



LAS VEGAS BUDDHIST SANGHA NEWSLETTER
MARCH, 2015



MARCH SERVICE: Our March (Spring Ohigan) service will be conducted by Reverend Peter Hata from the LA Higashi Hongwanji on Sunday, March 8, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Sangha Center, 4110 Martin Luther King Blvd, 89032, between Alexander and Craig Road. The *Ohigan* (the other shore) service is conducted twice a year during the equinox when the days and nights are of equal length and the weather is supposedly neither too cold nor too warm. Harmony throughout the universe is stressed. Reflecting upon this harmony of nature, Buddhists are to devote themselves to these six Paramitas in their lives: The Path of Giving—*Dana*; The Path of Right Behavior—*Sila*; The Path of Endurance & Patience—*Ksanti*; The Path of Endeavor or Effort—*Virya*; The Path of Meditation—*Dhyana*; and The Path of Wisdom—*Prajna*. *Spring Higan* is when we should “cross-over” and see how the universal “others” touch our lives.

FEBRUARY’S DHARMA MESSAGE: Reverend George Matsubayashi, who was accompanied by his wife Kay, gave an insightful Dharma message regarding the passing of Shakyamuni Buddha and how we can better understand and accept the passing of our loved ones. Also, we thank the Kakuuchi Family (Rosie, Michael, Judy and Christine) for the memorial luncheon and having so many of their friends and family members attend our service commemorating the passing of Jack Kakuuchi.

GUESTS AT THE SERVICE: A number of Rosie Kakuuchi’s friends and relatives attended her husband Jack’s memorial: Rosie’s three children Judy, Michael and Christine, with granddaughter Michelle Odou Granado; Cousins from Florida - Emiko Uyeda, Susan and Luann as well as Rae and Norman Okubo and Eleanor and Gail Chow. Ryan Wobber from the Watsonville Buddhist Temple came with new member Jaime Kuratomi, Cynthia Cox is a UNLV anthropology student and nanny. Tina Okahara attended with her daughter, new Sangha member Jodie Sagawa Vidad and her children, Regan and Reyn. We also introduced Eriko Sanjo and Mae & Kats Hazama and hope to see all of them next month, too.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS were brought to the service by Brenda Creed as well as Rosie Kakuuchi. In lieu of a toban committee, the chairs were set up the day before when Ryan and Katherine Yoshikawa had the *Hatsumairi* for their son Kai Minoru. Rev. Matsubayashi performed the service.

GET WELL WISHES: *Sadako Wanless* was hospitalized early in February and may soon be moved to AZ by her son who is a police officer in Phoenix. Michael Tanaka’s wife, *Sharan Tanaka*, is in the Kindred Care facility on Sahara near Decatur and would appreciate Sangha members visiting. Kumiko Kashiwada told us that *Sho Fukawa* continues to be cared for by his daughter, Joanne Ryule, who generously prints our Obon bento tickets each year. Mabel Fukumoto will be our contact person with our past treasurer, *Pati Lira*, to see what she may need and if a visit to her home is feasible at this time.

MEMBERSHIPS PAID AT THE SERVICE: Cathy Arakaki, Ronald Ghiraldi, Dale Ito, Margaret & Albert Kayatani, Jamie Kuratomi, Gene Nakamura & Tilda Silao, Margaret & Dennis Nakata, Kazuo & Edna Shiotani, Akira Sonomura, Alicia & Rodney Tamura, Tami & Scott Watanabe, Katherine & Ryan Yoshikawa. Dues have not been increased and are still \$20 per family; however, if you’ve forgotten to pay the dues, an envelope will be included with a printed copy of this newsletter.

DONATIONS: Kenneth & Akiko Akita, Cathy Arakaki, Shioji Fukawa, Sally Hanagami, Carolyn Higa, James & Harriet Huber, Rosie Kakuuchi, Kumiko Kashiwada, Al Kayatani, James & Gay Kurashige, Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga, William & Nanette Muraoka, Dennis & Margaret Nakata, Mits Nakayama, Takako Ogata, Rodney Okano, Eleanor Oshiro, Eriko Sanjo, Muriel Scrivner, Kazuo & Edna Shiotani, Akira Sonomura, Roy & Caryl Suzuki, Wayne & Sadie Tanaka, Scott & Tami Watanabe, Grace Wertz, Masaichi Yamada, Katherine & Ryan Yoshikawa. In addition there were anonymous donations of \$174. If you need proof of a cash donation, please put it in an envelope (available on our counter) and let us know who it is from and perhaps what it is for (e.g. Dharma Class calendar, memorial or membership, etc.) In addition, Retired Reverend LaVerne Sasaki and his wife Helen gave a *very generous donation* to our Building Fund.

