



# LAS VEGAS BUDDHIST SANGHA

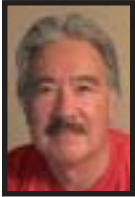
# BULLETIN

4110 N. Martin Luther King Blvd., N. Las Vegas, NV 89032

APRIL 2016

www.lasvegasbuddhist.org

VOLUME 4



## Message from the President

Gene Nakamura

I have been tasked with guiding the Sangha thru several changes this year, the first dealing with the up coming O Bon. We will be establishing a number of committees, each headed by a board member or advisor. Under them will be the support group which consists of members of the Sangha. This is where we need you. Help us make changes that will grow this Sangha. The next O Bon meeting will be April 11 at 6:00 pm at the Sangha center.

The second change is our plan to increase our monthly service to twice a month. I am sure most of you are aware that the reason this has not be done in the past, is because of money. Our main source of funding is from our O Bon, the second source is our building rental. Donations and membership make up a small portion of our funds. We have added payment thru our web site and Paypal to make donations easier. Like other charities, we will be adding car/motorcycle/boat donations to our fund raising. Our \$20 annual membership is low, hopefully you can add a monthly donation to help.

If money is tight, please volunteer your time to the O Bon and other event committees. Your input will be heard.

Thank you, with Gassho



## Hanamatsuri

service will be held on  
**Sunday, April 10th at 10 a.m.**

*Presiding Minister*

Rev. Brian Nagata,  
Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai



**Hanamatsuri** is a service held to celebrate the birth of Gautama Buddha in Lumbini Garden approximately in 564 B.C. Amida, the Buddha of Infinite Wisdom and Compassion, made himself known among people as Gautama Buddha. During the service, a flower shrine known as *hanamido* is set-up in front of the main altar as a symbol of Lumbini Garden, where he was born. A statuette of the infant Buddha is placed in the hanamido. The members of the congregation pour sweet tea over the Buddha, who has one hand pointing skyward and the other pointing downward. According to ancient legend, Buddha was born as the connection between heaven and earth. The happiness surrounding his birth brought joyful music and flowers in full bloom through which sweet rain fell, that is symbolized by the tea poured over the statuette of the Buddha.



Service will begin at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to help with decorating the hanamido, please arrive at 9 a.m. **After the service, we are having our Hanamatsuri potluck and ask that each family bring their favorite dish to share with the other members and any extra guests.** As usual, recipes are welcomed so others may try making the dish in the future.



## TOBAN & FLOWERS

Flowers were brought by the Kurashige Family.

## Message from the Vice President

Kyle

Impermanence is one of most important lessons I learned through Buddhism. I have been part of three Sanghas in three different states. I have seen change and growth in those Sanghas and in myself. "Change is hard at first, messy in the middle, and gorgeous at the end." As this Sangha enters its third decade, we must embrace impermanence and change, so we can continue to grow and blossom.

## 2016 Schedule of Speakers

January 10	Rev. Jon Turner Orange County Buddhist Church Host David Hopper & Eileen Castle
February 14	Rev. George Matsubayashi BCA Minister, Emeritus Host Miis Nakayama
March 13	Rev. Henry Adams San Mateo Buddhist Temple Host Gene Nakamura & Tilda Silao
April 10	Rev. Brian Nagata Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai Host Miis Nakayama
May 8	Rev. Jon Turner Orange County Buddhist Church Host David Hopper & Eileen Castle
June 12	Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki Buddhist Study Center of Hawaii Host Wayne & Sadie Tanaka
July 10	Rev. Peter Hata Higashi Los Angeles Host Gene & Tilda
August 14	Rev. Marvin Harada Orange County Buddhist Church
September 11	Rev. Koshin Ogui White River Buddhist Temple Host Kyle Morishita
October 9	Rev. Ron Takemoto Whitman College Host Alan & O Takemoto
November 13	Rev. Jerry Hirano Salt Lake City Buddhist Temple Host M. Aoki
December 11	Rev. Patti Nakai Buddhist Temple of Chicago Host Mary Ozaki

The LV Sangha would like to invite and encouraged everyone to stay immediately after every service for refreshments before leaving. This time will be to meet the members of the Sangha and get to know our community. The refreshments will be provided by the Kitchen Committee but any donations of refreshments would be welcomed. Hot tea and bottled water will be served along with the monthly "goodies".

