



Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha
FEBRUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER



Our monthly service will be conducted by Reverend Marvin Harada, our supervising minister from Orange County Buddhist Church. The service will be at the JACL Activity Center, 1401 Arville, just south of Charleston Blvd., on Sunday, February 9 at 9:30 a.m.. Due the complexity of getting the interior built in our new Sangha Center, we will NOT have a class on Saturday for the next few months until after we have our Grand Opening for Hanamatsuri in April.

NEHAN-E: February 15th marks the day that Sakyamuni Buddha died & entered Nirvana. As the Buddha lay down to breathe his last breath, he said to his disciples who had gathered around him, “Make of yourself a light. Rely upon yourself; do not depend upon anyone else. Make my teachings your light. Rely upon them; do not depend upon any other teaching. Life is ever changing; none can escape the dissolution of the body. Thus I am now to show by my own death; my body falling apart like a dilapidated cart. Do not lament, but realize that nothing is permanent & learn from it...the emptiness of human life. The true Buddha is not a human body--it is Enlightenment. A human body must die, but the Wisdom of Enlightenment will exist forever in the truth of the Dharma & in the practice of the Dharma. He who sees merely my body does not truly see me. Only he who accepts my teaching truly sees me.” Soon thereafter Sakyamuni Buddha died. But, as he stated, his teachings, the Dharma, lives on here & now. Nehan-e is an opportunity for us once again to listen to the words of the Buddha. (from “The White Path”)

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: At the January service, Reverend Yamaoka led the installation of the following cabinet and board members for this 2011 year:

President:	Stan Isa
First Vice President	Jim Kurashige
Second Vice President	Harriet Huber
Secretary	Eileen Castle
Treasurer	Pati Lira
Board Members	Sharleen Aoki, Sandi Hiyane, David Hopper, John Kosora, Gay Kurashige, Dennis & Margaret Nakata, Ellie Oshiro, Michael & Sharan Tanaka (in absentia), Kyle Watanabe (also in absentia), and Patty Yamano.
Advisors	Wayne Tanaka, Roy & Caryl Suzuki
Service Chair	Harriet Huber and Dharma School Students

Since the installation, Sharleen Aoki has agreed to help be on the board since Jon Ogata resigned.

TOBAN & FLOWERS: We appreciate the members such as Sadako Wanless and Takako Ogata who came early and set up the Obutsudan, chairs and tables. In addition, flowers were brought by Alice Branton & Sadako Wanless. Many thanks also to Mits Nakayama, who hosted Rev. & Mrs. Yamaoka.

JANUARY DONATIONS: Ken & Gladys Akita; Sharleen Aoki; Cathy Arakaki; Alice Branton; Sho Fukawa; Mabel Fukumoto; Clara Hamasaki; Richard & Carolyn Higa; Sandi Hiyane (annual); Dave Hopper; Harriet Huber; Dale & Rosan Ito; Rosie Kakuuchi; Kumiko Kashiwada; Kurashige Family; Pati Lira; Hank & June Maruyama; Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga; Frances Miyasato (annual); Bill & Nanette Muraoka; Gene Nakamura & Tilda Silao; Dennis & Margaret Nakata; Mits Nakayama; Steve & Myrtle Noguchi; Takako Ogata; Crystal & Rodney Okano; Ellie Oshiro; Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse; Ron & May Soeda; Mike & Becky Suyeyasu; Roy & Caryl Suzuki ; Sadako Wanless; Grace Wertz; Mas Yamada; Anonymous Donors.

2014 MEMBERSHIP DUES RECEIVED: Ken & Gladys Akita; Sharleen Aoki; Cathy Arakaki; Alice Branton; Dennis & Brenda Creed ; Tom & Lynn DeMann; Sho Fukawa; Mabel Fukumoto; Clara Hamasaki; Richard & Carolyn Higa; Sandi Hiyane; Dave Hopper; Harriet Huber; Dale & Rosan Ito; Alice Kado; Kumiko Kashiwada; Helen S. Koga; Rosie Kakuuchi; Pati Lira; Roy & Kanyarat Matsuda; Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga; Frances Miyasato; Bill & Nanette Muraoka; Gene Nakamura & Tilda Silao; Dennis & Margaret Nakata; Mits Nakayama; Steve & Myrtle Noguchi; Crystal & Rodney Okano; Ellie Oshiro; Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse; Muriel Scrivner; Ron & May Soeda; Roy & Caryl Suzuki; Grace Wertz; Mas Yamada; Patty & Fred Yamano.

