



HACIENDA HEIGHTS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.
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Public Relations
By Lucy V. Pedregon
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**HHIA attends;
“Prayer for World Peace”**

The Fo Guang Shan Hsi Lai Temple has many diverse events during the entire year but the first event of the year always begins with an important message. It is the “Prayer for World Peace” a two hour ceremony which was held on January 4, 2020 – Saturday at 2:00 P.M. Attendees filled the Buddhist Shrine such as residents, dignitaries and HHIA Board Members who are Scott Martin - HHIA President, Randy Black – Treasurer and myself – Lucy Pedregon representing Public Relations. In addition, speeches were made by dignitaries as follows; Senator Bob Archuleta from 32nd Senate District, Sheriff Alex Villanueva from the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department along with interfaith representatives offering prayers as Venerable Dr. Walpola Piyananda from the Buddhist Vihara of Los Angeles, Reverend Alexei Smith from the Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Reverend Dr. Jolene Cadenbach – Arcadia’s Protestant Congregational Church, Sister Gita Patel from the Hindu Brahma Kumaris and Imam Fawaz Elmasri from Arcadia’s Muslim Congregation. Various Field Deputies were present offering “Certificates of Recognition” such as Erika Flores from the office of Congressman Gil Cisneros Jr. – 39th District, Vivian Cao from the office of Senator Ling Ling Chang, Lauren Yokomizo from the office of Supervisor Janice Hahn – 4th District and Hsi Lai Temple President Alex Wu representing the Buddhist Light International Association. Venerable Abbot Hui Dong Shih recited the inspirational “Prayer for World Peace” to the great compassionate Buddha as all attendees offered a candle light at the altar. The message of the prayer is to end the sounds of suffering around the world, let us all live in harmony and promote peace. I know we all can agree to that!

Special thanks to Abbot Hui Dong Shih from the Hsi Lai Temple in organizing the “Prayer for World Peace” inspirational ceremony and inviting the community to participate. You need not be Buddhist to attend or even visit the temple premise known as the “seventh wonder of the world”. All are welcomed anytime!

The temple doors open 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. daily while the dining hall hours are Monday thru Friday 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. and on Saturday & Sunday the dining room is open 11:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. Enjoy!