## Reverend Henry Adams March Dharma Class



### *Remembering Loved Ones on the Other Shore*

Thank you for the opportunity to join you for your March Monthly Service, which included an opportunity for all the families who have also lost a loved one this past year to come together and find comfort and support in the Sangha. I believe that our treasured Buddhist rituals help us to appreciate the truth that birth and death are not two opposite ends of our lives, but constantly present with us in each moment.

A few years ago when my parents were visiting from Minnesota, we observed the Fifty Year Memorial Service for my paternal grandmother Norma Elizabeth Corcoran Adams, who passed away suddenly during a routine operation when my father was just fourteen years old. As an only child, losing the single mother who was raising him turned his whole world upside down. He rarely speaks of that difficult time in his youth, and when I first suggested that we observe the Fifty Year Memorial, he did not seem particularly enthusiastic about the prospect of revisiting memories of his mother's passing. He was even less enthusiastic about my suggestion that one day we might visit her gravesite in Montana. However, as the date of their trip drew near, he began to take an interest in the memorial service.

My father loves to digitally archive photos, and enjoyed going back through the scanned pictures he had of his mother to find a beautiful image of her as a young woman in military uniform from her service during the Second World War. On the day of the memorial service, we set the framed photograph along with a simple arrangement of flowers made by my mother on a small table in front of the incense burner in the main hall of the Oxnard Buddhist Temple. It was a simple service with just my parents, Shoko, Ryoma, and me. After the service, my father told me that it had been decided when his mother passed away that it would be too troubling for him to attend the funeral. The Fifty Year Memorial that we held was his first opportunity since her passing to formally express the gratitude he feels for his mother.

Prior to the service I explained that while offering incense is a Buddhist tradition, one need not be a Buddhist in order to participate in the ritual. Offering incense in remembrance of someone does not make you a Buddhist, nor does it negate any other religious beliefs you might have. Likewise, if the person who passed away was not a Buddhist, offering incense in their memory is not an attempt to convert them to Buddhism in the afterlife. Even though my parents are Christian and my grandmother Norma was a good Irish Catholic, a Buddhist memorial service provided an

*Continue on page 3*

## ADULT DHARMA CLASSES

### HELD AFTER MONTHLY SERVICES

Adult Dharma Class is led by the hosting minister of the month. The class are about the teachings of the Buddha Dharma. Each visiting minister will give a short talk about a Dharma subject, followed by a discussion by all who attend. April's dharma talk:

### Creating your own home Nembutsu spot.

If you have any suggestions about a subject, please submit to Dr. David Hopper, so the visiting ministers may prepare for the class.

opportunity for us to come together in the remembrance of her life and the way she touched us all. During the service, we discovered a special closeness as a family remembering the wonderful woman who raised my father to become the kind and caring husband, father, and grandfather we love.

A few years later after we moved to San Mateo, my parents drove out here for a visit. Along the way they stopped in Montana to visit my grandmother's grave. My father called me up on his cell phone from the cemetery and talked about the feeling of peace it gave him to visit his mother's gravesite. My father would not call himself a Buddhist. And yet, I have observed how participation in these Buddhist memorial practices has helped to transform the sadness he felt when his mother passed away into gratitude for the life they lived together. Indeed, that togetherness of mother and son continues today in the care my father shares with his own wife, son, daughter-in-law and grandsons.

Even though I never met my grandmother Norma, the love she gave my father and the appreciation for stable family life that he learned from parting with her at such a young age had a great influence on the way my father cared for me as I grew up. In her life and our experience of remembering her, I encounter the wisdom and compassion of the Buddha at work in my life. Now her photo sits next to the Buddha Shrine in our living room in San Mateo. We remember her daily as we light incense and join our hands in gassho. Visitors to our house often ask questions about the photo. As we share her story with friends, we are reminded that her life made the lives we live today possible, and in that way she is always present in our lives.

Our Monthly Memorial Services are an opportunity for all of us to come to a deeper appreciation of how our family and friends who now dwell on the Other Shore and continue to guide and support us each day.

