

2003年法總道場敬老節圓滿舉行

Honoring Elders Day 2003 Celebrated at Dharma Realm Buddhist Association's Branches

金峰寺—開心的一天

金峰寺剛圓滿十天的梁皇寶懺，緊接著就是一年一度的敬老節。只有六天的時間籌備，大家都忙得不亦樂乎！

9月28日，80多位老人家由熱心的居士接來，先到佛堂禮拜。一些平時少有機會拜佛的老人家藉著敬老節，而種下了親近三寶、禮敬三寶的善緣、佛緣。10:30在法師致歡迎詞後，敬老餐會正式開始老人家一邊觀賞由居士及小朋友表演的歌唱、口琴、舞蹈、樂器演奏、粵劇清唱、合唱，同時享用有錢也買不到的美味齋宴。

今年節目的特點是以幻燈片介紹宣公上人和萬佛聖城，由兩位節目主持人分別以國粵語解說，同時在節目進行中穿插禮物抽獎。最後壓軸的節目是由讀經班小朋友表演的臺灣山地舞，表演了三次欲罷不能，老人家真是開心到了極點。

餐會結束時每位貴賓都收到一份禮物，有的老人家感動得淚水盈眶，歡喜地說能來參加就很高興，很不好意思還拿禮物；有的表示敬老節年年進步，明年還要再來！

Gold Summit Monastery—What a Joyful Day!

The ten-day Jeweled Repentance of the Emperor of Liang at Gold Summit Monastery concluded with the annual Honoring Elders Day. With only six days to prepare everything, everyone was very busy!

On September 28, enthusiastic laypeople transported more than 80 seniors to the temple, where they first bowed to the Buddhas in the Buddhahall. Those who didn't usually have the chance to pay respect to the Buddhas created a wholesome affinity with the Triple Jewel on this occasion. The luncheon began at 10:30 with a Dharma Master's welcome speech. The elders enjoyed songs, dances, instrumental music, Cantonese opera, and a choir performance by laypeople and children, while partaking of a delicious vegetarian meal that couldn't be bought with money.

A special feature this year was a slideshow introducing the Venerable Master Hua and the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, presented with explanation by two MCs in Mandarin and Cantonese. The performances interspersed with drawings for gifts.

Finally, the Sunday School children performed Taiwanese aboriginal dance three times, upon earnest request and to the great delight of our guests!

Every guest received a present. Some seniors were moved to tears, saying how delighted they were to participate in this event and how embarrassed they were to take a present home; some said that each year's Honoring Elders Day is better than the last, and they wish to come back next year!



A Grand Festivity: Honoring Elders Day



華嚴聖寺慶祝敬老節—最大的盛會

位於加拿大卡加利市中心的華嚴聖寺於10月12日(星期日)舉辦一年一度的敬老餐會，當天欣逢觀世音菩薩出家紀念法會，風和日麗、天高氣爽，有二百多位長者前來與會，近四百人出席；此是華嚴聖寺成立十餘年來最大的盛會。

八時正大眾恭誦觀世音菩薩《普門品》，正式揭開盛會序幕，緊接著普佛、放生，有成百隻鴿子死裡逃生並皈依三寶。午供後，大眾列隊下樓至齋堂，享用美味的齋菜。午齋時並有精彩表演助興，節目包括少林拳術、太極、慈濟人的手語歌曲、育良小學學生以中、英、粵、越四種語言朗誦弟子規、……本寺擴建計畫介紹並請佐法師開示等。

此次敬老餐會在許多居士發心參與下，可謂眾志成城，圓滿成功。與會貴賓歡喜而來，盡興而歸，相約明年再見。



華嚴精舍—心靈的饗宴

10月26日華嚴精舍舉辦敬老節，有90餘位長者應邀參加。在誦《阿彌陀經》後，有一小時的表演節目，包括歌唱、平劇清唱、逗笑的名人模仿、古箏與小提琴演奏、一位醫生談老人保健……等。其中有一組五六十歲的來賓表演元極舞，充滿了活力。黃正勤老居士的絕活竹板快書安慰了遊子的鄉愁，他並且在每一個節目表演完後就贈送表演者一張他〈她〉們維妙維肖的紙剪影。這些精彩有趣的節目內容，嘉賓們都很開懷地欣賞，笑聲掌聲不斷地在會場裏響起。

