



**THERE IS NO MONTHLY AUGUST SERVICE; HOWEVER ALL SANGHA MEMBERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP AT OUR OBON SUMMER FESTIVAL, both on Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. and on Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 a.m. back at Cimarron Memorial High School, which is at 2300 N. Tenaya, 89128, which is between Lake Mead and Smoke Ranch off I-95 Hwy.** We remind everyone that our congregation is still predominantly senior retirees, so all members are asked again to recruit some younger friends & relatives for these specific tasks: cleaning and setting up and food preparation the day before, on Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. and then the food preparation from 6 a.m. on Saturday, the 10<sup>th</sup>. In addition, we are grateful for help throughout the morning with the dishwashing; then mid-day for the food concessions, and the intensive afternoon cleanup from about 2:30 p.m. when the Obon raffle is over. Please ask these volunteers to give their names to June Maruyama so that our invitations may be sent to the traditional thank you luncheon which is planned for September.

**DHARMA MESSAGE:** We thank Mits Nakayama for hosting Reverend Kuwahara, who is liaison to the Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto, the Director for the Center for Buddhist Studies, and the Director of the Institute of Buddhist Studies under Bishop Umezu. We enjoyed Reverend Kuwahara's Dharma talk about the Japanese Obon tradition of the cucumber horse and the eggplant cow. He also had an interesting class on Saturday covering the "Introduction to Buddhism."

**DVD LENDING LIBRARY:** We have two copies of the film, "Jiro Dreams of Sushi" that are currently with Pati Lira and Muriel Scrivner, so if you're interested, please email [lvjacl@cox.net](mailto:lvjacl@cox.net) or call 228-3071 to sign up for it next. We also thank Rosie Kakuuchi who chaired the service and Barbara Mitsunaga for her short presentation.

**OBON'S MEANING:** As stated in our previous August newsletters, the word for Obon is an abbreviation of Urabon or "suffering by being hung upside down which is the basic cause of that suffering." The sutra describes Mogalana, one of the ten great disciples of the Shakyamuni Buddha. When he attained the high rank of Buddhist training and obtained supernatural powers, he was able to see his mother who was suffering in the "hell of a hungry ghost." The Buddha advised Mogalana to offer unselfish giving (*dana*) for the monks when they finished with their retreat in the rainy season around July 15<sup>th</sup>. With this practice of pure *dana*, his mother was relieved from the realm of hell; so Mogalana danced joyously. This is the legend about the origin of our Obon dancing or "*Obon Odori*."

**CONDOLENCES:** Long-time member, George Peck, passed away last week in Los Angeles. Sympathy cards/koden may be sent to his daughter, Sammie Alvarado, at 2128 W. 160 Street, Torrance 90504. If you need further information, her phone number is 310-327-7674. The Sangha has sent a card and koden to the family.

**TOBAN & MEMORIAL FLOWERS:** We thank Chizuyo & Bob Reynierse and Sadako Wanless for the flowers. We also thank Sadako Wanless and Takako Ogata for coming early to set up the chairs and Obutsudan.

**JULY DONATIONS:** Thank you to the following members for their generous donations: Ken & Gladys Akita; Cathy Arakaki; Alice Branton; Sho Fukawa; Sandi Hiyane (annual); Harriet Huber; Dale & Rosan Ito; Rosie Kakuuchi; Kumiko Kashiwada; Pati Lira; Hank & June Maruyama; Roy & Kanyarat Matsuda; Frances Miyasato (annual); Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga; Bill Muraoka; Dennis & Margaret Nakata; Mits Nakayama; Steve & Myrtle Noguchi; Takako Ogata; Ellie Oshiro; Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse; Muriel Scrivner; Kazuo & Edna Shiotani; Mike Suyeyasu; Roy & Caryl Suzuki; Oh & Alan Takemoto (annual); Fred & Carolyn Tomiyoshi (annual); Sadako Wanless (annual); Scott & Tami Watanabe; Grace Wertz; Patty & Fred Yamano; Tom & Sumiko Yanagihara (annual). If you were unable to attend the service, please be reminded to send in your donation. We are especially grateful for donations to the building fund. Send donations to: Pati Lira, 4874 Nardini, Las Vegas, NV 89141.