*Namo Amida Butsu*

## March Donations

### 3-13-16 DONATIONS

**Attendance: 51**

James Akamine, Dennis & Brenda Creed, Shioji Fukawa, Sally Hanagami, Al & Marge Kiyatani, Jim & Gay Kurashige in Memory of father Joe Hajime Norikane, Jeffrey Minamide, Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga, William & Nanette Muraoka, Frances Miyasato, Dennis & Margaret Nakata, Rodney & Crystal Okano, Takako Ogata in Memory of Bert Ogawa, Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse, Ron & May Soeda, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, Agnes Tsuchiyama, Masaichi Yamada in Memory of Jane K. Yamada, Fred & Patty Yamano, Katherine & Ryan Yoshikawa

Temple Service Donation Total	\$693
Pay Pal Website Donations	\$240
<b>Total Donation:</b>	<b>\$933</b>

### 2016 MEMBERSHIP DUES RECEIVED

Cathy Arakaki, Kenneth & Akiko Akita, Sandi Ciel, Dennis & Brenda Creed, Thomas & Lynn DeMann, Sharon Edwards, Shioji Fukawa, Stan Fuke, Sally Hanagami, Deborah Harlig, David Hopper & Eilleen Castle, Norm Hirata, James & Harriet Huber, Sandi Hiyane, Koichi & Catherine Iida, Stan & Nancy Isa, Hedy Ito, Dale & Rosan Ito, Alice Kado, Sadae Kasamoto, Tohru Katano, Garrett & Jennifer Kakita, Rosie Kakuuchi, Kumiko Kashiwada, Bitu Khamsi & Steve Yeager, Al & Marge Kiyatani, Georgiana & Albert Kobayashi, Helen Koga, John Kosora, Jim & Gay Kurashige, Daniel Lee, Pati Lira, Hank & June Maruyama, Roy & Kanyarat Matsuda, Aiko Mayeda, Erika Masaki, Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga, Charles & Ulrika Miyashiro, Frances Miyasato, Bill & Nanette Muraoka, Gene Nakamura & Tilda Silao, Dennis & Margaret Nakata, Mits Nakayama, Takako Ogawa, Mary Ozaki, Eleanor Oshiro, Robert & Chizuyo Reynierse, Muriel Scrivner, Brian & Mel Segawa, Ron & May Soeda, Aileen Sung, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, Agnes Tsuchiyama, Grace Wertz, Masaichi Yamada, Ty Yamamoto, Fred & Patty Yamano, Katherine & Ryan Yoshikawa

If your name was not included, please notify:

Sangha Treasurer Jim Kurashige, 7528 Lassen Peak Circle, Las Vegas, NV 89149, and please report any mistakes at 702-839-8558 or by email at lasvegasbuddhistsangha@aol.com.

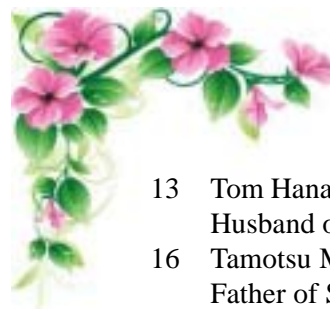
**To learn more about us, visit our website at: [www.lasvegasbuddhist.org](http://www.lasvegasbuddhist.org)**

## Membership Dues Received



## April Birthdays

- |    |                  |    |                  |
|----|------------------|----|------------------|
| 1  | Tia Okano        | 15 | Alan Takemoto    |
| 3  | Fred Yamano      | 16 | Junko Shimada    |
| 4  | Jason Sando      | 21 | Matthew von Nida |
| 5  | Steven Suzuki    | 22 | Darrel Matsuyama |
| 8  | Tom Yanagihara   | 24 | Megan Arakaki    |
| 11 | Thomas DeMann    | 29 | Brent Sumida     |
| 11 | Stefanie Muraoka | 30 | Mits Nakayama    |
| 13 | Kyle Watanabe    |    |                  |



## April Memorials

- 13 Tom Hanagami  
Husband of Sally Hanagami
- 16 Tamotsu Matsuda  
Father of Sadako Wanless
- 18 John Fukumoto  
Son of Mabel Fukumoto
- 20 Tsuyako Yamada  
Mother of Bill Sakahara
- 21 Kiyoko Koyanagi  
Sister-in-law to Chizuyo Reynierse
- 21 Ochito Kosora  
Grandmother of John Kosora



## Happy Anniversary

- 2 Cathy & Delwayne Arakaki
- 10 Barbara Myers & Jerry Metzger
- 11 Katie & Dan Kosora
- 13 Mike & Becky Suyeyasu
- 27 Jason & Marlo Sando



**Heidi Ito** for the Coconut Almond Ball cookies.  
**Mits Nakayama** for some dessert dishes and coffee mugs.  
**Reverend Adams** for the Chocolate truffles.  
**Takako Ogata** for the Oreo mint cookies. **Patty and the Kitchen** supplied the mini cinnamon rolls.