午供後以盛宴款待所有的來賓，由穿著

at Avatamsaka Monastery

On Sunday, October 12, the Sangha and assembly of Avatamsaka Monastery in Calgary, Canada, hosted Honoring Elders Day at the same time as they celebrated Guanyin Bodhisattva's Anniversary of Leaving the Home Life. The weather was very pleasant and more than two hundred elders came. The total in attendance was nearly four hundred.

The assembly started reciting Guanyin Bodhisattva's Universal Door Chapter at 8:00 a.m. and then bowed to Guanyin Bodhisattva. During the Liberating Life Ceremony which followed, scores of pigeons were liberated. After the Meal Offering Ceremony, the assembly proceeded to the Dining Hall downstairs where a delicious vegetarian luncheon was served. Performers entertained the guests while they enjoyed their meal. The performances included martial arts, songs with sign language by Tzu-Chi, and a Sunday school student's keyboard performance. Students also recited part of the Confucian text, "Standards for Students," in English, Mandarin, Cantonese and Vietnamese. The Monastery's Expansion Project was outlined, and Dharma Master Heng Tso, upon request, gave a Dharma talk.

Many people volunteered for the event. Union is strength and the celebration was successful. All the seniors had a wonderful day at the Monastery and we all hope to see them again next year.

Honoring the Elders at Avatamsaka Vihara

More than ninety elders came to Avatamsaka Vihara on the morning of October 26th. After reciting Amitabha Buddha's name, they were entertained by an hourlong program of performances, which included modern and traditional Chinese opera singing, an amateur actor mimicking two famous Chinese people, and performances on the *guzheng* [Chinese harpsichord] and violin. A physician gave a talk on how to take care of the body in old age.

Elder Huang Zhengqin, a former Chinese opera singer, enthralled the audience with *kuai ban*, knocking bamboo slats in quick rhythm while reciting rhyming verses. He also presented to each performer a paper silhouette cut of his/her likeness at the completion of each performance. A group mostly their 50's and 60's did an elegant Tai Chi performance with youthful vigor.



制服的年輕義工負責招待服務，飯後是有獎問答，其中有一位93歲的來賓，是年齡最長的得獎人。這一年一度的餐會在人人有獎皆大歡喜中圓滿落幕。祝福所有老人家都有快樂的晚年，藉著這項有意義的活動，推廣孝道，以期達到老者安之、老者少之的理想。

金法寺—祝您松柏常青

路州金法寺在10月26日

舉辦敬老節，在法師帶領下恭誦《普門

品》，享用精美午齋後由法師開示歡迎嘉賓，接著是二小時的精彩娛樂節目：唱詩、魔術

、歌唱、民族舞蹈、遊戲、念佛，切壽糕時大眾唱歌「祝您松柏常青」，達到今天活動的高潮，每位佳賓獲贈禮物，在念佛聲中，互道珍重。



The real treat for the seniors—those 65 years or above— was the lunch banquet served by uniformed young volunteers. Following the meal, the elders were given a special quiz, and whoever answered correctly got a prize. The eldest senior present was 93 years old. At the end, each elder was presented with a gift. May all elders be cared for, and through this memorable celebration, may their hearts be nourished anew.

Gold Dharma Monastery—

May You Be Forever Young Like Pine Trees

Gold Dharma Monastery in Louisiana celebrated Honoring Elders Day on October 26. The Dharma Masters led the assembly to re-

cite the Universal Door Chapter. After a delicious luncheon, a Dharma Master welcomed the honored guests and thus began a joyful, two hour program of poetry reading, a magic

show, songs, Chinese dance, games, and the recitation of the Buddha's name. The highlight of the celebration was the cutting of a cake and everyone singing and extending the wish, "May You Be Forever Young." Each senior received a present. In the midst of the recitation of the Buddha's name, people said good-bye!

