

# 歷史協會參訪法界聖城

## Yolo County and Sacramento Historical Society Visit the City of the Dharma Realm

法界聖城 文 by The City of the Dharma Realm



Yolo 郡和沙加緬度歷史協會會員，一行十八人五男十三女，於二月廿四日下午四時左右，抵達法界聖城參訪。

在法師們的引導下，大家魚貫進入貴賓室聽取簡報。是法師用幻燈片介紹法界聖城前身、現況以及發展計劃，短程如現已進行申請之國際素食推廣中心，長程則有教育大樓和大雄寶殿的興建等。

與會者對法界聖城對外提供的活動很感興趣。有許多人很關心素食中心何時開張；並詢問禪坐班和敬老活動等。他們對出家人也很好奇，問及出家人所穿之長袍、袈裟、年齡、經濟來源等等。

法界聖城的前身，在六、七十年前是沙加緬度最大的豪華渡假旅

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, a total of 18 members (5 men and 13 women) from Yolo County and Sacramento Historical Society came to visit the City of the Dharma Realm (CDR). They arrived at CDR around 4 o'clock in the afternoon as scheduled.

After registering in the office, they followed Dharma Masters into the VIP room for a briefing. A slide show was presented by Dharma Master Shr to introduce CDR's past, present and future development plans. The presentation included short term plans, such as the ongoing development of the International Vegetarian Institute, and long term plans, including plans to build an educational building and the Jewel Palace.

The visitors were very interested in the activities provided to the general

public. Many people asked about the opening of the vegetarian restaurant, Chan class and Honoring Elder's Day programs. They were also very curious about the significance of the robes and sashes we wear. They also asked questions about the age range, monetary support, etc.

Before we bought this place, it was the El Rancho Hotel. About sixty or seventy years ago, it was the biggest, most luxurious vacation resort in Sacramento. At that time, VIPs were greeted here by the government officials. Meetings or training programs were held here. Many of the visitors had been here before. Some of our visitors said that their graduation parties were held here; some said there were many famous stars who spent their vacations here; some said famous



館。當年政府官員常在此接待貴賓；也是政要開會場所；企業機構訓練中心及渡假勝地。與會者有些人在年輕時就來過。有的人說他們那屆的畢業舞會，就在這兒舉行；有的表示，當年有很多好萊塢明星來此渡假；有的說當年常有著名樂團來此駐唱。

有一女眾今年將滿八十歲，行履穩健，耳聰目明，看來只有六十多歲。她小時候因母親在此上班，故常來此。她表示，當初得知一宗教團體購得此地，內心十分擔憂，怕這片園地將被拆除無遺。今日重遊，很感欣慰。她很高興我們細心照料這片園地，並舉辦各種活動，嘉惠社區。當問及她如何保持如此健康？她表示從小家有果園，常常接近大自然，勞動筋骨，每日三餐蔬果不缺。直到現在，如果二、三天少吃蔬果，就覺得不舒服；她常以步代車，所以至今體健如昔。

另一女眾則對大佛殿之佛像法器及各種莊嚴物非常感興趣，問了許多問題。直到大家都離開了，她還捨不得走。問可否留下來作晚課，之後，又與大家一同



觀賞《孔子》錄影帶。他們都表示以後還會再來拜訪。

這次的參訪，又讓一些社區人士瞭解我們的機構以及我們對社區的支持、參與和關懷。



ers and choirs often lived and perched here.

An old lady who will turn 80 this year walks fast and steadily, has keen eyes and ears. She appears as though she is in her sixties.

When she was a child, her mother worked here. She came here very often. She said when she heard a religious group bought this place, she was very upset. She was afraid that the place would be renovated, and she would never see these buildings again. After she visited, she is glad that the residents here have taken good care of this place and have provided many activities to the community.

She was asked how she stays healthy. She said her family owns an orchard ranch. Her life was spent in the natural environment. In every meal, vegetables and fruit were provided. Even now, she would feel uncomfortable if she went without vegetables and fruits for two or three days. She always walks instead of driving. That's how she stays in shape.

Another lady was very interested in the Buddha images, Dharma instruments and various adornments in the Buddha Hall. She asked many questions and lingered on even after everyone else left. She asked if she could stay to do the evening recitation with us. After that, she stayed with us to watch the video "Confucius." They were all impressed and expressed that they would come again.

This visit allowed us to let more people know our organization, and our support, care and interface with the community.