

**'WE WILL WIN!' SAY TEXAS AND OKLAHOMA MEMBERS
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Deep in the hearts of Texas and Oklahoma members, there's a burning passion for propagation. This inspired SGI-USA General Director Danny Nagashima to spontaneously attend their daylong leaders meeting on May 21 in Austin, Texas. He observed: "The entire Texas-Oklahoma Region is burning with a passion that's contagious! Texas-Oklahoma Region is moving, helping to creating an amazing new rhythm in America."

One area that is a fireball of propagation is Killeen Chapter. Women's Division Chapter Leader Ryoko Herrmann explained their key to success: "Daimoku, unity...and lots of planting of seeds." The chapter has already accomplished three new members per district this year. Mrs. Herrmann adds modestly, "We'll have seven more new members in June."

More than 500 members traveled from all areas throughout Texas and Oklahoma to attend the meeting, held at the beautiful LBJ Presidential Library Auditorium on the University of Texas campus. Members came from San Antonio, Houston, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Corpus Christi, Oklahoma City and Tulsa, a six-hour drive. Two hundred members also participated via a simulcast to their community centers.

In his general lecture, Mr. Nagashima spoke of the mentor and disciple relationship and shared his 20-year struggle to understand this important but difficult concept that is the "essence of practicing Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism." While he once thought it involved merely following, he learned that it means to take responsibility and action to fulfill your mentor's dream. "The mentor is always showing the disciple his vision, dream, enlightenment and awakening, selflessly dedicating his life toward that vision—so that the disciple can stand up," he said. "The disciple is able to awaken unlimited potential. Your determination, your heart and your efforts to fulfill your mentor's dream will enable you to grow and truly add depth to your life."

After the meeting, Hoss McBain from Dallas said: "This was the shot in the arm that members here needed for reaffirming their faith and conviction to achieve kosen-rufu. I'm determined to fulfill my mentor's dream." Members returned to each area with the resolve that "We will win!" in sharing this Buddhism and the vision of Texas-Oklahoma Region becoming the Kansai of the United States.