Memorial Donations in the name of: Kats & Mae Hazama in memory of Jack Kakuuchi; Dennis & Brenda Creed in memory of Richard Izumi; Eleanor Chow in memory of Jack Kakuuchi; Roy & Caryl Suzuki in memory of mother Takeko Suzuki; Steve & Myrtle Noguchi in memory of Jack Kakuuchi; Hanako Fukumoto in memory of husband Fred Fukumoto; Dennis & Margaret Nakata for mother's memorial; Shioji Fukawa in memory of Kura Fukawa; Rosie Kakuuchi in memory of husband Jack Kakuuchi.

MARCH MEMORIALS: If you would like Reverend Peter Hata to perform a memorial service during the March 7-8 weekend, you may contact Roy Suzuki to arrange for the service. 702-480-0352. Please bring memorial flowers in a vase and take them home after the service. 3/2 Hector Lira, father of Pati Lira; 3/4 Nao Kasamoto, husband of Sadae Kasamoto; 3/4 Joe Hajime Norikane, father of Gay Kurashige; 3/6 Toshiyuki Matsuda, brother of Sadako Wanless; 3/7 Noburo (Nob) Takemoto, brother in-law of Dennis Nakata; 3/8 Masako Yoshimura-Sakahara, mother of Bill Sakahara; 3/13 Koyoko Tsuma, mother-in-law of Flora Tsuma; 3/18 Ronald Oshiro, husband of Ellie Oshiro; 3/19 Sakashi Nakata, mother of Dennis Nakata; 3/20 Sada Kitagawa, mother of Sadae Kasamoto; 3/20 June Kiyoko Yamada, wife of Masaichi Yamada; 3/24 James Hamasaki, husband of Clara Hamasaki; 3/27 Sakae Bert Ogata, husband of Takako Ogata; 3/28 Masaichi, Tanimine, father of Alice Branton; 3/30 Keiji Matsuda, brother of Sadako Wanless; 3/30 Michael Hopper, son of David Hopper; 3/31 Gumpe Honda, husband of Tomi Honda; 3/31 Brian Kennedy, brother of Eileen Castle.

OUR 1st FUNDRAISER FOR 2015—GET INVOLVED – VOLUNTEER!

Saturday, March 28 from 8am-2:00pm

Items needed:

Gently used children and adult clothes; Shoes in good condition; Small working household appliances; Household items and Toys in good condition; Tools – yard, garage, car, etc.; Jewelry – costume or otherwise. **Items not sold will go to charity.**

****NEED BAKED GOODS, contact Eileen Castle, ecastle@hopperinstitute.com**

CRAFTERS NEEDED!! Contact Tilda Silao, lvsangha.info@gmail.com

MARCH BIRTHDAYS: 3/1 Kota Watanabe; 3/3 Hana Fukumoto/ 3/5 Aiko Mayeda; 3/9 Flora Tsuma & Haru Toimoto; 3/15 Delwayne Arakaki; Dan Kosora, Shioji Fukawa, Becky Suyeyasu; 3/16 Clifford Moses; 3/18 Arthur Harlig; 3/19 Anne Aoki & Gay Kurashige; 3/22 Rodney Okano; 3/27 Kie Watanabe.

ANNIVERSARIES: 3/16 Kazuo & Edna Shiotani; 3/28 Gay & Jim Kurashige. Sandi Hiyane is trying to keep up the anniversary, memorial and birthday lists. If you have any additions or changes, please email them to her at: shiyane2010@hotmail.com.

