



# LAS VEGAS BUDDHIST SANGHA

# BULLETIN

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

SEPTEMBER 2016 www.lasvegasbuddhist.org / email: lvsangha.info@gmail.com

VOLUME 9



## Message from the President

Gene Nakamura

As September rolls in, we can reflect on our Obon held August 6th and summarize the results.

The Clark High School venue change was perfectly timed. The increased size in the cafeteria and gym was needed to handle our largest crowd ever, estimated at over 1700 people. The support given to our vendors proved to be great, and the majority of vendors want to come back next year. There were a lot of unknowns this year because of the new venue and the change of date. No question we learned a lot this year. This will help us in the future so we can improve on our 2017 Obon.

No one person can take credit or put on an Obon. It takes many volunteers and Sangha members to make this happen. I received many comments from attendee's who truly enjoyed our Obon, and cannot believe a Sangha of our small size can put on a Obon of this large scale.

Thank you for helping us succeed this year, we are already preparing for 2017.

Thank you, with Gassho

Gene



## SEPTEMBER SERVICE

service will be held on  
**Sunday, September 11th**  
at 10 am

*Presiding Minister*

Rev. Ray Fukumoto

Los Angeles

**Service will begin at 10:00 a.m.**

**After service, we are having a potluck luncheon.**

**Bring your favorite dish to share!**



## WHAT IS A SANGHA?

By Dr. David Hopper (LVBS)

The word Sangha in the Pali language means assembly. It is similar in meaning to the Christian word church. In Christianity, the word church can be used to mean all Christians, a certain denomination, or a single congregation. In Buddhism, the word Sangha can mean all Buddhists, a particular sect of Buddhism, or all the members of a single temple or center.

### Importance of Sangha

An important part of Buddhism is The Three Jewels, or Three Treasures, which is a declaring of your commitment to the Buddhist Path by saying:

I take refuge in the Buddha.

I take refuge in the Dharma.

I take refuge in the Sangha.

Many independent-minded individuals may find Buddhism interesting but don't feel any need to join a Sangha. While solo practice and study in meditation and Buddhism may be quite helpful but, practice with a Sangha is invaluable. Being part of a Sangha helps foster interconnectedness. It helps you realize that your practice isn't just about you and breaks down the

*Continue on page 3*

Emergency .....	911
Sangha .....	(702) 228-3071
Center Rental Info .....	(619) 888-5301
Dharma Education .....	(702) 371-0947
Illness or Death .	(702) 806-5520 See pg 2
Sangha Crafts .....	(818) 219-6982

## 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	Mits Nakayama
March 13	Rev. Henry Adams San Mateo Buddhist Temple
Host	Gene Nakamura & Tilda Silao
April 10	Rev. Brian Nagata Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai
Host	Mits 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. Ray Fukumoto Los Angeles
Host	Hedi Ito
October 9	Rev. Ron Takemoto Whitman College
Host	Alan & O Takemoto
November 13	Rev. Jerry Hirano Salt Lake City Buddhist Temple
Host	TBD
December 11	Rev. Patti Nakai Buddhist Temple of Chicago
Host	Mary Ozaki

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

## Buddhism and Self-Esteem



For many years I have watched various TV programs like Oprah Winfrey and other talk shows, and there would be guests who would talk about how they suffer from low self esteem. Psychologists and various talk show experts would offer advice and suggestions on how to remedy their low self esteem. What does Buddhism have to say about self esteem? Does Buddhism have a better solution to remedy the problem of low self esteem? If it does, what is it?

Different from other schools of psychology and therapy, I think that Buddhism gets to the core of the self esteem problem. Buddhism first asks the question, "What is the self?" Before taking up the matter of self esteem, Buddhism says we must address the question of the self. What is the self? Who am I? Buddhism starts with this basic, fundamental question, first of all.

I will never forget a talk I heard by Rev. Kodani, now retired BCA minister emeritus. He talked about when he first studied Buddhism in Japan at Ryukoku University. The professor of that class on Buddhism asked Rev. Kodani in class, "Who are you?" The following conversation then unfolded between Rev. Kodani and the Buddhist professor.

