



LAS VEGAS BUDDHIST SANGHA

FEBRUARY, 2016, NEWSLETTER

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: At the January service, a ballot was distributed to all in attendance. During the February service, Reverend Matsubayashi will conduct the installation of the cabinet and board members for 2016.

President: Gene Nakamura Vice President: Kyle Morishita
Secretary: Eileen Castle Treasurer: Jim Kurashige
Board Members: David Hopper, Koichi Iida, Al Kayatani,
John Kosora, Chelsea & Gay Kurashige, Muriel Scrivner,
Brian Segawa, Tilda Silao, Michael Tanaka, Patty Yamano.
Past President: Stan Isa
Advisors: Wayne Tanaka, Roy Suzuki
Service Chair: Harriet Huber
Dharma School Teachers: Patty Yamano, Chelsea Kurashige

TOBAN & FLOWERS: Flowers were brought by Chizuyo & Bob Reynierse, Harriet Huber and Kumiko Kashiwada. The refreshments were brought by Mike Suyeyasu and Wayne Tanaka and served by Margaret Nakata. Wayne Tanaka arranged for the 30 bento box lunches for members to stay after the service and enjoy Reverend Turner's further insights about running our Sangha and applying the Dharma to its operation.

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.

Ernestine Moses, mother-in-law of Cathy Moses
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; 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; 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

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE ORDER: Kaiya Kakita, 9, daughter of Garrett and Jennifer Kikita, is selling Girl Scout cookies. Please support our Dharma Class student by placing an order at jenniferkakita@yahoo.com. The cookies will be delivered at our February 14th service.

FEBRUARY SERVICE: Our monthly service will be conducted by Reverend George Matsubayashi on Sunday, February 14, at 10 a.m. February 15th, ***Nehan-e***, marks the day that Shakyamuni Buddha died and 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 teachings. Life is ever changing; none can escape the dissolution of the body. Thus I am now to show by my own death; my body is 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 and 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, Shakyamuni Buddha died. But, as he stated, his teachings, the Dharma, lives on here and now. Quoted from "The White Path," Buddhist Temple of Salinas newsletter).

JANUARY DONATIONS: Cathy Arakaki, Dennis & Brenda Creed, Shioji Fukawa, Sally Hanagami, Norm Hirata, James & Harriet Huber in Memory of Mother Hanayo Oba and Father Yoogo Oba, Hedy Ito, Kumiko Kashiwada, Al & Marge Kayatani, Helen Koga, Jim & Gay Kurashige, Dr. Dan & Leanne Lee, Hank & June Maruyama, Charles & Ulrika Miyashiro, Bill & Nanette Muraoka, Dennis & Margaret Nakata, Takako Ogata, Rodney Okano, Eleanor Oshiro, Mary Ozaki, Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse, Ron & May Soeda, Mike & Becky Suyeyasu, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, Wayne & Sadie Tanaka, Masaichi Yamada, Fred & Patty Yamano (for Kay Ogawa Memorial). Attendance: 70 with Total Donations of \$1,347.00 (\$360 Anonymous Cash)

2016 MEMBERSHIP DUES RECEIVED: Cathy Arakaki, Sandi Ciel, Dennis & Brenda Creed, Thomas & Lynn DeMann, Sharl Edwards, Shioji Fukawa, Stan Fuke, Sally Hanagami, Deborah Harlig, David Hopper & Eileen Castle, James & Harriet Huber, Koichi & Catherine Iida, Stan & Nancy Isa, Hedy Ito, Dale & Rosan Ito, Tohru Katano, Bitu & Steve Yeager, Garrett & Jennifer Kakita, Rosie Kakuuchi, Kumiko Kashiwada, Al & Marge Kayatani, Georgiana & Albert Kobayashi, John Kosora, Jim & Gay Kurashige, Daniel Lee, Hank & June Maruyama, Aiko Mayeda, Charles & Ulrika Miyashiro, Frances Miyasato, Bill & Nanette Muraoka, Dennis & Margaret Nakata, Mits Nakayama, Takako Ogawa, Mary Ozaki, Eleanor Oshiro, Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse, Muriel Scrivner, Aileen Sung, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, Agnes Tsuchiyama, Grace Wertz, Masaichi Yamada, Ty Yamamoto, Fred & Patty Yamano. 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 lasvegas-buddhistsangha@aol.com. Thank you.

CONDOLENCES: Our former Sangha treasurer, Pati Lira's mother, Maria Lira, passed away recently and our Sangha is sending koden to her. Anyone else wanting to send koden individually may do so at 4874 Nardini Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89141.

DHARMA CLASS NEWS:

The Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha 2016 CALENDAR is on sale for a suggested donation of \$10 (this defrays the cost of printing, but any amount is acceptable). This year's calendar includes artwork by Michael Arakaki, Cristal Isa, Carter & Kaiya Kakita, and Jimmy Kurashige. The calendar lists Buddhist events & Dharma students' birthdays. Any Dharma Class students who did not receive their complimentary copies, or anyone who would like to reserve one, please let Roy Suzuki know at lvjacl@cox.net.

HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS: 2/1 Roy Matsuda; 2/5 Russell Suzuki; 2/7 Robert Hopper; 2/9 Shirley Yoshioka; 2/11 Deborah Harlig, Denali Connoly; 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, Chizuyo Reynierse; 2/29 Michael Arakaki.

ADULT DHARMA CLASSES TO BE HELD AFTER MONTHLY SERVICES: January's Adult Dharma Class, led by Reverend Jon Turner and held after the service, was attended by Cathy & Delwayne Arakaki, Sandi Ciel & her guest, David Hopper, Harriet Huber, Koichi & Thomas Iida, Al Kayatani, Jim Kurashige, Daniel Lee, Gene Nakamura, Margaret Nakata, Takako Ogata, Muriel Scrivner, Tilda Silao, Brian, Melany & Summer Sagawa, Roy Suzuki & Patty Yamano (see picture below). The class is normally about the teachings of the Buddha Dharma, but since this was our first meeting since the Sangha moved into our new building, the discussion was about what we can do in the future to increase the interest and attendance for the Adult Dharma class. The Sangha is hoping to continue having the classes after the Sunday service, rather than having it on a Saturday or during the week when the majority of our younger members have to work. Each visiting minister will give a short talk about a Dharma subject, followed by a discussion by all who attend. If you have any suggestions about a subject, please submit it to any Sangha officer or board member, so the visiting ministers may prepare for the class. A light lunch will be served by the Kitchen Committee. We hope to see many more Sangha members and guests at the next class.

SANGHA BOARD MEETING: The next board meeting will be on Monday, January 25, at 6 p.m. Please let Eileen Castle (ecastle@gmx.com, 371-0947) know if you plan to attend. A light dinner will be served.

Reverend Turner's Dharma message was about making changes in your life, such as when you make a New Year's resolution. He mentioned the Fogg Behavior Model which states that successful changes have to have Motivation, Ability, and Trigger. For most of us, that means we will most likely be successful if our change involves something that is well within our ability, does not require a lot of motivation, and it's something that we are constantly reminded to do. That means that, in order to make a permanent change, we should start off making small, easy changes. Once we are successful, we can go on to make more small changes. In the end, this will result in significant, meaningful changes in our lives. As Buddhists, we should take small "effortless" steps on our path to Enlightenment.



Adult Dharma Class with Reverend Jon Turner



Reverend Turner talks about making small changes



Dharma Class students holding items that represent their imaginary beings



Adult Dharma Class is led by Rev. Turner