

**OUR DISTRICT  
SHINING STAR DISTRICT, PHOENIX  
SHINING STAR DISTRICT IS BORN  
BY KATHLEEN GREGORY, PHOENIX CORRESPONDENT**

On July 13 in Phoenix, Shining Star District was born. The district members celebrated with a birthday party, complete with a cake, a star-shaped *piñata* and lots of happy people.

Due to geographical distances and concerns about inconveniencing members, and after much dialogue, one district split into two. There were feelings of loss, confusion and definite resistance. Four members were asked to take responsibility for the new district. They were interviewed and appointed district leaders to work together as a team.

Some of the new district's members were new friends, some old and some not. Some were excited, some determined and some in crisis. It took well over a month of chanting, visiting, encouraging and more chanting to get to July 13. Despite all the struggle, the members were able to share a most joyous celebration filled with laughter, different languages, food, favorite Gosho quotes and determinations for the future.

The new leaders are working hard and chanting to resist old habits and ways of thinking to grow into the best people they can be by practicing for themselves and others. The members of Shining Star District are excited to make their new district what they want it to be and to meet the needs of all.