

RADIANCE

No. 63 (May 1, 2018)

May/June 2018

Nichiren Buddhist Kannon Temple of Nevada
1600 E. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89104-3488

Tel/Fax: (702)866-5956

www.kannon-temple-nevada.org

kannontemplenv@gmail.com

Follow us on 

SACRED WORDS

I wonder if my parents were reborn in Kawana of Itō in Izu? The fourth fascicle of the Lotus Sutra says, “[I will manifest...] men and women of pure faith and dispatch them to [the teacher of the Dharma] so that they may make offerings to him.”

Funamori Yasaburō Moto Gosho—St. Nichiren’s Words

Izu Persecution and Mother’s Day Service May 13th, 10:30 a.m. (Sun)

On May 12, 1261 St. Nichiren was arrested and exiled to Izu Peninsula under the indictment of disturbing the government. Instead of being dropped off on land, he was left on a rock in the bay. As the water rose, he was saved by a fisherman.

This event is considered to be the second of four major persecutions. St. Nichiren realized that he was living the Lotus Sutra. Let us commemorate this occasion so that we too can live the Lotus Sutra.

May 13th is also Mother’s Day. St. Nichiren always stressed filial piety and to show gratitude towards one’s parents. Let us also show our respect to our parents, especially to all mothers on her special day. And let us not forget our fathers on Fathers Day, June 17th.



Memorial Day Service at the Veterans Cemetery

May 28th, 11:00 a.m. (Mon)

May 28th is Memorial Day! This is the day for all Americans to show their respect and appreciation to all soldiers who sacrificed their lives for this country. The Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery is in Boulder City, southeast of Las Vegas. There are several soldiers who are buried there related to our members of Kannon Temple. Rev. Shokai Kanai will visit each one of their tombs to say prayer starting at 11:00 a.m. If you can make time, please come to the cemetery and meet him to pray together.

Garage/Rummage Sale

A fundraising event was held on March 30th and 31st to help build a new temple. We were able to sell many of the donated items on both days, which resulted in a successful event. We will hold another garage sale in September. Please bring more of your “spring cleaned” items to the temple.

I would like to thank Paula Patterson for graciously allowing us to use her home for this event and Jarred Chan and his high school group for their help. Thank you Paula and Jarred! I also would like to thank an anonymous donor for the generous monetary donation!

Balance (pt. 3)

Shoda Douglas Kanai

As the temple is located on a busy road, many people see the building signs and stop by. Some are curious to as who we are and others want to more about Buddhism.

The other day a lady stops by who practiced a form of Nichiren Buddhism on the East Coast. She was in town to visit her aunt and just “happened” to see our temple. So, curious, she stopped by. We talked for over two hours, but it seemed like only a few minutes. We connected on many levels. Sometimes it is good to lean from a different perspective and this is one of those times.

Though I am not a fan of “mindfulness,” other people might find it works for them and I would not discourage against it. That being said, this lady changed my perspective. She never mentioned “mindfulness” but always said “trying to find my center.” By being in the center, attachments to the past and future are irrelevant. She was always looking and trying to find her center in any given moment.

I think she was saying that Buddhism helped guide her in finding the center and be present now. Any negative thoughts that would arise, she would notice and not pay heed to it, thus not giving it strength, thus the negative thought disappears. She called the “pain body.” This could be anything from negative thought to an experience or bad karma that lingers around us. The “pain body” wants energy thus tries to attach itself and drain all that it can.

As she was speaking and listening to her words, I thought arose in my head. This “centering” that she was looking for was the *Odaimoku*. This is the teaching of 身心 (shin-shin) or “mind and body.” When we chant the *Odaimoku* we are trying to align our mind and body to the universe. Last newsletter I mentioned that by chanting *Odaimoku* we are producing the good causes to be in balance and works on the unconscious level. Well, the “centering” concept works on the conscious level. We are actively keeping our mind in the present moment, so we do not empower any of the positive or negative thoughts that may arise. We just are, neither good nor bad.

Thinking deeply on these words, I guess I move around in the unconscious level as sometimes it is difficult for me to put my ideas into practical words. She helped me verbalize what was floating in my mind. I thanked her and she thanked me. As we separated, I see that many more interesting people will visit in the future.

My View Point (As I heard and as I see)

Life-size Chocolate

Kumiko Kanai

I went to see a life size chocolate sculpture of the goalie for Vegas Golden Knights, Marc-Andre Fleury, on display at Bellagio Patisserie.

Last year, the National Hockey League (NHL), awarded Las Vegas with a team. This team has played well enough and made it to the playoffs. Since this is the first professional team in Las Vegas, many people root for their Knights.