**MEMORIALS:** Margaret Nakata – in memory of her father, Toraji Takemoto; Dennis Nakata – father, Yonetaro Nakata and Caryl Suzuki – sister, Setsuko Iwamoto.

**BUDDHISM CLASS:** Attendees at the Saturday class were: Mitch Dukes; Harriet Huber; Ellie Oshiro; Roy & Caryl Suzuki; Patty & Fred Yamano; Katherine Yoshikawa; Dr. David Hopper; and Eileen Castle. Handouts were available at the service, and a copy will be posted on our website, [www.lasvegasbuddhist.org](http://www.lasvegasbuddhist.org).

**MEMBERSHIP DUES RECEIVED:** Frances & Jim Akamine; Ken & Gladys Akita; Emiko Aoki; Sharleen Aoki; Ann & Noboru Aoyagi; Cathy Arakaki; Alice Branton; Dennis & Brenda Creed; Tom & Lynn DeMann; Mitch & Namie Dukes; Sho Fukawa; Hana Fukumoto; Mabel Fukumoto; Clara Hamasaki; Sally Hanagami; Deborah Harlig; Carolyn & Richard Higa; Sandi Hiyane; Tomico Honda; Dave Hopper; Harriet Huber; June Ikeda; Nancy & Stan Isa; Dale & Rosan Ito; Alice Kado; Rosie Kakuuchi; Sadae Kasamoto; Kumiko Kashiwada; Georgianana Kobayashi; Helen Koga (honorary) Dan & Katie Kosora; John Kosora; Wayne Kozai; Jim & Gay Kurashige; Pati Lira; June & Hank Maruyama; Roy & Kanyarat Matsuda; Aiko Mayeda; Sueno Migaki; Jimi & Barbara Mitsunaga; Frances Miyasato; Daniel Miyake; Ben & Karen Mizusaki; Cathy & Cliff Moses; Bill & Nanette Muraoka; Ben & Marilyn Nakagawa; Dennis & Margaret Nakata; Kumiko Nakata; Mits Nakayama; Steve & Myrtle Noguchi; Jon Ogata; Takako Ogata; Eleanor Oshiro; Mary Ozaki; Bob & Chizuyo Reynierse; Paul & Alice Sakamoto; Lily Sakemi; Marlo & Jason Sando; Muriel Scrivner; Kazu & Edna Shiotani; Ron & May Soeda; Aileen & Brent Sumida; Mike & Becky Suyeyasu; Roy & Caryl Suzuki; Oh & Alan Takemoto; Michael & Sharan Tanaka; Wayne & Sadie Tanaka; June

Tateishi; Fred & Carolyn Tomiyoshi; Agnes Tsuchiyama; Flora Tsuma; Sadako Wanless; Kyle & Kim Watanabe; Scott & Tami Watanabe; Grace Wertz; Tom & Myrna Wiczorek; Mas Yamada; Patty & Fred Yamano; Tom & Sumiko Yanagihara; Stan Yokoyama; Katherine & Emi Yoshikawa; Shirley Yoshioka.

**OBON REMINDERS:** In order to get enough ingredients to cover the amount of lunches that need to be made, **please let June Maruyama know at 869-0680 how many lunch tickets you have sold by Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, before the board meets that day at 5:30 p.m.** We are grateful for the Obon Co- Chairs, Jim Kurashige and Dale Ito, who are purchasing the supplies and getting them to CMHS on Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. If anyone living nearby has a truck and can come out to help unload these 4+ truckloads, please call Dale at 869-0557.

On Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m., ALL SANGHA MEMBERS are asked to come out to set up the chairs in the cafeteria, clean the kitchen, and prepare the chicken. Please bring **rags, knives, cutting boards and other supplies such as pliers, scissors & tape** for all that needs to be done. The 400 school chairs need to be wiped down and set up with the other 400 rented chairs.

**Dance Instructor, Ann Mikami,** has at least 24 dancers who will represent our Sangha. The remaining practices are on July 20, 27 and August 3 from 9-11 AM. at the JAACL Activity Center where our Sangha has its services. If anyone is interested, please know that they can be introduced to the dances via a DVD as well as at the practices. If you want a DVD of this year's dances, please contact Ann at 228-2692. If you are dancing for the first time, please introduce yourself to Ann, and she will make sure to give you a "beginner's special lesson" so you will feel comfortable dancing at the Obon Festival.