If I forgot anyone, my sincere apologies.  
*Margaret*

### Guests for March:

Dilyana Georgieva, Connie Hollenbeck  
 Audrey Noahr, Gracie Segawa



## Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha Scholarship Certificate

is presented to

# Megan Arakaki

in Recognition of your Excellence in Scholarship and Leadership  
 April 10, 2016



# Upcoming Sangha Events:

\* **Obon Dance Practices**, Saturdays from 10am - 12pm. Starting June 4th thru July 23rd.



\* **Obon Festival & Bazaar**, August 6th Clark High School, from 10am - 4pm. **MEMBER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

\* **Ho'olaulea**, September 10th and 11th. We are helping sell the water and beverages. We need members to volunteer a couple hours each day. Please see Delwayne Arakaki.

## Dharma School



The Dharma students have been studying the The Three Treasures - Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha, and now have started on an ambitious project of building a personal Wheel of Dharma. Each month they will be studying a component of the Eightfold Path and adding it to their wheel. Hopefully, we'll be done before the end of the year.

## Special Day Reminders

- April 16th Japanese Spring Festival
- May 5th Boys Day
- May 8th Mother's Day
- June 19th Father's Day

## Health Wellness & Meditation

Classes starting Tuesday, April 12 , 2016 @ 7pm

- Need to de-stress at the end of a hectic day?
- Want to sit relaxed and in quiet serenity?
- Learn how to de-stress through meditation?

Now forming meditation classes held by **Dr. David Hopper**

Meditation followed by brief talk & discussion of current affairs & health topics

Classes are **FREE** to eveyone!  
(Donations welcomed)

Classes will be held 2nd Tuesday of each month at  
**Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha Center**  
4110 N. Martin Luther King Blvd., North Las Vegas, NV 89032

SIGN-UP by emailing [www.lvsangha.info@gmail.com](mailto:www.lvsangha.info@gmail.com) OR  
Call: Eileen Castle @ 702-405-6644

## Sangha Class Reminder

Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha  
*Lifetime Service Award*

is presented to



**Alice Branton**  
**Shioji Fukawa**  
**Hana Fukumoto**  
**Clara Hamasaki**  
**Sally Hanagami**  
**Tomico Honda**  
**James & Harriet Huber**  
**Dale & Rosan Ito**  
**Rosie Kakuuchi**  
**Sadie Kasamoto**  
**Kumiko Kashiwada**  
**Henry & June Maruyama**  
**Sueno Migaki**  
**Mitsuyoshi Nakayama**  
**Takako Ogata**  
**Ellie Oshiro**  
**Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse**  
**Mike & Becky Suyeyasu**



## RECIPE

### Eileen's All-star Vegetarian Chili

As a kid growing up in Southern California I made many trips to the happiest place on Earth, Disneyland. One of my favorite things to eat there was Walt's chili with shredded cheese on the top and corn bread on the side. It was Walt's own recipe and it was wonderful. As an adult I still enjoy his chili recipe however, now that I don't eat beef (Walt's chili had steak in it), I have tried to still enjoy it but with a kick of my other favorite person, Emeril Lagassa. I one day combined their recipe's, minus the beef and was amazed as you will too. Enjoy...