金佛寺—盛況空前的溫馨時刻

11月1日上午九點半，這首對聯『金佛放光照大千，男男女女敬老在金佛，聖城聞名滿娑婆，老老少少修行到聖城。』在雄厚嘹亮的朗誦聲中正式揭開2003年金佛寺敬老節的序幕，也點出此次敬老節的主題—敬老同樂之外，還特別介紹聖城的種種風光。



Gold Buddha Monastery: Jolly Festivity

At 9:30 in the morning on November 1st, the program began by a grand and resonant recitation of the verse:

Gold Buddha emits light shining upon the great thousand worlds;

Men and women honor elders at Gold Buddha;

The Sagely City is renowned in the Saha world;

Elders and youngsters cultivate in the Sagely City.



由於報名參加的老人們人數踴躍，金佛寺的敬老節獨樹一幟，11/1、11/2日連續舉辦二天，招待六百位老人齊聚一堂、共享歡樂溫馨的一刻。

今年的敬老節也首開先列，以投影片生動的介紹萬佛城的歷史及設備，老人家都看得津津有味，對聖城也留下了深刻的印象。

慈濟志工熱情的大力襄助表演節目

，他們演出『父母恩重難報經』手語劇，獲得全場的熱烈喝采。今年的敬老節圓滿地劃下句點，而老人家在臨走時都說：「明年敬老節再見！」

金聖寺—歡喜結佛緣

11月2日，二百二十四位盛裝的老人家興高采烈地來參加這場期待已久的敬老節盛會。九點整，法師帶領大家齊誦《佛說父母恩重難報經》。經文的內容，自然令讀者生起對雙親的感恩與孝思。在法師簡短的致詞後，是吳果忠醫師主講的『養生之道』。他以實用的穴道按摩，鼓勵老人家「邊按邊念佛，消災又延壽。」

接著是『談古說今』，王淑欣老居士首先談她的人生經驗。學生時代就加入萬國道德會的她，說自己從「道德」二個字得到許多好處；若是懂得反省自己，不要盡看別人的不對，那麼佛國不是遠在西方

，佛國時時就在你心中。形容自己是「天上一條龍，地上一條蟲」的龍天老居士，一開場就逗得大家笑呵呵，而他以老伴罹患癌症去世，以及自己對抗癌症的親身經歷，宣導「早期檢查，早期治療」的防癌觀念，司儀很機智地忙提醒大家別忘了「早點念佛，快點吃素」這個長壽的秘訣。金聖寺長青學佛班的學員盧謝慧英老居士，鼓勵大家要



This verse pointed out the theme—honoring the elders, having a great time in the assembly, and introducing the wonderful scenery from the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB).

Since more people signed up to attend than could be accommodated, Gold Buddha Monastery held the celebration for two consecutive days on November 1st and 2nd. About six hundred elders gathered in the Hall and had a merry time.

Another special part of the celebration was a slide show introducing the history and facilities of CTTB. The elders savored the show and were deeply impressed about CTTB. Tzu-Chi volunteers supported the celebration with their enthusiastic programs. Everyone applauded their play of *The Sutra of the Deep Kindness of Parents and the Difficulty of Repaying It* which was performed with sign language. Honoring Elders Day was a success, and upon leaving the elders said, "Till Honoring Elders Day next year!"

Gold Sage Monastery—

Creating Joyful Affinities with the Buddhas

On Sunday, November 2nd, 224 seniors dressed up for the long awaited Honoring Elders Day. At 9 a.m., Dharma Masters led the assembly to recite *The Sutra of the Deep Kindness of Parents and the Difficulty of Repaying It*, which rekindled the memory of parents who had passed away. Dharma Masters gave brief introductions after the recitation and subsequently Dr. Peter Wu demonstrated practical acupressure massage in a health talk and encouraged seniors to recite the Buddha's name to prevent calamities and lengthen life.

