



**LAS VEGAS BUDDHIST SANGHA**  
JUNE, 2015, NEWSLETTER

**MAY DHARMA MESSAGE:**

We thank Chelsea Kurashige for chairing our May service and Tilda Silao as well as Gene Nakamura for hosting Reverend Akahoshi from San Diego. His Dharma talk was about Buddhists aiming for balance in their lives by seeking out charity & compassion to offset being ego-centric. Reverend Akahoshi also offered a discussion period after the service and met with a few Sangha members to discuss the importance of balance in our lives as Buddhists. Rev. Akahoshi is a retired dentist from San Jose and eventually attended the Institute of Buddhist Studies to become a Buddhist minister. In addition, on May 29-31, Rev. Akahoshi is facilitating a Buddhist retreat at the Yokoji Zen Mt. Center near Idyllwild whose registration information is in the attached flyer. By the way, Chelsea will not be chairing any services during the summer since she leaves for a paid internship on the East Coast---congratulations to her!

**HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS:** 6/1 Lynn DeMann and Akiko Graves; 6/3 Ken Akita; 6/4 Kyle Morishita; 6/6 June Ikeda & Jenna Matsuyama; 6/9 Bob Reynierse; 6/10 Richard Higa; 6/12 Wayne Tanaka and Karin Sakahara; 6/20 Brianne Isa; 6/21 Matthew Arakaki; 6/28 Bill Muraoka; 6/29 Jim Shibata.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** 6/15 Stan & Nancy Isa; 6/16 Robert & Chizuyo Reynierse; 6/19 Darrel & Julie Matsuyama; 6/30 Steve & Myrtle Noguchi.

**Board Meeting:** 15 members met on May 18 to discuss revising the by-laws to include a non discrimination/sexual harassment amendment; liability insurance for one-time rental events; and the need for volunteers to chair the Welcoming Committee, Visiting the elderly or sick members; Buddhist Music Committee. Dr. Hopper and Al Kayatani have volunteered to chair our Education Committee. Next meeting is on Monday, June 22 with all members welcome.

**JUNE SERVICE:**

Our next service will be held on Sunday, June 14th, which is a week before Fathers' Day. The service will be at 10 a.m. at the our Sangha Center, 4110 MLK Blvd south of Craig Road and north of Alexandria. We will have Reverend Abiko who is the retired Rinban from LA Betsuin, and previously serving in San Francisco and Palo Alto. The Kurashige family has volunteered to host him by picking up and delivering him to & from the airport and also bringing him from Circus Circus to our Sunday service. Also, after the service, we will have a Scholarship Luncheon honoring our two graduating seniors: Thomas Iide and Tia Okano who are each receiving a Sangha Scholarship. In addition, we're celebrating an early Father's Day asking members to bring salads and desserts, since we plan on testing the new fryers that were bought for our obon. We need to practice the cooking time and temperatures for the chicken and lumpia being planned for Obon. Also, we need to make sure the obon "chicken" crew is at the service to add input to the process.

**JUNE MEMORIALS:**

If you want to bring memorial flowers, contact Harriet Huber at hmhob@aol.com or 335-8123.

Please remember to bring a vase and please take your flowers home with you after the service. Thank you.

- 06/04 Catherine Sakinada, grandmother of Cathy Moses and Michael Tanaka
- 06/04 Masami Tachibana, father of Georgiana Kobayashi
- 06/05 Nellie K. Moon, sister of Margaret Nakata
- 06/12 Hisako Hamada, mother of June Maruyama
- 06/15 Tsurue Otani, mother of Tomico Honda & Tuney Kodama
- 06/16 Jim Hamada, brother of June Maruyama
- 06/23 Shogo Okamura, father of Janet Sakahara
- 06/25 Tameko Akita, Mother of Ken Akita

**MAY DONATIONS:**

Cathy Arakaki; Alice Branton in Memory of Rana Branton & Masaichi Tanimine, Shoji Fukawa, Hana Fukumoto, Sally Hanagami, Norman Hirata, James & Harriet Huber, Stan & Nancy Isa, Garrett & Jennifer Kakita, Rosie Kakuuchi for the Dharma Class' Mothers' Day Breakfast, Kumiko Kashiwada, Al & Marge Kayatani, Jim & Gay Kurashige, Hank & June Maruyama, Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga, Bill & Nanette Muraoka, Dennis & Margaret Nakata, Steve & Myrtle Noguchi, Takako Ogata, Rodney & Crystal Okano, Ron & May Soeda, Mike & Becky Suyeyasu, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, Wayne & Sadie Tanaka, Fred & Carolyn Tomiyoshi, Grace Wertz, Masaichi Yamada, Shirley Yoshioka in memory of Shig Yoshioka, and anonymous cash. 68 people in attendance with total donations of \$1225.

