



Daifukuji Soto Mission

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*Treasuring the Past,
Embracing the Present*
November, 2010



Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 21
10:00 a.m.



Happy Thanksgiving, dear members and friends! You are warmly invited to our temple's Thanksgiving service on November 21. As the holiday season begins, let us take the time to reflect upon life's blessings and give thanks in the company of our sangha friends.

Rev. Ryosho Roy Kokuzo of the Waipahu Soto Zen Temple Taiyoji will be our guest speaker. Refreshments will be served after the service. Please bring your family and friends and join us for a morning of thanksgiving and fellowship.

This service will begin at 10:00 a.m. Donations of canned food for the Hawaii Island Food Basket will be collected.



Fujinkai Obento Sale Nov. 13 by Lorraine Tanimoto

"Daifukuji Specialities" is the name for our booth for this year's coffee festival fundraiser since it involves selling a variety of food items -- bento, manju, spam musubi, inari sushi, prune mui, star fruit preserves -- to name a few of our sale foods. The sign-up sheet for donations is posted on the bulletin board in the social hall. When dropping off your donations in the kitchen, be sure you have your name on the items. Monetary donations to the Daifukuji Fujinkai are also appreciated. **All donations must be dropped off before November 1st.** If there are any questions, please call Jean Ikeda at 322-4058.

To make this event a success, we humbly ask for your help. **Cooking time for Saturday, November 13 starts at 4:00 a.m.**

The sale and festivities will be held at the Makaeo County Pavilion at the Old Airport.

Our very own Daifukuji Taiko of whom we are very proud will be participating in both the lantern parade on Nov. 5 and the grand parade on Nov. 13. Let's go out to cheer them on!

A schedule of festival events can be found at: <http://www.konacoffeefest.com/schedule.asp>. Let's all celebrate 40 years of our Kona coffee heritage!



Zen Day attendees tracing a picture of Kannon-sama

General Clean Up Day Sunday, November 28

8:00 a.m.

Daifukuji members and members of temple groups, we humbly request your kokua at our general temple clean up. Please bring rags, buckets, and garden tools, labelled with your name. Refreshments will be provided.

Let's beautify our temple and grounds in time for Bodhi Day, the day of the Buddha's enlightenment. Many helping hands are needed. Questions? Call Ron Iwamoto at 322-9147.

Arigato!



Zen Day 2010 by Coral Mack

On September 25th, Daifukuji offered its second Zen Day as An Adventure in Silence. By 9:00AM, twenty-five participants and the members of our Zazenkai quietly gathered in the Kannon Hall. Each wore a cloth name tag, their name written above the words "in silence."

The idea of Zen Day, as explained by Reverend Jiko, was born when the Daifukuji Zazenkai decided "to invite the community to the temple to experience Zen practice, teachings, and culture, particularly the Zen arts and style of meditation practiced in the Soto Zen tradition. The first silent retreat, called A Zen Adventure Day, was held on September 5, 2009.

This year's retreat emphasized the maintaining of silence and mindfulness--a rare gift in this age of constant electronic noise and chatter--as the participants flowed from one session to the next throughout the day. Being offered was a day of turning inward and receiving silent spiritual nourishment in the company of one's teachers and fellow practitioners."

To begin Zen Day 2010, Reverend Jiko warmly welcomed the group and carefully

outlined the day's plan: Zazen, Tai Chi, Shakyo and Shabutsu, potluck lunch, Powerpoint presentation, Zazen, Kinhin, Yoga and a closing circle--a fully scheduled Saturday to be spent without talking.

The people leading each session spoke, of course, to introduce those in attendance to each experience of Zen practice:

Reverend Jiko assisted by Jill Teiho Wagner, Zazen

Bob Yokomoto assisted by two of his students, Tai Chi

Reiko Sekine and Jill Teiho Wagner, Copying the Jikku Kannongyo Sutra and Kannon Bodhisattva, accompanied by Shakuhachi music and bells played by Manuel and Bernice Roberto.

Jill Teiho Wagner, "Soto Zen Buddhism" Powerpoint presentation

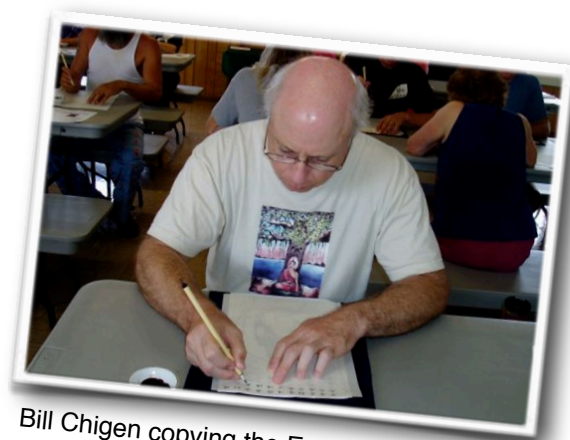
Clear Englebert, Kinhin Walking Meditation

David Smith, energizing Yoga, the final asana accompanied by temple bells rung by Reverend Dana St. Claire

After the closing circle, Reverend Jiko invited everyone to enjoy tea, scones, and conversation in the Social Hall, as well as to browse in the gift shop.

As the day of shared silence ended, one participant enthusiastically came up to Reverend Jiko and asked, "When will you be having the next Zen Day retreat?"

" . . . silence 'speaks' . . . in much the same way as words do; Dogen takes from this the lesson that, when used in a way that is situationally effective, it [silence] may be as helpful as a similarly skillful use of words to articulate the Dharma" (from Denying Divinity by J. P. Williams, p. 130).