Rev. Kodani replied, "I am Masao Kodani."

The teacher responded, "That is your name. Who are you?"

"I am a foreign student from America."

"That is your citizenship. Who are you?"

"I am a third generation Japanese American."

*Continue on page 3*

## Contact for Death or Illness

Due to many recent illnesses and/or deaths, we would like members of the Sangha to know we respect your privacy and if there is anything anyone of us can help you with please always feel free to contact Michael Tanaka at (702) 806-5520 or [www.lvsangha.info@gmail.com](mailto:www.lvsangha.info@gmail.com). When emailing or calling just tell us how you would like us to help you.

Person we should contact:

Do you wish this to be kept private? Yes No

Is it okay for a representative to contact or visit? Yes No

Do you wish to allow announcement in newsletter? Yes No

barriers of the ego. The Sangha plays an important part in recognizing that your practice is for the benefit of everyone because self and other are really one not two. The ideal is to support one another and avoid just going along with the crowd.

If you can travel to attend a retreat occasionally, this would help boost your “solo” practice. Getting together with other solo practitioners to meditate or chant together is also very helpful. With the advancement in technology, it is possible to reach others through the internet and social media to create a virtual Sangha.

Thich Nhat Hanh says in his book *The Heart of the Buddha’s Teaching* that “practicing with a Sangha is essential” and “Building a Sangha, supporting a Sangha, being with a Sangha, receiving the support and guidance of Sangha is the practice.” The Buddhist path is a path of giving as well as receiving. Participating in the Sangha is a way of giving back to the dharma which becomes more precious to you over time. By sitting together in silent meditation, chanting together, maintaining a Dharma center together, and giving strength to each other, we break down the walls of our egos that separate us. The Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha has existed for 30 years and continues to grow and develop. Everyone is welcome to attend services at the center or other Sangha activities we hold. You do not have to be Buddhist or a member of our Sangha. We are all one.

“That is your ethnic background. Who are you?”

“Uhh, I am a son of Nisei parents.”

“That is your family relationship. Who are you?”

On and on this conversation went. Eventually, Rev. Kodani was left speechless. He could not answer the question of “Who are you?” He could only answer in terms of one’s background, ethnicity, etc., as any of us would. The professor showed him this basic question of Buddhism that challenges to question who and what we are? What is the self? From a Buddhist perspective, self esteem is not the problem, but the understanding of what the self is, is the crucial matter.

If we begin to reflect and question the self, then we come to realize that we are the result of causes and conditions, infinitely. We are the result of our biological parents, but also our grandparents, great grandparents, and ancestors going back to the beginnings of life on earth. We are the result of our teachers, our friends, our classmates that we have learned from and associated with throughout our life. We are the result of countless beings who have given our life as food that sustains our life. On and on and on this goes.

Although I am on one hand, “Marvin Harada, age 62, Japanese American, minister, father, husband, etc. etc., I am only what I am in relation and connection to all other things. I am a father because of my children. I am a husband because of my wife. I am a minister because I serve a Sangha. This “thing” that I regard as “Marvin Harada” is a

result of a myriad of causes and conditions, flowing and moving, like a flowing river.

But yet we do not see ourselves in that manner. We see ourselves as a “thing.” Our “ego self” regards us as a “thing” and is easily hurt, offended, and angered. If someone tells me that I really gained a lot of weight, my perception of myself as a “thing” is what gets so upset. The nerve of that guy to say I gained weight. Look at him. He gained weight too! Those thoughts are all the workings of the ego self.

In that same manner, it is the ego self that suffers from low self esteem. That is why our self esteem drops when someone criticizes or insults us, and it rises when someone praises us. If we have not addressed the matter of the self, then we are destined to ride the roller coaster of the highs and lows of self esteem. We will forever suffer from low self esteem because we haven’t resolved the matter of the self.

Namuamidabutsu,

Rev. Marvin Harada



**TOBAN & FLOWERS**

*Thank you* to members who brought flowers for the August service.