During the ensuing 40-minute discussion period, Mrs. Shuxin Wang talked about her personal experience. She had joined the Virtue Society as a student and had benefited from learning about virtue. She pointed out that if we can reflect on ourselves and not find fault with others, then the Buddhaland will be right within our hearts and not far away in the West. Mr. Tian Long (Heavenly Dragon) raised a good laugh by comparing himself to a dragon in heaven and a worm on the ground. He used the example of his wife who had died of cancer and his personal experience in fighting cancer to encourage people



常來道場拜佛、聽經，吸收人生的「精神營養」。

豐富的敬老壽筵，在十一點半正式開始。除了備有可口的佳餚外，學生及義工們西樂、國樂，國臺語老歌精湛的表演，讓今年的盛會增添更多歡樂的氣氛。餐會結束前，法師帶著大家誦念一分鐘的佛號

，這短短的幾聲佛號，頓時清涼了每個人的心。法師提醒大家《楞嚴經》中教我們認識髮白面皺的無常變壞的肉身中，有個不生不滅的東西，那就是我們的「佛性」

，念佛正是回復清淨自性之道，是最好的「自性的音樂」。

一年一度推行孝道的「敬老節」，在龐大的義工隊盡心竭力之下再次圓滿成功，祈願人人皆能道德齊臻，福慧雙圓。

般若觀音聖寺—雙獅獻舞迎嘉賓

從九月起就有老人家紛紛到廟裡來，報名參加敬老節活動。義工隊迅速編組：香積、服務、招待、交通、車輛、佈置、裝設清潔、表演等，大家都很開懷的準備一年一度的盛會。

敬老節11月9日當天早上九點正，兩條金色、銀黑色的獅子舞入佛殿，向諸佛與貴賓致敬揭開序幕，佛青與三寶弟子各種戲劇、歌唱、古文背誦、國樂演奏的精彩節目一直表演到中午。其中法界幼兒苑的小朋友，童稚可愛的表現，最得老人家的喜愛與讚賞。

午供10:30開始，其後是茶會，由幼兒苑的小朋友，向年長貴賓獻茶致敬，接著邀請茶會貴賓代表切壽糕，音樂是以生日快樂的調子唱誦阿彌陀佛。午齋精美可口的食物令

to get early physical exams and early treatment to fight cancer. The MC reminded the audience not to forget the keys to longevity: “Start reciting the Buddha’s name and become a vegetarian soon.” Mrs. Xie-huiying Lu encouraged the audience, using her personal experience, to come to the monastery to bow to the Buddhas often and attend lectures for spiritual nourishment.

Lunch began at 11:30 a.m. with a feast of delicious delicacies. The skilled performance of students and volunteers on violin, viola, cello, and Chinese instruments including lute and zither as well as their singing of old Mandarin and Taiwanese songs added joy to this year’s celebration. A Dharma Master led the assembly to recite the Buddha’s name for a minute before the meal ended, calming everyone’s mind. The Dharma Master reminded everybody that this is the best “music of the nature.” She also introduced the principle in the *Shurangama Sutra* to help us recognize that within this impermanent body that has gray hair and wrinkles there exists something free from birth and death—our Buddha nature.

The exquisite vegetarian meal this year was prepared entirely by volunteers. Everyone did their best and showed great teamwork, which is truly meaningful for this special day. May everyone cultivate the Way and virtue, perfecting both blessings and wisdom.

Two Dancing Lions Welcome the Honored Guests at Prajna Guanyin Sagely Monastery in Malaysia

Since September old folks have been making a beeline to our way-place to register as participants in this year’s Honoring Elders Day. Volunteers of our temple quickly organized themselves into teams in charge of the kitchen, service, ushers, traffic control, transport, decorations, set-up and cleaning, entertainment and a host of other small but important jobs. Everyone was happy to prepare for this celebration.