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING: was held on Tuesday, January 27. ***Obon will be on Saturday, August 8, 2015 at Cimarron Memorial High School please save that date!*** We will continue to make our own bento this year; Co-chairmen Dale Ito and Jim Kurashige will be getting more volunteers to handle the labor intensive tasks so we don't burn them out. Tentative committees and chairpersons:

Ann Mikami—Obon dance practice; Richard, music
Food Ticket Sales and money collection—Jim Kurashige
Katherine Yoshikawa—Ads & raffle prizes
Emily Aoki & Harriet Huber—norimaki sushi
Alice Branton—needs help with chirashi
Rosie Kakuuchi—teriyaki sauce
Chicken Crew Chief—Aiko Mayeda
Raffle Ticket Sales—Bob Reynierse and Mits Nakayama
Crafts Sales—Patty Yamano & Margaret Nakata
Bento Ticket printing—Joanne Ruyle
Shave Ice—Kurashige kids
Golf Tournament—Roy Suzuki & Wayne Tanaka

Sound—Alan and Chudi Amazaki
Kitchen Management—Jan-Ie Low & Derek Uehara
Kumiko Kashiwada—desserts
Chizuyo Reynierse—has resigned or needs help with inarizushi
Delwayne Arakaki—rice cookers
Bill Muraoka & Alan Takemoto—beef
Alan Takemoto—drinks
Spam Musubi Crew—Sandi Hiyane, John Kosora
Bento distribution—Rosan Ito & Chris Kakuuchi
MC—Wayne Tanaka
Cleanup—Minoru Aoki

TREASURER'S REPORT: Wells Fargo account; Stan and Jim are now signers on the account. \$2,252 was donated at last month's service, plus the \$2069 this month equals \$4321. The HOA fee was raised to \$624 beginning in January, 2015. We are also getting a new Square Payment Device in order to have credit card donations on service days, fundraisers, etc.

HANAMATSURI Our Hanamatsuri service is scheduled for Sunday, April 12, 2015 at 10:00 am. with our annual Hanamatsuri Potluck following the service. Members are asked to come early to put together the *hanamido* (flower altar) from 8 to 9 a.m. After the potluck, we need everyone to help clean up and put away the chairs and tables. Thank you in advance for your help!

SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE: Scholarship applications are now available for the Kikuo and Kay Ogawa Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is available to **anyone** that desires to further his or her education, regardless of age. Requirements are: 1) Member of a Buddhist Temple/Sangha 2) High School diploma or GED (can be waived); 3) Application/acceptance to a university, college, trade school, or institution for continuing education. The scholarship for \$1,000 is to be used for tuition and/or books. Applications are available from Patty Yamano patty.yamano@gmail.com or Caryl Suzuki ysuzuki@cox.net. Submission is due by May 22, 2015.

MINISTER HOSTS: For Rev. Hata in March, Ellie Oshiro, Gene Nakamura & Tilda Silao; April, TBA; May with Rev. Kenji Akahoshi, the Kurashige family; June, Rev. Abiko, host needed; July, Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki, host needed; August is our Obon; Sept., Rev. Kuniyuki hosted by Wayne Tanaka; October is Rev. Patti Usuki, hosted by the Kurashige family; November is Rev. Sakamoto, hosted by Dr. Dave Hopper and Eileen Castle; and in December, former bishop Rev. Ogui needs a host.

GUEST LAY SPEAKERS: We thank Al Kayatani for encouraging members of the congregation formally to introduce themselves to the person sitting next to them to increase the interconnectedness of our members. Future speakers will be attorneys Rodney Okano and Sandi Ciel; retired Pan Am pilot Akira Sonomura; school nurse Garrett Kakita and his wife Jennifer. Let us know if you would like to speak.

DHARMA SCHOOL: Seven Dharma School students completed making *ozuju's* and are continuing practicing entering and leaving the Hondo properly. We will be making *ozuju* holders at our March Service. If your children/grandchildren/friends would like to participate in the Chinese New Years Parade in downtown Las Vegas on Saturday, Feb. 21 from 1:00-12:30, please contact Patty Yamano 702 617-0999 or Caryl Suzuki 702 480-0347.

Dharma school is an integral part of our monthly service and we are actively seeking more students - ages 3 - 14. We invite you to come by and check out our activities during the main service.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: We have a political candidate in our midst! One of our members is running for office. To avoid IRS scrutiny or objections from our members, we will not mention his/her name, the position, or the locality. One thing we can do is encourage all of you to go out and vote each and every time you are eligible to do so.

LOGO BUILDING SIGNS: Lars Bjorkland, of Predator Signs, has installed the logo signs on the south and east sides of the building.

CNY in the Desert / Las Vegas Spring Festival 2015

Friday, February 20th and Saturday, February 21st

Cultural performances throughout both days starting from 1pm to 9pm at the LINQ Promenade

****Opening Ceremony on Friday, 2/20 starting at 6pm****

****Parade: Downtown starting at 4th Street from 11am to 12:30pm****

Admission is FREE!