---

## August Donations

**ALL DONATION UPDATES WILL BE IN NEXT NEWSLETTER**

## Membership Dues Received

### **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, Rev. Brian Nagata, 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, Akira & Madeline Sonemura, Aileen Sung, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, Wayne & Sadie Tanaka, Fred Tomiyoshi, 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)

---

## Special Date Reminders

### **SEPTEMBER:**

- 10 - Duck Festival @ Town Square from 10am to 4pm
- 11 - **MONTHLY SANGHA SERVICE @ 10am - Potluck after service**
- 10 & 11 - Ho'olaulea in Henderson on Water Street
- 17 - Bon Dance Practice for Aki Matsuri event @ Sangha Center, 10am to 12pm (second practice held October 1st)



## ADULT DHARMA CLASSES

### **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. September's dharma talk:

### **TO BE ANNOUNCED**

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



## September Birthdays

- |    |                 |    |               |
|----|-----------------|----|---------------|
| 5  | Alicia Tamura   | 22 | Aileen Sumida |
| 7  | Scott Watanabe  | 24 | June Maruyama |
| 12 | Bill Sakahara   | 24 | Roy Suzuki    |
| 13 | Mike Suyeyasu   | 25 | Stan Isa      |
| 14 | Edna Shiotani   | 25 | Nan Muraoka   |
| 15 | Gene Nakamura   | 27 | Jared Sando   |
| 17 | Helen Koga      | 27 | Maile Sando   |
| 19 | Kimberly Tanaka | 28 | Patty Yamano  |
| 21 | Sandi Hiyane    | 30 | Tami Watanabe |



## September Anniversaries

- |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| 5  | Ken & Gladys Akita    |
| 7  | Roy & Caryl Suzuki    |
| 19 | Janet & Bill Sakahara |



## September Memorials

- |    |                   |   |
|----|-------------------|---|
| 1  | Goichi Koyanagi   | Father of Chizuyo Reynieerse            |
| 5  | Tee Hajime Tanaka | Brother of Cathy Moses & Michael Tanaka |
| 11 | Hideko Tanaka     | Mother of Wayne Tanaka                  |
| 18 | Harold Connolly   | Father of Mark Connolly                 |
| 20 | Kikuo Ogawa       | Father of Patty Yamano                  |
| 22 | Ted Koga          | Husband of Helen Koga                   |
| 24 | Saburo Iwamoto    | Father of Caryl Suzuki                  |
| 26 | Toshio Nakamoto   | Father of Cathy Arakaki                 |
| 30 | Fumi Fukuda       | Mother of Kumiko Kashiwada              |



*Since most of the food was the left-overs from Obon, I had a lot of help in serving. Thank you to all that helped.*

*Margaret*



## Guests for August:

*Welcome to all our guest in August!*



## RECIPE

### Mom's Fluffy Oatmeal Cookies

submitted by Roy Suzuki

**CORNER**

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3/4 to 1 c. shortening        | 1/3 c. milk                 |
| 3/4 c. sugar                  | 1 tsp.cinnamon              |
| 2 eggs                        | 1 tsp. vanilla              |
| 1 c. plus 2 tablespoons flour | 1c. seedless raisins        |
| 1 tsp. baking powder          | 3. c. old fashioned oatmeal |
| 1/4 tsp. salt                 |                             |

Cream shortening and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Sift together flower, baking powder, and sald. Add alternately with milk, beginning and ending with flour. Stir in cinnamon and vanilla. Mix in raisins and oatmeal. Bake on non-stick or greased cookie sheet in preheated 375 degree oven until brown and round the edges.



## FLOWER GOSSIP

FLOWERS WILL LAST  
A LONG TIME BY

Using 1/2 water and 1/2 7-Up

Make sure no leaves are  
in the solution.