At nine o’clock sharp on the big day, November 9, a golden lion and a black and silver lion pranced into the Buddha hall to pay respects to the Buddha as well as welcome our honoured guests. Our temple youth and disciples performed drama, songs, recital of classics, dances as well as classical Chinese music in a program that lasted right into





貴賓讚不絕口，表演節目與佛教常識有獎問答活動輪流進行。會中並表揚十位年長的信眾，精進的修行。

活動結束後，有一位88歲老婆婆獨坐不去，說自己好開心，滿心都是阿彌陀佛。儘管地方局促，表演受到影響，但是在大家通力合作之下，長者貴賓度過一個溫馨安慰的假日。

萬佛聖城—精彩表演娛嘉賓

萬佛聖城在11月15日星期六舉辦敬老節慶典，大齋堂一如往年坐滿了年長嘉賓、家長、學生和特別來賓—柏克萊神學研究所以及珊特羅莎領養亞洲兒童的家庭。

當天來賓進場時受到兩排女同學笑逐顏開的問候：「早安！」男同學的舞龍拉開早上表演的序幕，包括小學生的話劇、歌唱，三人西樂協奏曲，女校同學自編、製作、演出，配合音樂和投影效果的多媒體古典戲劇Gilgamesh表演，三項中國舞蹈，和男同學震撼的太鼓表演。

午齋由香積組提供了多道中國素香可口的齋菜，由招待同學服務佈菜。表演繼續推出，有歌有舞，男女校國樂團演奏，最後是舞獅壓軸。三個半小時的表演節目展現出育良與培德二校男女學生的演藝才幹，為本地所有老人家帶來最歡樂的一天！

參加敬老節的貴賓開心地渡過一個關心他們的假日，他們滿臉笑容、手持紙蓮花、溫馨滿懷地離去。其中有一位來賓表示：「這些表演使我留下深刻印象。真是開心看到學生是這麼多才多藝，可見他們老師對學生的教導是很成功的。」

midday. Students from the Dharma Realm Kindergarten stole the hearts of the old folks with their charm and performances.

The Meal Offering was at 10:30 as usual. During the tea ceremony that followed, kindergarten students offered tea to the seniors as a token of respect, and then invited elderly representatives to cut birthday cakes as the assembly sang “A-mi-to-fo” to the tune of “Happy Birthday”. Our guests broadly acclaimed lunch as a gastronomic delight. The feast was interspersed with entertainment and Buddhist questions-and-answers. Ten elders were honoured for their vigorous cultivation in the celebration.

After the festivity, an eighty-eight year old woman blissfully sat alone. Volunteers quickly attended to her and she declared that she was so happy that all she could remember was “A-mi-to-fo”. Even though space constraints limited the performances, with everyone’s whole-hearted cooperation, the elderly guests had a wonderful time.

The City of Ten Thousand Buddhas—

Wonderful Programs to Entertain the Honored Guests

The City of Ten Thousand Buddhas celebrated Honoring Elders Day on Saturday, November 15. As usual, the large dining hall was packed with seniors as well as parents, students, and special guests such as students from Berkeley’s Graduate Theological Union, and families with adopted Asian children from Santa Rosa.

Guests stepping in the door were greeted by two rows of smiling girls bowing and saying, “Good morning!” The boys’ Dragon Dance opened the program, which included plays and songs by the elementary school, a Western string trio, and a multimedia play of the ancient epic Gilgamesh, adapted, produced, and presented by the girls’ high school, complete with music and projected backdrops. There were three Chinese dances. The boys’ vigorous taiko drumming concluded the morning program.

Lunch consisted of many delicious Chinese vegetarian dishes cooked by the kitchen staff and served by student ushers. The performances continued with songs, four Chinese Orchestra performances, and, finally, the boys’ Lion Dance. The three and a half hour program showcased the talents of the students of Instilling Goodness and De-



法界聖城—舞龍提琴娛嘉賓、東西交流舊友新知來相會

普絲卡牧師一步入五觀齋堂時說道：「你們敬老，真的敬得很隆重！」圓桌上鋪蓋紫色桌巾，齋堂裏陳列著各種素味佳餚，國樂團演奏完「上海灘」，而舞龍的隊伍也正在廣場上排練著，65到95歲高齡不同國籍的嘉賓坐滿一堂，滿臉笑容，眼睛閃閃發光。一位本地長者說：「在沒有讀到報上的消息前，我根本沒有聽說過法界聖城；明年我會帶我的朋友來參加，他們會像我一樣喜歡的。」

