

**KANSAS CITY MEMBERS DISCUSS SOKA CARE
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Fred Zaitso, SGI-USA senior advisor, encouraged members in the Kansas City area during the weekend of Sept. 29. Mr. Zaitso's visit included attending local district meetings and chanting sessions at the members' homes in Kansas City, Mo., and Lawrence, Kans.

While attending these meetings, he had the opportunity to get to know members individually. For example, he chanted one hour and did morning gongyo with the members in Metro District. The members then recited their motto: "My life is Nam-myoho-renge-kyo; I am a Buddha; I am living as a Bodhisattva of the Earth; therefore, I can bring this power out and solve my problem. Not only do I deserve to be happy, I must become happy; that's how I will demonstrate the Great Law" (June 9 *World Tribune*, p. 4).

Experiences and benefits of the practice were also shared, including Mitchell Williams' account of getting a pay raise at work.

Mr. Zaitso informally talked to members and answered questions on how to chant, what to do when we are confronted with obstacles and how to take care of members. He clarified the meaning of *Soka Care* as chanting for the happiness of members and doing home visits. He talked about building friendships as a first step in sharing this practice with others.

At a district meeting in Lawrence, Mr. Zaitso joined members from Topeka, Kans., who had traveled 23 miles to attend. As members introduced themselves, he engaged them each individually, encouraging them to continue their efforts to bring Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism into the local community.

The following Sunday, Mr. Zaitso spoke at the World Peace Day gathering. The atmosphere of the Kansas City Community Center was described as "awesome and full of high energy" by Vivian Ford who lives in the small city of Marshall, Mo. His lecture on "Soka Spirit and Soka Care" encouraged her to be more diligent in her practice and to get more involved in SGI-USA activities, starting with the bus trip to Chicago to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of SGI-USA and SGI President Ikeda's first visit to the United States.