosie Kakuuchi.



Rev. Jon Turner is flanked by Katie and Koichi Iida



Patty Yamano, Margaret Nakata, and Sharleen Aoki enjoy Rev. Turner's class on *Everyday Buddhism*



Jimmy Kurashige, Miles Roebuck, Eileen Castle, Megan & Cathy Arakaki, and Chelsea Kurashige in the CNY Parade