**C  
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#### Ingredients:

2 tbsp canola oil  
 1 1/2 c chopped yellow onion  
 1 cup chopped celery  
 1 c chopped red bell pepper  
 1 c chopped red bell pepper  
 2 tbsp minced garlic  
 2-3 serrano/poblano peppers, stemmed, seeded & minced (otherwise known as Anaheim pepper. I only used one since they are so big.  
 1 med zucchini, cut into small dice  
 2 c corn kernels  
 1 1/2 lb portobello mushrooms, stemmed, cleaned & cubed( this is in place of the beef). 1 tsp. chili powder (depending on taste)  
 1 tsp. paprika  
 1 tsp. dry mustard (you can also use wet mustard), Walt's special secret.  
 1 tbsp ground cumin  
 1 1/4 tsp cayenne

1 large can solid pack tomatoes  
 1 1/2 c cooked black beans  
 1 1/2 c. pink beans (pinto beans)  
 1 (15-oz) can tomato sauce  
 1 c vegetable stock  
 1/4 c chopped fresh cilantro leaves Salt

In a large, heavy pot or pressure cooker, heat the oil over medium-high heat. Add the onions, bell peppers, celery, garlic, and serrano peppers, and cook, stirring, until soft, about 3 minutes. Add the zucchini, corn, and mushrooms, and cook, stirring, until soft and the vegetables give off their liquid and start to brown around the edges, about 6 minutes. Add the chili powder, cumin, dry mustard, salt and cayenne, and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Add the tomatoes and stir well. Add the beans, tomato sauce, and vegetable stock, stir well, and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium-low and simmer, stirring occasionally, for about 20 minutes.

\*\*Toppings \*2 c cheddar cheese or dalop of sour cream. Side dish of corn bread.



## Rummage & Bake Sale Day!



## Cleanup Day was a great success!

Megan Arakaki  
Patty Yamano  
Ellie Oshiro  
Margaret Nakata



Chelsea Kurashige  
Megan Arakaki  
Patty Yamano  
and Ellie Oshiro



Al Kayatani  
Wayne Tanaka  
Mathew Arakaki  
and Stan Fuke

The Sangha Center received a deep cleaning and our supplies were completely organized and put away. We saved a lot of money and had a great time! Bill Gradinger, an Air Force friend of mine, is in upper management at a cleaning supplies company, and he is donating some dust and wet mops. Thanks to Becky Suyeyasu for already replacing some of our old ones. Thank you to the following volunteers: Stan Fuke, Tohru Katano, Alan & O Takemoto, Wayne Tanaka, Mike & Becky Suyeyasu, Patty Yamano, Margaret Nakata, Gay & Chelsea Kurashige, Gene Nakamura, Tilda Silao, Al Kayatani, Ellie Oshiro, Delwayne, Cathy, Megan, Mathew & Michael Arakaki, Dale Ito, Harriet Huber, Koichi Iida.

# March Service with Reverend Henry Adams



Rev. Adams with Chelsea & Gay Kurashige



Sally Hanagami especially enjoyed the Japanese portion of Rev. Adams' Dharma message.



Dr. Daniel Lee, Rev. Adams, and Akira Sonomura



Rev. Adams with Stan Fuke



Rev. Adams gives his Adult Dharma Class lesson.





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# ANNOUNCEMENTS!

**Amazon Smile Program:** You can now donate to the Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha by shopping Amazon! It does not cost you extra. Amazon will donate a portion of every purchase you make to the Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Select Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha as the charitable organization you wish Amazon to donate to. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. You can bookmark Amazon Smile directly to your mobile device to make it easy to use. Your existing account can be set up as a Smile account. Amazon will then always remember to donate to the Sangha every time you buy from Amazon.

**The Sangha Crafts** The Sangha Crafts is busy getting ready for Obon, since our last 2 crafts events have depleted ALL our inventory. We are in desperate need of help. Anyone that can sew a straight line....or even not so straight....is welcome to join us. We have a lot of simple projects that we need help with. If you can help out, please call or email Patty Yamano at [patty.yamano@gmail.com](mailto:patty.yamano@gmail.com) or (818) 219-6982

**Kikuo and Kaoru Ogawa Scholarship** - Applications for the Kiko and Kaoru Memorial Scholarship is now available. This scholarship is opened to anyone wishing to continue their education - the only requirements are a high school diploma or equivalent, acceptance to graduate or trade school and membership in our Sangha. If you are interested in applying, please contact Wayne Tanaka at [wtanaka@cox.net](mailto:wtanaka@cox.net) or Patty Yamano at [patty.yamano@gmail.com](mailto:patty.yamano@gmail.com). All applications are due by June 15, 2016 and will be announced at our July service and awarded at our Obon Festival.

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**Promote your business! Advertisement space available, email: [lvsangha.info@gmail.com](mailto:lvsangha.info@gmail.com)  
\$25 per quarter / \$90 per year**

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