

prajna

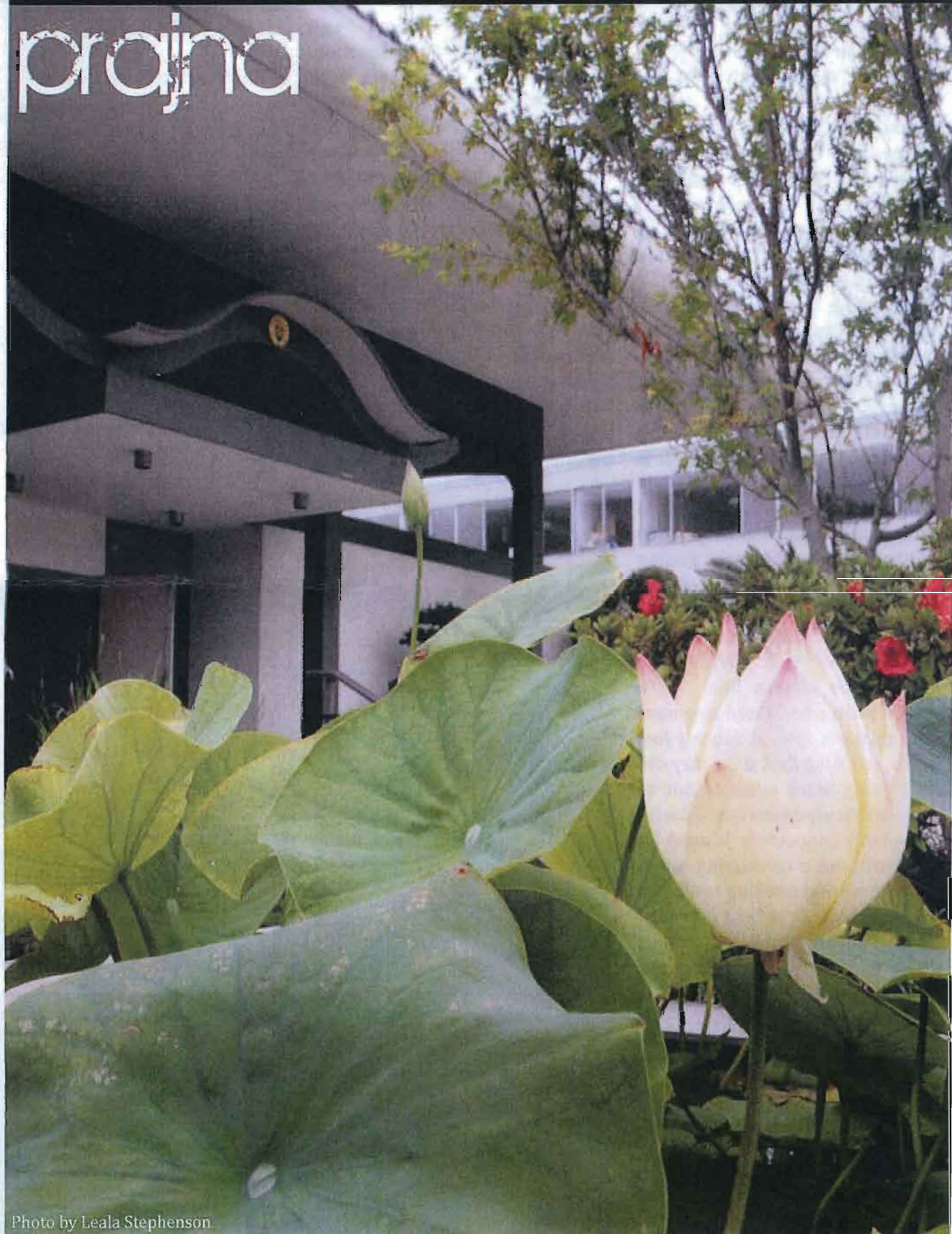


Photo by Leala Stephenson

SENSHINJI HATSUBON & BON ODORI

洗心寺

初盆

盆踊り

In Jōdoshinshū, Obon is called Kangi-e, or *The Gathering of Joy*. It is the major festival of our Buddhist calendar year. It is a memorial service and celebration in memory of our ancestors and all who have died. It is an occasion to remember our indebtedness to all who have gone before us, to appreciate and thank those lives and to reaffirm the sanctity of all living beings. In order to have this appreciation, we are called to the Obon gathering to dance, however embarrassed or however boastfully – so that in the meditation of dancing, we can momentarily forget the self. It is at this moment, that we suddenly remember our indebtedness to others and truly dance joyfully – happiness is the ego getting its way, joy is being free of ego. Senshin has always begun the Obon dances with the Awa Odori, the *Dance of Fools*. Within the song is the famous line: *Odoru aho ni miru aho. Onaji aho nara odoranya son son – A dancing fool and a watching fool, since they are both fools, what a waste not to dance. To truly dance Bon Odori is to be truly connected. It must be done without a calculating mind, without a mind needing to always be in control. It is “just dancing” in its purest form – without guile, without pretense, without*

embarrassment, without ego asserting itself in any direction. We invite you to connect with each other and all things living and dead in this Gathering of Joy. After the dancing, you are invited to Oshōkō in the Hondō and light one or several of the 1000 oil lamps in the courtyard made by Senshin member Mr. Leo Sugano. You are invited to light an oil lamp in memory of a loved one, one you are indebted to, friend and enemy alike. Following the lighting of the memorial lamps will be an otoki of cold noodles and a Horaku presentation by the Kinnara Taiko, and others.

Saturday, July 2, 2011

- 5:30pm Hatsubon Service –
Rev. Kakuryu Kodani
初盆法要 –
小谷覚龍開教使
- 6:30pm Otoki – 齋 - Senshinji
- 7-9pm Bon Odori – 盆踊り
- 8:30pm Raffle Drawing
- 9:30pm Hondō Omairi,
Sentō Shōgon
(1000 oil lamps), Otoki
本堂お詣り、
千燈荘厳、齊
- 10pm Hōraku –
Kinnara Taiko
法楽、緊那羅太鼓

