



REVEREND GEORGE MATSUBAYASHI TO PRESIDE AT FEBRUARY 11, 2018 SERVICE

Rev. George Matsubayashi, and his wife, Kay, will visit us in February. Rev. George presided at our services in November and December.

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. This 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. (copied from "The White Path")

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

As a non-profit, the Sangha can't endorse any political candidates, so this article conveys my editorial opinion, not the Sangha's. Any candidate is welcome to say a few words during our announcement time after each service.

For most of its existence, the Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha kept its assets in super conservative investments like money market accounts or Certificates of Deposit. Even though many of us worked very hard for many years, we weren't close to being able to purchase a temple building. When we finally decided to invest our money in a diversified portfolio, we chose Derek Uehara as our financial planner.

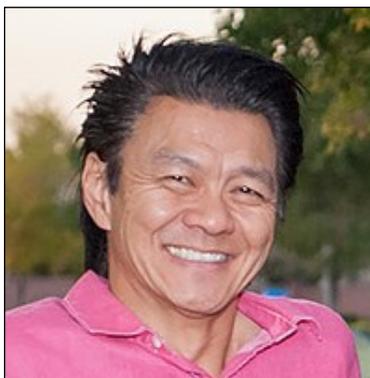
I had worked with Derek as a fellow Director at the Asian Chamber of Commerce. He is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP), which means that he has completed extensive training, is held to the highest ethical and educational standards, and has passed a CFP Certification Exam. Under his expert stewardship, the Sangha's assets grew quickly to the point that we were able to purchase our Sangha Center.

Derek is currently running for the office of Nevada State Treasurer. Needless to say, he is eminently qualified to perform the duties of that office.

But he has a steep hill to climb. He is running against an experienced politician, with much greater name recognition, who previously served in city and state offices. In addition, there are vanishingly few public office holders with Asian surnames, and no one that I know of who is a Buddhist.

If you would like to learn more about helping one of our own, please go to his website, derekfornevada.com.

Thanks!
Roy Suzuki, Editor



DEREK UEHARA, CFP

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JACK KAKUUCHI

This week's service will include a memorial ceremony for Jack Kakuuchi, Rosie Kakuuchi's husband.

Rosie has arranged for a luncheon catered by 808 Hawaiian Mixed Plate. The restaurant will deliver fried saimin and garlic chicken. Everyone is encouraged to bring rice, salad, and dessert to round out the meal.

Please plan to stay after the service to enjoy the food and fellowship with Rosie and her daughters.

READY TO DO YOUR TAXES?

It's that time of year again, and we have to gather all of our information, and either hire someone to do our taxes, or try to do it ourselves.

Congress supposedly simplified and lowered our taxes, but that doesn't affect our 2017 tax returns. It's still very complicated, and often very expensive, to hire someone to do it for you.

Takako Ogata asked us to look around for a reliable and inexpensive person to do her taxes. It just so happens that Wayne Tanaka knows someone who would do hers for the low price of \$100!

Jennifer Oyadomari, CPA, worked for a large financial services firm and is striking out on her own, so she is offering her services to Sangha members at very low prices. If you have any accounting or tax issues, please contact her at integratedconcepts@gmail.com or call (702)510-5809. Her photo appears on the next page.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Sangha	(702)228-3071
Center Rental	(619)888-5301
Dharma Ed.	(702)371-0947
Illness/Death	(702)806-5520
Sangha Crafts	(818)219-6982
Editor	(702)228-3071

SUCCESS!

Because of the notice on the right, many of you have started paying your dues and making donations via our website. I would like to encourage even more of you to use this very convenient method.

Many members are also paying more than the minimum \$20 per year dues. We have received donations of as much as \$500 for dues, and many have started recurring monthly payments of \$50.

If you haven't already done so, please look at the directions on the right and pay your dues and make donations via our website. It is so easy, and you never have to remember to bring your checkbook or cash to the service. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

FUNDRAISING IDEAS

We are trying to think of new and fun ways of raising money for our Sangha. Please send us your suggestions, like selling Udon, having a Chili or Curry Cook Off, or having a Chicken Wing Sale. Email your ideas to info@lasvegasbuddhist.org or call (702)228-3071 and leave a message.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE!

MAKE DONATIONS ON OUR WEBSITE!

If you're like most of us, it's somewhat of a hassle making a donation by writing a check at each service, writing it down in your ledger, and then keeping track of it until you pay your taxes. And sometimes, we can't make it to a service and still want to make a donation.

One way to simplify this is to make your donations via our website. Thanks to Matt Campbell and the rest of the team at Horizon Web Marketing (owned by Roy Nakamura), **our donation procedure has been updated** to make it really easy for you to make individual donations or **schedule automatic monthly donations**.

Just go to our website, www.lasvegasbuddhist.org, and click on the big gold **DONATE NOW** button, and you will be led through a few steps that will allow you to use your credit card or your PayPal account to make your one-time or recurring monthly payments.

You can make payments to the Sangha for any reason with this method; just write a message in the Notes section, telling us what you would like to do, such as pay dues, make a memorial donation, or pay for mochi, crafts, etc. THANK YOU!!!



Julie Monteiro and Michael Tanaka



Jennifer & Duke Oyadomari



Adrian, Keira & Hana Kilibarda Penn

A TRAGEDY

We've just learned that a long-time JACL member, Bill Koseki, passed away last month. Bill's wife, Irene, passed away last year, so Bill was living alone in their condo.

He had been advised to sell the condo and move into assisted living, but he preferred to stay where he was. He didn't have regular contact with his relatives in California and didn't have any close friends in Las Vegas.

When he didn't respond to calls and emails, his niece travelled to Las Vegas and found that he had passed away almost a month before he was found.

The Sangha is doing its best to prevent tragedies like this from happening. We have an ongoing program of helping single elderly members with everyday problems and transportation needs. The Sangha is willing to pay for an emergency alert system so a press of a button will bring medical assistance. We have contacts who can help with home repair, estate planning, real estate sales, and investments.

If you, or anyone you know, might need any assistance from the Sangha, please call any of the IMPORTANT NUMBERS on the previous page, or send an email to info@lasvegasbuddhist.org. Please let us help you live life to the fullest!

WHAT DOES IT COST TO BE IN ASSISTED LIVING?

June Maruyama lost her husband in November, 2016. She had limited mobility, couldn't drive, and needed assistance when she fell several times. She also had to undergo hip replacement surgery and needed a feeding tube when she got down to 80 pounds.

All of these problems led her to decide to move into assisted living. The sale of her home and consolidation of her assets made it possible for her to pay for it with the combination of her retirement, social security, and investment income.

We have this image of assisted living as being more expensive than living at home. But, if you add rent/mortgage cost, property taxes, utilities, insurance, and food, the sum very nearly equals the monthly cost of assisted living. June is living in a facility that charges \$2,900/month, plus a maximum of \$800/month for all other services. There are no worries about taking medications, personal hygiene, and meals. Transportation is provided for doctor's appointments, shopping, and outings.

One major benefit is the opportunity to interact with others. June has made many new friends, plus there are daily activities like bingo, knitting, dominos, and card games. Entertainment is brought in regularly. Cable and Internet are free.

If you are living alone, now is the time to consider assisted living.