# Upcoming Events @ the Sangha:

## Dharma School



# Sangha Class Reminder

Have an idea &  
want to share  
with others?  
Need a place to  
teach?  
Contact  
Tilda Silao at  
619-888-5301

**Nov. 19 - 9th Island Cultural Club**  
**First Annual Craft, Bazaar & Bake Sale from 8am to 3pm.**  
If you would like to participate as a vendor call 702-706-8381.  
For more information go to [www.9thiccovlv.org](http://www.9thiccovlv.org)  
Deadline for application: Nov. 5, 2016

**Dec. 3 - Sangha Crafters**  
**2nd Annual Craft & Bake Sale**  
For more information, contact Patty Yamano @ [patty.yamano@gmail.com](mailto:patty.yamano@gmail.com)

**Dec. 17 - Mochitsuki**  
In the planning stage. Help in the planning, contact  
Gene Nakamura @ [lvsangha.info@gmail.com](mailto:lvsangha.info@gmail.com)



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.

## Health Wellness & Meditation

Classes have started - 2nd Tuesday of every month @ 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?

Meditation classes held by  
**Dr. David Hopper**

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

Classes are FREE to everyone!  
(Donations welcomed)

Classes 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



## *Meditation Corner*

Meditation class for July saw a number of new faces despite the 115 degree heat we endured. There is always a packet of information for new participants so, don't be afraid to start attending at any time. If you come a few minutes early, you can get caught up easily. The class is ongoing so, please feel free to start attending at any time.

As always, we start with mindfulness meditation. For some newcomers, they may find that their mind tends to wonder but, that will get easier to control with practice. Even though meditation class is monthly at this time, it's important to practice mindfulness daily whenever possible. Mindfulness is always where you want to go like center court in tennis. After each play, the tennis player returns to center court. This gives the player the best position for the next play. Mindfulness is like center court. It's the best position to make your next play in life from.

For the second portion, we learned how laughing meditation worked and how to incorporate humor, fun, and laughter into your life to improve your mental and physical well-being. Laughter is truly the best medicine. When you can find humor in even sickness and tragedy, you will have faster and more complete healing. This has been proven in numerous scientific studies. For most people, they consider humor to be inappropriate in bad situations. Like everything, there is a time and place for humor and once you've learned how to use it properly, humor is a powerful healer and form of meditation. If you can learn to laugh or even smile in situations, you will become more empowered with good health.

For our September 13 class at 7 pm, I will have a guest instructor introduce another new form of meditation to the class. She has been a friend of mine and has worked with me for over 20 years. We have all heard of energy that flows through our bodies called life energy, or Chi, Qi, or Ki as it more commonly referred to as. This form of meditation is great for all ages and requires no strenuous stretching or exercise. Anyone who is recovering from illness, surgery, or serious disease such as cancer will love this class!

While you do not need to lie down for this class or wear special clothes, you are welcome to bring more comfortable clothes to change into if you wish or bring a mat to lie on. Whatever helps you gain maximum benefit from the classes is fine. With practice, you should be able to meditate in all types of environments. I have started bringing pads to lie down on to class and am looking to find more for use in class here. If anyone knows of a good, inexpensive source for yoga or exercise mats, or has any to donate, please let me know. They are used for yoga, exercise, meditation and other uses so, we will be able to use them for a variety of future classes we hope to start up later as well. In Gossho,

**Dr. Dave**

28<sup>th</sup> Annual Las Vegas  
**O Bon**  
FESTIVAL & BAZAAR



PLAN it...



And they will COME...



To SHOP...



To DANCE...



To PLAY!



In Gassho

**ANOTHER  
SUCCESSFUL  
YEAR!**



# What is Obon?

By Dr. David Hopper (LVBS)

The Obon festival is part of the Obon season. This is why various Buddhist temples hold their festivals on different weekends so that, it can continue from mid-June through mid-August. It is a time to express our gratitude towards loved ones who have passed on before us. Because of our interdependence, we would not be who we are today if it were not for them. It is not just about our immediate family. If you go back 30 generations, over 2 billion parents contributed to our existence! Imagine if but one of those 2 billion people that lead to us wasn't there, would we be the same person now? Would we even exist? While we may seem to be individuals that are independent, we are truly interdependent on all living beings in some way. Because we are all influenced by all other beings in some way, our gratitude should not be limited to just one or a few.