**Drinks Chairperson Alan Takemoto** encourages Sangha members to buy soft drinks on sale that we can sell at Obon. The drinks needed are water, Coke or Pepsi, Diet Coke or Diet Pepsi, Dr. Pepper, and Sprite or 7-up. Please call Alan at 254-7261 to let him know what you are bringing. If we are short of any flavor, we will send someone out to get some as needed.

**All members are asked by Rice Committee Chairperson, Delwayne Arakaki, to cook a pot of rice and bring it already cooked to the school in the morning.** We never seem to have enough to begin with, which holds up the process later in the morning. ALL OTHER COOKING WILL BE DONE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL, so everyone is asked to report to Cimarron Memorial High School at **6 a.m. sharp on Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.** Again, please bring **cutting boards and knives** (labeled with your name) to use while we prepare the food. All members are also asked to stay, if at all possible, **until all the cleanup is done in the afternoon.**

**Sangha members are requested by chairperson Tomi Honda to bring desserts, ESPECIALLY JAPANESE ONES,** when they report at 6 a.m. **on Saturday;** although any dessert brought in later will not be turned away. We ran out of Japanese desserts early in the day last year; so we ask that you consider making your family's favorite dessert! Please **do not cut your dessert** since individual servings and pricing will be done by the committee. Also, please sign in & list your donation so that the proper acknowledgments are made. Moreover, please bring your dessert, if at all possible, in a disposable container; but if you have to bring a pan or utensil, put your name on it and come by later to pick it up.

**Chizuyo Reynierse** is in charge of on-site inari-zushi making, and Harriet Huber is in charge of the makizushi making, so your help will be much appreciated. Some of the younger Sangha members will be in the Teachers' Lounge area making spam musubi with John Kosora, Jon Ogata and Kyle Watanabe.

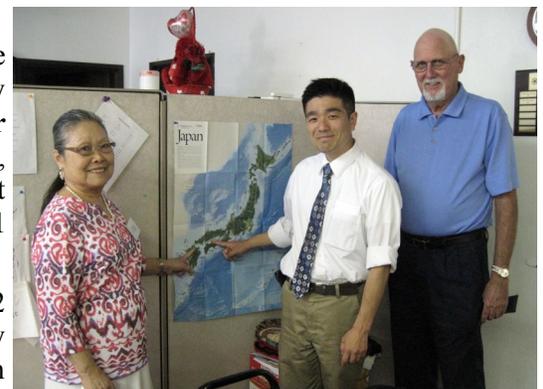
**Obon Booklet Ads:** have been solicited by chairperson Katherine Yoshikawa. If you frequent a business that is willing to advertise or offer raffle prizes, please call (806-7462) or email her at [katherineyoshikawa@gmail.com](mailto:katherineyoshikawa@gmail.com).

**Raffle Tickets:** Since the profit margin is higher for the raffle than the food items; please put in as much effort as possible to sell raffle tickets. We need some hustlers to get prizes and sell tickets. Let the chairperson, Wayne Tanaka, know if you have solicited any prizes.

Although **Minoru Aoki** is the perpetual chair for the Cleanup Committee, **we need a variety of volunteers** for keeping up with the dishwashing from early in the day of Obon. **Therefore if you are sitting around or can take a break from what you are doing to take a turn at dishwashing, please do so.** It will help lighten the load--so bring a pair of rubber gloves to get in there and scrub those pans! Also year after year, Richard Tanaka is always seen helping to sweep and mop the kitchen. Any help in that area will also be much appreciated.

**A light mid-morning lunch will be supplied;** so no one has to bring anything else besides what is needed directly for the Obon. Coffee and donuts as well as Subway sandwiches will be available for everyone early in the day. **Any Sangha member who wants a bento lunch** must purchase it by the deadline on Wednesday, July 31, when everyone is asked to turn in the bento (box lunch) count to June Maruyama at 869-0680. **June will give a report at the Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 31 at 5:30.** We need an accurate number for Dale to make the last minute purchases.

**Obon Happi Coats:** The year before last, Margaret Nakata and her sister sewed 42 happi coats, of which there are only two more large ones left. If you want to buy one before the Obon, we are selling them at the dance practice on the Saturdays in July from 9 to 11 a.m.



Chizuyo Reynierse and Rev. Kuwahara point to their home cities in Japan