**KIZUNO JAPANESE SOCIETY:** members Yuko Yamada and Kazuko Underhill came to our last board meeting and gave a short explanation of the goals of their organization: build strong connections through volunteer services; eventually building a community center to promote cultural values; and to assist individuals who are disabled or elderly needing help with house chores, transportation, etc. (see attached documents)

**TAIKO JAM 2015:** Jennifer Caballero gave a short presentation at our service about the Friday, June 12th 7:30 p.m. event Taiko Ten at the UNLV Student Union and Saturday June 13 at UNLV's Atemus Ham Concert Hall at 8 p.m. For more information or to join their classes, email Jenn at iidxone@gmail.com

**SAVE THE DATE:** On Sunday, Oct 11, 2015 we are having our 30th Anniversary Service and Luncheon at our Sangha Center. Seating is limited to 150, although for the 25th anniversary luncheon there were only 85 people in attendance. Therefore we need to know ASAP how many members and guests will be attending. Please RSVP to Wayne and Sadie Tanaka, two of our charter Sangha members at 702-876-6716 or wtanaka@cox.net

**CRAFTS GROUP:** We need volunteers for the committee to put together this year's fall fund raiser, "Fall Sangha Craft Faire" on Saturday, November 7, 2015 from 9 am to 4 pm. It will be the first Asian Crafts fair in the Las Vegas area and hopefully will become an annual event. Volunteers are needed to help plan and execute the fair. If you can't volunteer for the committee, we will also be asking for volunteers to set-up, patrol and clean up on the day of the event. If you are available to help out on Nov. 7th or can volunteer to help on the committee, please contact Patty Yamano at 818- 219-6982 or patty.yamano@gmail.com

**OBON COMMITTEES:** Our Obon is on Saturday, August 8, 2015—Chairman Dale Ito has done most of the organizational work for our Obon all these past years. However, the Kurashige family passed out the raffle tickets at our May service with the order form for the bento lunch which will cost \$10. Other committees in place, we hope are:

**OBON DANCE PRACTICE:** Ann Mikami  
**KITCHEN SUPERVISION:** Jan-le Low & Derek Uehara  
**RAFFLE TICKETS:** Bob Reynierse & Paul Sakamoto  
**DESSERTS:** Crystal Okano & Kumiko Kashiwada  
**NORIMAKI SUSHI:** Emily Aoki & Harriet Huber  
**INARIZUSHI:** needs a volunteer chair  
**CHIRASHI:** Alice Branton  
**RICE COOKING:** Delwayne Arakaki  
**TERIYAKI SAUCE:** Rosie Kakuuchi  
**BEEF:** Bill Muraoka & Alan Takemoto  
**CHICKEN:** Aiko Mayeda, Tom Ruyle  
**DRINKS:** Jennifer & Garrett Kakita  
**BENTO SALES:** Gay & Jim Kurashige  
**SPAM MUSUBI:** John Kosora & Sandi Hiyane  
**CRAFTS SALES:** Margaret Nakata & Patty Yamano  
**BENTO DISTRIBUTION:** Rosan Ito & Chris Kakuuchi  
**BENTO TICKET PRINTING:** Joanne Ruyle  
**MASTER OF CEREMONIES:** Wayne Tanaka  
**PROGRAM BOOKLET:** Roy Suzuki & Marketing Committee  
**AD SALES:** Katherine Yoshikawa  
**YAGURA SETUP & DECORATION:** Gene Nakamura & Tilda Silao  
**CLEANUP:** Needs a chairperson

**OBON DANCE PRACTICE:** Obon Dance Practice will be Ann Mikami at our Sangha Center on Saturdays, 10:00-12:00 on June 6, 13, 20, 27; July 11, 18, 25 and August 1. Our Sangha website, email and You Tube addresses are:

**KIKUO & KAORU OGAWA SCHOLARSHIP:** is open to anyone who is a member of the LV Sangha and has already or is about to graduate high school. It is meant for anyone who has a desire to further his or her education. So if you have been thinking about going back to school, this is a great opportunity to have your tuition paid for. It doesn't have to be a college; it could be for a trade or technical school. Please email Patty Yamano patty.yamano@gmail.com or scholarship chairperson Wayne Tanaka at wtanaka@cox.net for an application.

## MOTHER'S DAY IMAGES!

