

Daifukuji Soto Mission

P.O. Box 55 Kealakekua, HI 96750 *May, 2009*

Mother's Day Service

Sunday, May 10 9:30 a.m.

"Even as a mother protects with her life her child, her only child, so with a boundless heart, should one cherish all living beings."

The above line from the Metta Sutta is also a song called "Sangha 'round the Campfire" which is sung at Sunday family services and always on Mother's Day.

Everyone's invited to the Daifukuji family sangha's Mother's Day service on May 10 at 9:30 a.m. at which mothers and grandmothers will be honored.



Tea and refreshments will be served after the service. Happy Mother's Day!

Our warmest mahalo to all Fujinkai members and supporters who've helped with the 44th Annual UHSSWA Conference!

Treasuring the Past, Embracing the Present

Memorial Day Service & Blessing of the Graduates



Alvssa Tokumura

Zadoc Watson

Sunday, May 24 9:30 a.m. Guest Speaker: Mr. Morris Kimura

Prayers for peace and a blessing of our sangha's high school graduates will be the focus of Daifukuji's Memorial Day Service/Baccalaureate ceremony to be held on Sunday, May 24 at 9:30 am. Guest speaker will be Mr. Morris Kimura, educator and retired principal of Konawaena High School.

A baccalaureate luncheon to honor the graduates will be held following the service. The Daifukuji sangha warmly congratulates the following students who will be graduating in June:

Justin Coleman Michael Ide Kitao Hanato-Wells Megan Miyata Shea Marie Nakamoto

Temple Food Drive: Donations of canned foods will be gratefully accepted on May 24th.

In Memoriam

We extend our deepest sympathy to the Cantor, Guy, and Asada families upon the passing of their beloved Andy Cantor, who departed this world on March 12, 2009. We are grateful to Andy for the support he gave our temple, particularly our taiko program.

Welcome, New Members!

With much joy and gratitude, our sangha welcomes the following new members:

Linda and Tony Takai Kathleen and Franz Fischer Gordon Harai

Mahalo to Our Zazenkai



Hanamatsuri just wouldn't be Hanamatsuri without an exotic meal lovingly prepared by the Daifukuji Zazenkai. This year's vegetarian Indian buffet was prepared by John (head chef) and Velvet Replogle, Jan Bovard, Yoshiko Ikeda, Reiko Sekine, Steve Hoshin Mann, Bob Shozan Bowman, and Coral Mack. Thank you, zazenkai cooks!



Thursday Evening Dharma Sessions to Start in May

May 7, 14, 21, 28 June 11, 18, 25 (no session June 4)

| 6:45 pm | Arrive, sign in, be seated |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 7:00 pm | Evening service begins |
| 7:15 - 7:40 | Zazen meditation |
| 7:40 - 8:00 | DVD on Buddhism |
| 8:00 - 8:20 | Discussion, Q & A |
| 8:20 - 8:45 | Zazen (optional) |
| 8:45 pm | Carry the silence home. |

These sessions are a good introduction to Soto Zen Buddhist meditation and practice. Call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 for further information.

Sponsors Needed for WHT Church Directory Ad

Thanks to the contributions of our members, we've been able to list our temple in the West Hawaii Today Church Directory which comes out every Saturday. However, our funds for this purpose are running out, and we are looking for sponsors who would like to support the continuance of the temple's weekly listing. Please call temple treasurer Joyce St. Arnault at 329-3833 if you are interested in being a sponsor or would like more information.



Library News by Clear Englebert

The library has three more beautiful hardbacks by and about Shunryu Suzuki. There's his original book, "Zen Mind, Beginners Mind," bound in silk

with the calligraphy looking quite fresh; as well as its companion, "Not Always So: Practicing the True Spirit of Zen." We also have "Crooked Cucumber: The Life and Teaching of Shunryu Suzuki" by David Chadwick. Suzuki Roshi, who founded the San Francisco Zen Center, was one of the most beloved names in Soto Zen in the United States.

Mantokuji Temple in Paia recently donated two exquisitely bound hardback books: one about Eiheiji and one about Sojiji. The books consist mostly of excellent black and white photographs, with some text pages in Japanese. Visit these magnificent temples without the expense of a trip to Japan. We are most grateful to Rev. Kenji Oyama for these gifts.