To commemorate this happy occasion, the Assistant Pastry Chef and assistants of Bellagio Patisserie, created a life-size replica of Marc-Andre Fleury out of chocolate. It took over five weeks to complete this sculpture.

Here are the ingredients:

- 90 pounds of chocolate (milk, dark, and white)
- 10 pounds of fondant
- 20 pounds of Rice Krispy Treats

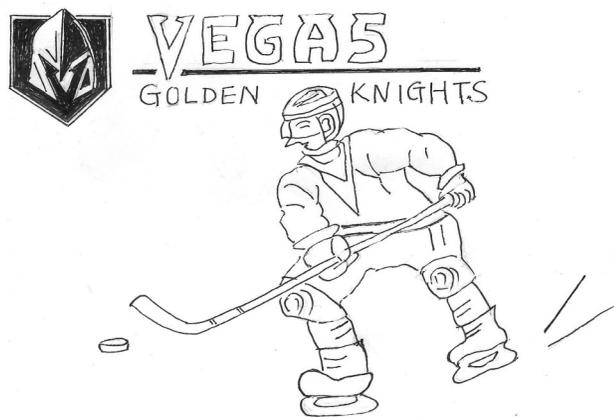
The hardest part of the chocolate sculpture was to make the helmet.

As you know, ice hockey is a game that uses a stick in the ice rink to make a puck go into the goal of the opponent. Because there it is played at high speed and danger due to players coming into contact with each other, they wear protective gear all over their body, just like in the picture.



The city is in hockey fever for the Stanley Cup Playoffs!

I am an instant fan of Golden Knights now!



Roof Repairs at the Current Temple Building

Last February after a heavy rain storm, Kannon Temple of Nevada sustained heavy water damage to the roof. Many houses and buildings in Las Vegas had the same issue. Because it happened on a weekend, all the insurance and roofing companies were extremely busy. It took several months to find out when we would be able to get the repair done. Our turn has finally come during the last week of April.

When we bought the building in 2012, it had been a bar with a long counter, mirrors on the east and west sides of walls, and a back room was the refrigerator. We bought the property as is. At that time, replacing the roof was not necessary except for a few patches.

Now, when we are planning to build a new temple, we must sell the current temple building in good condition. So we have to replace the entire roof completely. In order to do this, we must first remove electrical wiring, remove old and install new roof and finally rewire all the electricity. Total cost is close to \$10,000.

Please understand this situation and allow us to use the building fund for covering this expenses.

Building Fund Acknowledgement

Total: \$1,731.00

(From Feb.22, 2018 to April. 22, 2018)

Garage Sale	\$596.
KN (Add. Odaimoku 24M)	\$480.
JC (Add.)	\$200.
Anonymous (Add.)	\$150.
HT (Add)	\$100.
AP (Add. 3M)	\$ 75.
SK (Add. 2 Shakyo)	\$ 50.
JT (Add. 2 Shakyo)	\$ 40.
YI (Add. Odaimoku 3M)	\$ 20.
AO (New 1 Shakyo)	\$ 20.

Shakyo Campaign for The New Temple Building

Shakyo Campaign was started to raise funds towards the new temple building on March, 2010. With the help of this campaign and other donations, we were able to buy the current building in 2012. We have completed a total of 508 copies today. We would like to again propose another Shakyo Campaign for the same purpose.

Shakyo is to copy or to trace a sutra. The Kannon Temple of Nevada is now ready to offer tracing of Chapter 25 of the Lotus Sutra in English or Japanese. Shakyo will help you become peaceful, calm, improve your hand writing and gain spiritual experience.

We will send you a booklet in the coming weeks. Once finished, please write your name and prayers on the back of the booklet and send it back to the temple with your donation of \$20 or more. Your donation will go towards the Building Fund. The reverends will read your prayer for 100 days during their morning services.

EVENTS

<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
6 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Monthly Kito Blessing	3 rd (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Monthly Kito Blessing
13 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Izu Persecution/Mother's Day	10 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Shodai-gyo (Chanting Meditation)
20 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. English Service	17 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Japanese Service (English Sermon)
27 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Shodai-gyo (Chanting Meditation)	24 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. English Service
28 th (Mon) 11:00 a.m. Cemetery Visit in Boulder City	

- Shokai Kanai Shonin in Japan for meeting at Headquarters 6/3 ~ 9
- Shoda Kanai Shonin in Japan for meeting and study at Headquarters 6/4 ~ 18

*** Those interested in Study Class and/or Counseling, please contact the temple to make arrangements ***