11月中，夏日的餘溫尚存，真是敬老最佳時刻。男女嘉賓進場時招待就獻上胸花——花紮上蕾絲與緞帶，這是由出家眾所製做的。

8點30分誦念藥師佛的12大願後，表演節目在佛殿後新搭的小型戲場裏進行，先以舞獅歡迎嘉賓開始，琵琶、太極拳、育良佛學校同學表演木偶戲，生動地演出一個慈悲的和尚教化眾生改惡向善的故事。

午餐時，小朋友與法界聖城國樂團分別演奏國樂，一些中國的老華僑感動的落淚。聖荷西慈濟合唱團演唱之後，職業小提琴演奏家、加州戴維斯分校的音樂教授羅勃柏許在佛友賈大維，一位州政府律師的引薦下為此盛會演奏。巴克先生已經70多歲，並與國樂團指揮顏老師握手，在大家不斷地鼓掌中

，東西音樂交流，這是今年敬老節的一大

veloping Virtue Schools, who had been rehearsing for weeks to make this the most enjoyable day of the year for local seniors.

The honored guests enjoyed a holiday in which they were the center of attention and left with smiles on their faces, paper lotuses in their hands, and warmth in their hearts. One visitor commented, "I am very impressed with the program. It is truly a delight to see how many talents the students have and how wonderfully the teachers have inspired their students."

The City of the Dharma Realm—Dragons, Violins, Old & New Friends

"When these people honor, they honor BIG," said Reverend Georgia Prescott, as she entered Five Contemplations dining hall. Round tables covered with purple table cloths were arrayed with vegetarian delicacies. The Chinese orchestra honed out the last notes of "The Seashore of Shanghai," while the dancers practiced for the Dragon Dance in the plaza. Elders from ages 65 to 95, and of various nationalities, filled the room with warm smiles and bright eyes. "I didn't even know about the City of the Dharma Realm (CDR) until I read that article in the newspaper. I'm going to bring my friends next year. I know they'll enjoy it as much as I am," said an elder from the West Sacramento. Although it was mid-November, a touch of summer warmth still lingered in the air, making it a perfect day to honor our elders. Elders were met at the door and presented with corsages decorated with lace and ribbons.

The morning started at 8:30 a.m. with reciting the 12 Great Vows of Medicine Master Buddha, followed by a program of entertainment in the back of the Buddha Hall, converted into a small theatre. The program began with a Lion Dance, music performed on the *pipa* [ancient Chinese instrument], a Tai Chi performance, and a puppet show by CDR Instilling Goodness Dharma School, about a kind monk who influenced bad people to become good.

During lunch, children played traditional Chinese instruments and the CDR Chinese Orchestra played songs that brought tears to the eyes of the Chinese elders.

After a performance by the Tzu Chi choir from San Jose, Mr. Robert Boche, a professor of music at UC Davis and a concert violinist,





特色。

「精神知覺中心的兒童合唱團來這裡表演，連他們的父母兄弟姐妹一共有50人！」當一群人有男、有女、有大人、有小孩快樂的擠進齋堂時，普絲卡牧師說：「我們不是來趕齋的，我們這麼多人，我們只是來唱歌還有觀賞舞龍的。」這些兒童在聚會中，盡情地唱教會歌曲後，他們以自製的書籤送給來賓。廚房典座邀請他們共享美食，牧師說實在盛情難卻，因此欣然接受，50人都成了座上客！

法師帶領這一群佳賓參觀佛殿，當家師恆貴比丘尼說：「樹木若有紮實的根就能長得直又高，枝榮葉茂。父母就像樹根，是家庭的支柱；孩子就是枝葉，做兒女的一定要侍奉父母，照顧他們。因為家和萬事興，我們的身體自然會如樹幹般強壯，心靈也會光亮如新葉。這是我告訴你們的話。」

每位長者都收到一份自製的精美禮物，一個大壽糕由95高齡的近仁師切開。

而廣場上聖城培德中學男校同學擊鼓招請大眾往觀舞龍，八人小組在眾中飛轉舞動，威風勇猛。為11月19日法界聖城敬老餐會，畫下圓滿的句點。

金山聖寺—祝您健康快樂

緊接著梁皇寶懺的圓滿日，金山聖寺在11月30日隆重舉辦第十一屆的敬老節。

。事先申請報名者已超過百人，但因空間不敷使用，只能接受百位名額。

當天早上由普賢行願品的誦儀揭開序幕，其後是健康講座，一位整脊大夫為貴賓們，介紹骨骼的日常保健及就醫時的注意事項，並示範多種簡單實用的運動，講座後聽眾問題踴躍，這是很成功的講座。