MEMORIALS: Ken & Gladys Akita–Masaru Akita and Kazuko Higashi; Alice Branton–Hannah Kaizumi (sister); Dennis & Brenda Creed–Richard Izumi (Brenda’s father); Kumiko Kashiwada–Joe (husband); Patty & Fred Yamano–Kay & Kikuro Ogawa (Patty’s parents).

BUDDHISM CLASS: Harriet Huber, Chelsea & Gay Kurashige, Dennis & Margaret Nakata, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, Patty & Fred Yamano.

SPECIAL DONATION: Lynn Mikami, Torrance, CA (Building Fund); Mike & Becky Suyeyasu (Building Fund); Jerry Ogawa–Birthday donation. We also thank Patty Yamano and her crafts group whose cushions were being sold at the January service. Also, thanks to the efforts of the fundraising committee, about \$20,000 has been donated to our building fund since the September & October solicitation letters were mailed out.

FEBRUARY MEMORIALS: If you would like to bring memorial flowers to the February 9th service, please remember to bring your own vase and to take the flowers home afterwards.

- 2/1 Richard Izumi, father of Brenda Creed
- 2/5 Jack Kakuuchi, husband of Rosie Kakuuchi
- 2/6 Henry Tsuchiyama, husband of Agnes Tsuchiyama and father of Marlo Sando
- 2/6 Jintaro Fukawa, Father of Sho Fukawa

2/10 Takeko Suzuki, mother of Roy Suzuki
2/11 Rana Teresa Branton, daughter of Alice Branton
2/13 Shoji Tsuma, husband of Flora Tsuma
2/22 Noboru Muraoka, father of Bill Muraoka
2/22 Tadashi Fukumoto, brother-in-law of Hana Fukumoto
2/23 Misuye Takemoto, mother of Margaret Nakata
2/25 Kura Fukawa, mother of Shoji Fukawa
2/28 Fred Fukumoto, husband of Hana Fukumoto; Chizuko Nii, mother of May Soeda;

HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS to the following: 2/1 Roy Matsuda; 2/5 Russell Suzuki; 2/7 Robert Hopper; 2/9 Shirley Yoshioka; 2/11 Deborah Harlig; 2/13 Nam'e Dukes; 2/16 Ron Soeda; 2/20 Daniel Creed; 2/21 Mabel Fukumoto; 2/22 Emiko Aoki; 2/23 Margaret Nakata; 2/25 Calista Mayumi Suzuki; 2/28 Ellie Shibata and Chizuyo Reynierse; and 2/29 Michael Arakaki.

MONTHLY SANGHA BOARD & SERVICE DATES: The Sangha Board will meet at 6 p.m. at Mimi's Restaurant at I-215 and Tenaya near Rainbow Mall on Tuesday, February 25; Tuesday, March 25; Wednesday, April 30; Wednesday May 28; Tuesday June 24; Tuesday, July 29; Tuesday, August 26; Tuesday, September 23; Wednesday, October 29; and Wednesday, December 3. Every Sangha member is welcome to attend the meetings. Please mark your calendars for the following dates for the class and services: March 9 (no class); April 12 & 13 (tentative Grand Opening of our new building & Hanamatsuri); May 10 & 11 (Mothers' Day); June 7 & 8; July 12 & 13; Saturday, August 9 Obon; September 13 & 14; October 11 & 12; November 8 & 9; December 13 & 14.

MONTHLY BUDDHISM CLASSES: We thank the members who attended the Saturday class that was held on January 11 with Rev. Yamaoka: Eileen Castle; Dr. Dave Hopper; Gay and Chelsea Kurashige, Margaret Nakata, Mits Nakayama, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, and Patty Yamano. For the coming year, we have been asked to wait to re-start the classes until we move into our new Sangha Center, hopefully for the Hanamatsuri weekend in April.

OBON DANCE PRACTICE for the Chinese New Year's Celebration (weekend of Feb 7-9), will occur on February 1 from 10:00-12:00. We will have a 30 minute performance, so we will have time for about 5 dances, but will have more ready if needed. Dances scheduled: Tanko Bushi (updated), Mottainai, Memanbetsu Bayashi, Sukiyaki, Gassho Ondo. This event will be at the Downtown Fremont Street Experience – stage located between the 4 Queens and the D casinos. More information will be given at the practice time.

SUPPORT THE SANGHA WEBSITE! The Sangha established a website a year ago with the help of Horizon Web Marketing, headed by Roy Nakamura. Roy has been extremely generous, and has been great to work with. Our website and our Facebook page are great ways to attract attention to the Sangha. Please visit the website (www.lv buddhist.org) and let us know if you have any suggestions.

2014 Sangha Installation of Officers