Obon is not to welcome back the spirits of the dead. These are superstitions and are not beliefs of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism often simply referred to as Shin Buddhism. It is a time of gratitude, giving, and joy in the Truth of Life or Gathering of Joy. The celebration of joy originated with Bon odori, or dancing, and is unique to Japanese Buddhism. The dancing was first taught in America at the San Francisco temple in 1931. Participants gather in rings around a "yagura," a raised platform, and dance to music, singing, and taiko drums. Folk dances usually tell stories of traditional occupations such as fishing or farming. Everyone is encouraged to join in the dancing whether they know how to dance or not. It does not matter whether you are Buddhist or not, know how to dance, or what age, race, or religion you are, everyone is invited to join in the festivities.

## Origins of Obon

The ritual of obon is conducted in accordance to the teaching of Sakyamuni Buddha from the Urabon Sutra. The teaching tells the story of Moggalana who was a disciple of the Buddha that had the ability to look upon his mother who had passed away. Upon realizing that his mother had become trapped in the Hell of Hungry Ghosts and was suffering, he asked the Buddha for assistance. Sakyamuni Buddha instructed him to make many offerings to the priests who had just completed their summer retreat. Through his actions, his mother was freed from the Hell of Hungry Ghosts and was able to become a Buddha.

The primary meaning of Obon from this story is respect for one's parents and repaying gratitude. We share with Moggalana the desire to repay the obligation and gratitude he felt towards his parents. Obon is a vessel for making offerings to people and the Bon dance follows the making of Moggalana and his joy.

Bon odori evolved from the Odori Nembutsu which involved dancing while reciting the Nembutsu and playing a drum. The Bon Odori further evolved from two basic types of music, bushi (folk songs) and ondo (folk songs influenced by religious chanting and bells). The song Bon Odori is often the first and last dance. The music and dancing varies with regions usually reflecting the areas history and, may sometimes involve use of the use of different kinds of fans, small colorful towels (tenugui), small wooden clappers ("kachi-kachi"), or a straw hat decorated with flowers. Most dancers wear a yukata, a lightweight summer kimono or, a happi coat, a Kimono-like jacket. It became very popular by the 1600's. In the U.S., Bon Odori first started in 1905 in Hawaii. It reached the mainland in 1930 by Rev. Yoshio Iwanaga at the Stockton Buddhist Temple followed by other temple visits in California, Oregon, Washington, and Canada. The first known Bon Odori was held in 1931 at the San Francisco Temple followed by the Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Betsuin in 1932.

This tradition has evolved into a festival that is unique to each temple. There may be carnival activities, exhibits, arts and crafts, and Japanese and other favorite cultural foods, The Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha has held their annual Obon since 1988 and it has continued to grow in size and diversity every year.

*Continue on page 10*

Continue from page 9: What is Obon?

### References

Various references were used to gather information but, the following references were the primary sources of information used:

1. What is Obon? By Rev. Patti Usuki (SFVHBT). Buddhist Churches of America.org
2. Gathering of Joy: A History of Japanese American Obon Festivals and Bon Odori. sjapantown.org

A special thanks to the ministers at Orange County Buddhist Church for their assistance in writing this handout.

---

## Golf Tournament Results



It was a beautiful, relatively cool, day at Angel Park Golf Club. Nineteen golfers participated, including two ladies. Co-chair Charlie Miyashiro, made the arrangements for the tee times at Angel Park.

Team #5, featuring two brothers from Edmonton, Canada, scored an amazingly low 58. Team #3, led by Tosh Yamamoto of Sacramento, came in a close second with a 60.

We were initially going to award a prize only for first place, but since co-chair Wayne Tanaka was able to solicit a number of free rounds of golf, we were able to award prizes to the first four teams. Sandra Shimizu, of Initially Yours, donated embroidered golf towels, which were awarded to Closest to the Pin winners Kim Tracy (2), Paul Tomita, and Rob Gaudet. All golfers received a bento and a booklet of raffle tickets for their participation.

The golf tournament earned approximately \$1,700 for the Sangha.

