

**For Women: Using Her 'Letter for Kosen-rufu'**  
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This is Atlanta's new departure!" said Wendy Clark, SGI-USA women's division leader, at the May 3 commemorative gongyo meeting where leadership appointments were announced. I was appointed women's division region leader at that meeting, and I determined to fulfill my responsibility to help my members develop a strong practice.

Talking with our new region leader, Richard Brown, I realized that we shared the same vision for Atlanta. We agreed that our "new departure" must focus on developing and maintaining a humanistic organization where members could realize their hopes and dreams.

We decided to home visit our members, beginning with the area leaders, so that we could have an honest, open, one-on-one dialogue with each of them. This would afford us the opportunity to build personal bonds, discuss individual aspirations and difficulties, and share our vision for Atlanta.

We also decided that the *World Tribune* would be an integral part of our efforts to encourage our members in every aspect of faith. Not only does the *World Tribune* help nurture a deeper understanding of Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism through its publication of SGI President Ikeda's guidance, it's also a showcase of actual proof through its publication of the members' experiences.

It is filled with information and inspiration; it represents kosen-rufu in action.

President Ikeda refers to our SGI publications as "letters for kosen-rufu." We have found that subscribing to the *World Tribune* is like receiving a weekly letter from President Ikeda.

Each "letter" is filled with encouragement that helps us grow in faith, infuses us with confidence and reinforces our determination to persevere. As we read each issue, we seek to capture his spirit and vision and make it our own.

Richard and I were both inspired by President Ikeda's March 16 speech, published in the April 17 *World Tribune*. We used the following excerpt to encourage our members during our home visits and dialogue sessions: "Ultimately our future development hinges on every member having the commitment required of a Soka Gakkai president. With this spirit, this sense of responsibility in your activities.... may you always work for kosen-rufu and for the victory of the people.

"May you also build a Soka Gakkai where everyone can advance joyfully, a Soka Gakkai of undying progress."

We realized that if we're going to do activities with the commitment required of an SGI president, then we must speak with informed voices. That is why the new departure for Atlanta is being launched with the *World Tribune* clutched tightly in our hands.

We believe it contains the blueprint for helping each of our members to attain their goals, overcome their obstacles and achieve absolute happiness.

**WT**