

**RENO GOLDEN STAGE GROUP BLOSSOMS
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The first meeting for the Golden Stage Group of Reno Chapter held on March 19 was a "Getting To Know You" potluck with 25 people in attendance, of which 13 were Golden Stage members. Others attending were friends, spouses or district or chapter leaders who wanted to support the meeting.

A few members had not been active in SGI-USA activities and said that this sort of meeting was exactly what they had been looking forward to attending. Others had seen one another at various meetings, but had never done much more than say "hello."

After reviewing the group's motto and primary focus, each person took time to introduce themselves, sharing some of their experiences in practicing Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism as well as their personal interests and work backgrounds.

A second gathering was held during Memorial Day weekend. It was suggested that holidays are sometimes very difficult for those who have family living a distance away or who have limited mobility for various reasons. Our "Indoor Picnic" was ideal because it eliminated having to contend with the elements and gave us a wonderful, relaxed and comfortable atmosphere in which everyone enjoyed the many topics that were discussed. Dialogue continued long after the topics of interest were introduced by various members.

Spirits were high with everyone enjoying themselves from early afternoon to well into the evening. Exiting comments included: "That was the best meeting I ever attended!"; "When is the next meeting? This was fun!"; "Can we get a phone list so we can keep in touch?"; and, "I never knew there were so many interesting people in our chapter!"

The Golden Stage Group is evolving and their attendance at district and chapter functions is apparent by their strong support and happy smiles. Determinations have been made to attend the Golden Stage of Life Conference at the Florida Nature and Culture Center in December. Also, determinations to become more active in the community mark the Reno Chapter Golden Stage Group members as vital SGI-USA members on the go!