Team	First	Last	Place	Score	Prize
1	Charlie	Miyashiro	4th	71	Primm GC Outing
1	Manny	Santos			
1	Paul	Tomita			
1	Ken	Yoshikawa			
2	David	Nakata		73	
2	Phil	Williams			
2	Lonnie	Woodruff			
2	Tom	Gochenour			
3	Tosh	Yamamoto	2nd	60	Legacy GC Foursome
3	Guest				
3	Mark	Hayashida			
3	Guest				
4	Richard	Tanaka	3rd	68	Badlands GC Outing
4	Kim	Tracy			
4	Hunter	Arakawa			
4					
5	Paul	Gaudet	1st	58	Angel Park GC Foursome
5	Rob	Gaudet			
5	Roy	Suzuki			
5	Roy	Nakamura			

# Thank You!

Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha would like to thank all the volunteers, Clark High School - Amie Doi, Doug & his ROTC students, vendors, and members who gave of their time to make 2016 Obon Festival a huge success! We would also like to recognize the many temples who supported us this year and years past.

Los Angeles  
Norwalk  
Pasadena Temple  
Sacramento  
Kailua Hongwanji, HI  
San Fernando  
County Buddhist Church  
Vista Buddhist Hongwanji  
Gardenia

Ogden, UT  
Higashi Hongwanji  
Covina  
Arizona Temples  
Honpa Hongwangi Betsuin  
Salt Lake Buddhist Church Orange  
Kona Hongwangi, HI  
Venice Hongwanji  
Nishi Hongwanji

## Thank you to the Committee Chairpersons

Finances: Jim Kurashige  
Cashiers: Chelsea & Gay Kurashige  
Raffle Sales: Roy Nakamura, Bob Reynierse,  
Mits Nakayama

Marketing & Exhibitor's Hall: Tilda Silao  
Advertising: Koichi Ida  
Car Show: Jessie & Ali Coronado  
Media: Catherine Yoshikawa  
Photography: Justin Appel, Dave Hopper  
Sangha History: Dr. Dave Hopper  
Vendors: Tilda Silao & Patty Yamano

Entertainment: Gene Nakamura  
Floor Taping: Brian Segawa  
Hula: Charles Herring  
O Bon Dancers: Ann Mikami  
Sound: Alan Amazaki  
Stage: Brian Segawa  
Taiko: Jen Cabellero  
Tea Ceremony: Kazuko Underhill  
Yagura: Brian Segawa

Chairs & Tables Set- up/Breakdown: Stan Isa

Kitchen & Food: Kyle Morishita  
Health Permits: Delwayne Arakaki  
Food Cooking (a la carte): Dale Ito  
Food Distribution (bento): Michael Tanaka,  
Dan Lee

Beef: Alan Takemoto  
Panko: Aiko Mayeda  
Chicken: Rodney Okano  
Inari Sushi: Margaret Nakata  
Maki Sushi: Harriet Huber  
Spam: John Kosora & Sandi Hiyane  
Beverages: Jennifer & Garret Kakita  
Shaved Ice: 9th Island Cultural Club (inside)  
and Post Kinship Adoptions (outside)

Golf: Roy Suzuki and Wayne Tanaka

Volunteers: Eileen Castle

Event Information: Al Kayatani

Master of Ceremonies: Wayne Tanaka  
Assistant: Tilda Silao



Muriel Scrivner - Ikebana



Na Hula Hali'a Aloha Cultural Preservation



# 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

**SEEKING VOLUNTEER CHAIRPERSON:** We are seeking a member of our Sangha to plan & coordinate activities such as bingo nights, movie nights, superbowl party, etc. for our Sangha members and guests. If you are interested, please contact Tilda Silao @ 619-888-5301. First activity 'BINGO NIGHT' - *date to be announced.*

**LAST OF OUR  
COMMEMORATIVE T'S ON SALE!**

**\$10 or 3 for \$20**



**HELP SUPPORT OUR NEWS-  
LETTER**

**Promote your business!**

**Advertisement space available,**

**email: [lvsangha.info@gmail.com](mailto:lvsangha.info@gmail.com)**

**business card = \$25 per quarter/\$90 per year**

**1/4 page = \$40 per quarter/\$150 per year**



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