Other new arrivals are: "Zen Pivots: Lectures on Buddhism and Zen" by Sokei-an Sasaki

"A Dictionary of Buddhism: A Guide to Thought and Tradition" by T. O. Ling

"8 Minute Meditation: Quiet Your Mind, Change Your Life" by Victor Davich

"Tibetan Prayer Flags: Send Your Blessings on the Breeze" by Diane Barker

"The Four Noble Truths" by Geshe Tashi Tesering

"Reflections on a Mountain Lake: Teachings on Practical Buddhism" by Ani Tenzin Palmo

"Living Tibet: The Dalai Lama in Dharamsala" by N. H. Rose and B. Warren

"Sadhus: India's Mystic Holy Men" by Dolf Hartsuiker

"Travels Through Sacred China" by Martin Palmer

"Buddhist Scriptures" edited by Donald Lopez Jr.

"Practical Buddhism" by K. Sri Dhammananda

"What's Buddhism?" by Hsu Heng Chi

"Buddhism: A Concise Introduction" by Huston Smith and Philip Novak

"A Heart as Wide as the World: Stories on the Path of Lovingkindness" by Sharon Salzberg

"The Seeker's Glossary of Buddhism" edited by the Van Hien Study Group

"Peace is Every Step: The Path of Mindfulness in Everyday Life" by Thich Nhat Hanh "My Journey to Lhasa" by Alexandra David-Neal

"Dogen's Extensive Record: A Translation of the Eihei Koroku" by Dogen Zenji

"Daughters of Emptiness: Poems of Chinese Nuns" by Beata Grant



Dogen Kigen (1200-1253): Founder of Soto Zen Buddhism

by Dr. Alfred Bloom, Emeritus Professor, University of Hawai'i

(continued from April, 2009 newsletter)

Another major principle of Dogen appears in the phrase Datsurakushinjin-Shinjindatsuraku (Cast off mind and body-mind and body cast off). In his famous opening chapter of the Shobogenzo, Dogen declares:

To master the Buddha way is to master oneself,

To master oneself is to forget oneself, To forget oneself is to realize the myriads of dharmas,

To realize the myriads of dharmas is to drop one's body

And mind, and the body and mind of others.

(quoted in Daigan and Alicia Matsunaga. Foundations of Japanese Buddhism,

vol. II, p. 248.)

To get a sense of the meaning of this principle, we can consider an artist or performer. The pianist must practice, which is to master oneself. However, only when the pianist can forget that he/she is playing and play without thinking or deliberating about playing, can real playing emerge. When one reaches the point that there is playing but no self, the music comes forth in its beauty. The artist must, in effect, drop or cast aside body and mind to become the music or art itself.

Because our minds are nurtured and cultivated with reflective thinking, we discriminate past, present and future. We see ourselves bound by the past and project futures which devalue the present. Yet, the present is really all we have and it includes our past and future. Consequently, the practice of meditation, or Mindfulness in contemporary parlance, can enable us to become aware of the preciousness of the moment and to live more sensitively in our human relations, as well as appreciation of the world in which we live.

Dogen's teaching developed within a monastic community and seems quite unrelated to the concerns of ordinary people. It was under the leadership of Keizan Zenii (1268-1325) that Soto Zen Buddhism became a popular movement by adapting to the needs of the people with funerals, memorial services, pravers and sermons. Some priests engaged in social welfare While Zazen might be projects. practiced in the monasteries, it was difficult for members who were largely farmers to devote themselves to it with all its rigor. However, taking refuge in the Buddha with the faith that one's

mind is Buddha, as we are, provided the basis for a popular movement.

In our modern, highly technological society, Dogen's spiritual ideals, practice and philosophical insight offer a resource for seekers. Shobogenzo is a formidable text for the general reader. Nevertheless, a subsidiary text the Shobogenzozuimonki introduces us to Dogen's thought in a very accessible way open to lay people. This text is a record of sermons and teaching in more down-toearth fashion. He emphasizes the reality of impermanence and becoming free from egoism and greed as one becomes deeply aware of the brevity of life. Implicit in this thought is the recognition that life is a process and all things are interdependent. Deep awareness of this process yields a new sense of reality for our lives when viewed as the activity of Enlightenment. His spiritual insight which focuses on concrete everyday living offers a positive source of meaning within an increasingly absurd world.

Sangha Sisters To Celebrate Group's 10th Anniversary

Congratulations to the Daifukuji Sangha Sisters who will be celebrating their group's 10th anniversary on the 8th of May. Sangha Sisters, a women's spirituality circle which has been gathering in the Kannon Hall on the 2nd Friday evening of each month for the past 10 years, was begun in 1999 by Rev. Jiko. A celebration will be held on Friday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m. All sangha sisters, past & present, are invited to attend. Women interested in joining Sangha Sisters are asked to call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524.