貴賓們參加上供儀式後，開始入座用餐。下午的精彩表演由兩位超過九十高齡的長者切壽糕後正式展開，主要由慈濟功德會及武術館譚家班的法友們包辦，共計

played the violin at the invitation of David Judd, State Attorney. Mr. Boche, who is over 70 years old, shook hands with Mr. Gan, the conductor of the Chinese orchestra, acknowledging the musical meeting of East and West.

“The children’s choir from the Center of Spiritual Awareness is here to sing,” someone said. “And their parents and sisters and brothers are with them—about 50 in all.” As they squeezed into the dining hall, their pastor, Reverend Georgia Prescott said, “We’re not going to have lunch. There’re too many of us. We just came to sing and see the Dragon Dance.” The children celebrated the elders with songs of soul and gospel, and then presented them with gifts of bookmarks they made. When the kitchen manager invited them for lunch, Reverend Prescott responded, “That does it. We’re going to eat! How can we turn down such hospitality?” So fifty more people ate. As Dharma Masters took the parents and children on a tour of the Buddha Hall, Dharma Master Gwei said, “If a tree has good roots, it will grow straight and tall. Its limbs will be strong and its leaves green. Parents are like the roots of a tree. They are the foundation of the family and the children are the limbs and leaves. As children, we must take care of our parents and help them so the family will grow and prosper. Then our bodies will be strong and flexible like the limbs of a tree and our minds will be bright and shiny like new leaves. This is what I want to say to you.”

The elders were presented with beautiful, handmade gifts. Jin Ren Shr, at the golden age of 95, was asked to cut the first slice of a huge birthday cake.

Outside in the plaza, students from Developing Virtue Boys School beat the drums, calling everyone to the Dragon Dance. Eight dancers lifted the dragon up into the air and set it spinning and swirling over the crowd. And thus Honoring Elders Day on November 19, 2003 at the Sagely City of the Dharma Realm drew to an end.

Gold Mountain Monastery –May All Be Healthy and Happy

Upon the conclusion of the Emperor of Liang Jeweled Repentance Session, on November 30, Gold Mountain Monastery held its 11th Honoring Elders Day celebration. Due to the limited space, we could only accept about 100 guests, even though more had signed up.

The morning program began with the recitation of the Chapter on Universal Worthy’s Conduct and Vows. Lonna Denny, a Western chiropractor, shared with seniors how to take care of the bones and points to pay attention to when visiting a doctor. She also demonstrated many simple and beneficial exercises. After the talk, many questions were raised from the audience. It was a very successful presentation.



二、三十位表演者，載歌載舞。譚家班則提供了音樂彈奏，拳腳工夫及舞獅。周日班的小朋友們也共襄盛舉，表演生動活潑的佛曲。

豐富的節目，氣氛歡樂無比，大眾以誠摯的身口意表達了深切的祝福～願所有的長者健康快樂，平安吉祥；並祈祝世界和平，國泰民安。敬老節即在發送禮物的過程中圓滿落幕。

法界佛教印經會——天天都是敬老節

宣公上人曾說：「做人的根本先要盡孝道，先要敬老尊賢。看所有的老人都是等於我的父母一樣。」因此上人的道場，每年在秋末冬初、不寒、不熱的季節裏，舉辦「敬老節」。

12月9日活動當天，首先由法師帶領大家誦念《父母恩重難報經》，並做開示。接著是「談古說今」和「保健之道」兩項節目，邀請貴賓講述學佛心聲及養生常識，並帶動大家活絡筋骨。