2009 Obon News

Obon, the summer season of prayer, bon dancing, and remembering one's ancestors, will be here in no time. Here are some important dates to mark on your calendars:

June 20 Community Obon Festival, Keauhou Shopping Center

June 28 Daifukuji Obon Memorial Service & Lunch 10:00 a.m.

June 30, July 2, July 7, & July 9 7:00 p.m. Bon Dance Practice Sessions at Daifukuji

July 11 Daifukuji Bon Dance 6:30 pm Yagura Service, 7:00 - 10:00 pm Bon Dance

For the first time, the Daifukuji Obon service and Bon Dance will be held on separate weekends. Our intention is to give our members a chance to truly enjoy each event, without the strain of having them both on the same day or same weekend. Hatsubon families will be invited to offer incense in memory of their loved ones at both the Obon Memorial Service on June 28 and the Bon dance yagura service on July 11.

Detailed information will be included in the June newsletter. TOBA request forms will be sent out in May.



Project Dana April Birthdays

Calling 911

by Rev. Jiko

Recently, I was awakened in the middle of the night by an

agitated man, possibly on drugs, trying to enter my house through the front door. I called 911 from my cellular phone and, to my frustration, was connected to the Honolulu police and had to be transferred back to the Kona dispatcher to whom I had to repeat my plea for help. Valuable minutes were lost.

I've since learned from the Verizon Wireless Customer Service that it is important to periodically update one's Preferred Roaming List (PRL) which connects one to the local 911 department. Verizon customers simply dial *228 from their wireless phones and choose option 2. This should be done whenever one travels outside one's area or at least once a month. Customers of other wireless services should find out how to update their PRL. In an emergency, precious minutes count.

To end my story, the police arrested the man, who was still on the temple porch trying to get into my house when they arrived.

It was a terrifying experience, but, as a result, I've learned how to update my phone, which will be useful in the event of another emergency. I hope that my sharing this information can be of use to you.

Dear sangha, please take care. My love goes out to each one of you!

Food Drives to be Held Regularly



The economy is bad and many people are suffering. The

Fujinkai Board has approved the sponsorship of a monthly food drive at all major services. Food collected will first be offered to temple members in need; the rest will be delivered to the Hawaii Island Food Basket. You can help by bringing canned food to all major services. Thank you for caring and sharing.

Board News

<u>Septic tank plans</u> have been submitted to the Department of Health. Thank you, members, for your generous donations earmarked for the septic tank.

<u>Cemetery improvements</u> are being discussed by members of the cemetery committee. Thank you to Minoru Hanato for voluntarily cleaning the graves and spraying the weeds in our cemetery.

<u>Temple groups</u> will be offered the opportunity to raise funds at this year's Bon Dance in July.

Coming Up in June...

General Clean Up Day Sun., June 14

Keauhou Obon Festival Sat., June 20

Obon Memorial Service Sun., June 28

Sangha Photo Gallery

Daifukuji Fujinkai members worked hard in preparation for the United Hawaii Soto Shu Women's Association's 44th annual conference. Thank you, everyone!



Teamwork!



Lovely Handsewn Tote Bags



Working Together in Harmony



Attending to the Details & Paperwork



Beautiful Luggage Tags for All

May 2009



April 2009 May 2009 June 2009 S M T W T F S SMTWTFS 1 2 1 2 3 4 5 6 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 26 27 28 29 30 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 28 29 30 31

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
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| 8:00 AM Baikako Practice 9:30 AM Family Service | = 5:00 PM Youth Taiko = 7:30 PM Happy Strummers | = 5:00 PM Aikido = 6:30 PM Adult Taiko | 5 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board | 6:00 PM Aikido 6:45 PM Dharma Session | = 8:00 AM Samu = 6:00 PM Adult Taiko = 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters | =4:00 PM Youth Taiko |
| 9:30 AM Mother's Day Service | = 5:00 PM Youth Taiko = 7:00 PM Bon Dance Practice | = 5:00 PM Aikido | Project Dana 8:30 AM = 6:00 AM Zazen = 5:00 PM Youth Taiko = 7:00 PM Orchid Club | = 6:00 PM Aikido = 6:45 PM Dharma Session | = 8:00 AM Samu = 6:00 PM Adult Taiko | ■ 4:00 PM Youth Taiko |
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