上供後，邀請老人家們享用豐盛的素筵大餐，同時欣賞一系列節目，有聖城之旅分享、悠揚的國樂演奏組曲、小朋友表演的太極拳，法界兒童讀經班詩歌吟唱和背誦《金剛經》。

法界佛青會也準備了兩個節目——紙偶劇（小沙彌救螞蟻）、手語歌。兒童班家長的詩歌吟唱、法界蓮友們合唱上人寫的偈頌。最後由小朋友們為老人家獻上壽桃致敬，老人家們開心地表達了他們的感謝，並期待明年再參加的心願。

The guests attended the meal offering and then enjoyed the luncheon and entertainment. First, two elders over 90 years old were invited to cut the cake to open the afternoon program. More than 20 Dharma friends from Tzu-Chi Foundation performed dances and songs, a skit, as well as songs accompanied by sign language. Tan's Marshal Arts Studio played music and demonstrated kung fu and a lion dance with exceptional vitality and awe-inspiring prowess. Our Sunday school students also played several very moving Buddhist praises.

The performances brought great joy. On this special occasion everyone extended a profound wish: May all be healthy, happy, safe and peaceful. The merit and virtue amassed by all the good advisors on that day was dedicated to world peace, the prosperity of the nation, and well-being of the people. The program concluded with the giving of gifts.

Dharma Realm Buddhist Books Distribution Society (Taipei)--

Every Day Is Honoring Elders' Day

Venerable Master Hua said, "The foundation for being a human is to practice filial respect, honor the elders and revere the worthy. We should treat all elders as our own parents." Therefore, at the Venerable Master's Way-places, at the end of every fall and the beginning of winter, when it is neither too cold nor too warm, we celebrate Honoring Elders Day.

On December 9, the program began with Dharma Masters leading everyone to recite *The Sutra of the Deep Kindness of Parents and the Difficulty of Repaying It* and then giving instructional talks. Next, guests were invited to share how they came to study Buddhism as well as being given advice on staying healthy, and everyone learned some stretching exercises.

At the luncheon following the meal offering, volunteers cordially served the elderly guests as enjoyed the entertainment, which included a personal account of a visit to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB), gently flowing classical Chinese music, a Tai Chi perform-



舉辦「敬老節」，是法總道場的傳統。上下和樂的盛會讓年輕人深刻地體會到如果我們平常能廣大自己的孝順心，關懷禮敬長者，天天都是敬老節，天天都溫馨滿人間。

編者按：從各道場的來稿中，都曾共同的敘述—義工們竭盡心力的支援這項活動，籌備時間有長達兩個月，每週開會討論；也有因為法會等因素而必須在極短時間內準備裡外大小事宜。各地的法師率領義工和小朋友一起總動員，大家用心的

佈置會場，以溫馨熱忱的招待和可口佳餚、精彩的演藝娛樂長者嘉賓，一年一度的敬老節在多種善因緣和合中成就。我們希望以此敬老尊賢的文化，移風易俗，令人人敬老，時時溫暖天天極樂！

mance by children, and recitation of poetry and the Vajra Sutra by students of the Dharma Realm memorization class.

Dharma Realm Buddhist Youth in Taiwan also prepared two performances—a puppet show about a novice monk who saved ants and songs performed with sign language. Then the parents recited poetry, and the Dharma Realm Lotus Friends recited the Venerable Master's verses. Finally, the children presented Chinese buns of longevity to the honored guests. The elders said they hoped to come again next year.

Celebrating Honoring Elders Day is a tradition in Dharma Realm Buddhist Association. This event which the young and old celebrate together allows young people to realize that if they can expand their filial thoughts in daily life, and respect and care for their elders, then every day will be Honoring Elders Day and warmth and kindness will fill the world.

Editor's note: The reports from all the branch monasteries have one thing in common—the volunteers contributed their utmost effort. Some began preparing two months ahead and held weekly organizational meetings; some had to finish all the preparation in a very short period of time. The Dharma Masters in each location led the laypeople and children in decorating the place, creating warm hospitality, preparing delicacies, and providing entertainment to serve the honored guests. Under all these conditions, Honoring Elders Day was successfully celebrated once more. May the custom

of honoring elders and revering the worthy quickly spread throughout the world so that everyone will honor the elders, and we will enjoy the warmth of community and be in Ultimate Bliss everyday!