Bill Chigen copying the Enmei Jikku Kannongyo

Zen Retreat Reflections *by William Chigen Lundquist*

A Zen bumper sticker reads, "Don't just do something. Sit there." During the Daifukuji's second annual Zen Retreat Day Sept. 25, we did plenty of sitting, but in stillness or action, we did it all in silence.

This was my second Zen Retreat Day, but I learned from every activity. The first thing I learned is why I sit zazen in the evenings, and not the mornings. I discovered that even at 9:30 a.m. after a pretty good night's sleep, I simply couldn't stay awake. If I tried meditating at 6 a.m., I would be sprawled out on the floor, snoring, in two seconds. I was much more successful in the session just before lunch and the one in the afternoon.

I enjoyed Bob Yokomoto's introductory Tai Chi lesson a bit more than last year. With fewer participants, we had more room to move, though still not quite enough. Bob drilled us more times on fewer steps, instead of trying to introduce us to too many at once. I still think I

would have more trouble memorizing the 108 positions of the exercise than I would have actually doing the steps.



Copying the sutras was my favorite activity last year, and it was even better this year. Tracing on rice paper, we copied not only the Enmei Jikku Kannon Gyo in

Chinese characters, but also an intricate drawing of Kannon-Sama. Most special of all, we did it not with pens, but with special calligraphy brushes which were purchased by the Zazenkai from Dogen Zenji's Eihei-ji Monastery in Japan with the help of sumi-e instructor Mrs. Ryusetsu Kokuzo of Waipahu Taiyo-ji. They were marvelous instruments. Their tips had the appearance of finely sharpened pencils, yet they were brushes. When dipping in the ink cup, the fine tip would depress the surface tension of the black liquid ever so slightly before breaking through. The tip kept its finely sharpened appearance. With just the right amount of ink, one could draw a clear, fine line effortlessly. When the ink on the tip ran low, the brush bristles would separate, resulting in a broader, ragged line. Time for more ink. Too much ink, however, and a thick line marred by ink blobs would result. It was fascinating just trying to get it right, and there was something almost sensual about dipping the brush in the ink. I'll bet ancient Zen poets felt the same thing. When I was tracing the Kannon picture, it seemed

to me that she was suddenly appearing on the paper out of nowhere. This magic was accompanied by the entrancing sound of the shakuhachi flute and bells by Manuel and Bernice Roberto. Ironically, I never saw my Kannon picture again. Someone must have taken mine by mistake, and I do mean mistake, because it was certainly less well drawn than the one he or she had actually drawn. Yet, I finally understood why Tibetan monks spend days and even weeks making mandalas, one grain of sand at a time, only to immediately sweep them away. This exercise was all about the doing, not about the finished product. Thank you, Jill Teiho and Reiko for a transforming experience.

This was followed by my least favorite activity of the day: silent lunch.



The potluck meal was plentiful and delicious. When you can't talk with anyone while eating, however, you find that you don't look at anyone, but just concentrate on your food, yet you are too aware of the noise your chewing and that of everyone around you is making. It all just feels awkward and embarrassing. It's a good way to lose weight because you really just want to get done and get out of there. I know we need to learn to concentrate on what we are doing, though, even when we are just eating. This too is a meditation I need to master.



After lunch, Jill Teiho gave us a really interesting power point presentation on various aspects of the Soto Zen

tradition, our temple and its ministers. After another session of zazen, we gathered for some challenging yoga stretching exercises taught by David Smith. We all felt pretty loose by the time we were invited to just lay back and let gravity relax us. With eyes closed, my mind drifted off, yet not asleep, when the mellow ring of gongs and bells began to fill my consciousness. We were being serenaded by Rev. Dana St. Claire, and later the shakuhachi of Manuel Roberto. Talk about relaxing. I was amazed that any of us could get up at the end.

Completely refreshed, we ended the day with a little cold green or barley tea and fresh fruit, along with conversation if we wanted it. I learned later that night that my mother had died just before the event started. Even if I had known, I can't think of a more appropriate way to mark her passing than with a day of peace and quiet reflection. This one was for you, Mom. Thank you to all who made this special experience possible.



Gift Shop News

by Clear Englebert

The new calendars have arrived at the

gift shop. They are an inspiring way to envision the coming year. Other new arrivals are blank books made of pineapple fiber with an image of the Buddha on the cover, and pewter jewelry with the tomoe design symbolizing the endless flow of the Buddha Mind which is moved by training. Kannon images



have been the easiest kind to locate sources of, but images of the bodhisattvas Fudo and Hotei are also now gracing the choba.



Library News

by Clear Englebert

I appreciate Buddhism for its directness, and an excellent example of that is Sister Ayya Khema's book "All Of Us: Beset by Birth, Decay and Death. It's a collection of twelve dharma talks on Practice given on Parappuduwa Nuns Island in Sri Lanka. There's beautiful explanation and great motivation in one small book. She says, "Dhamma is being taught to us constantly. All our waking moments are Dhamma teachers, if we make them so."

The other new arrivals are:

"Zen Painting" by Yasuichi Awakawa.

"The Art of Just Sitting: Essential Writings on the Zen Practice of Shikantaza" edited by John Daido Looi

“The Practice of Perfection: The Paramitas from a Zen Buddhist Perspective” by Robert Aitken

“The Awakening of the West: The Encounter of Buddhism and Western Culture” by Stephen Batchelor

“Human Roots for Young Readers, Vol. 2” edited by Rebecca Lee

“The Art of Forgiveness, Lovingkindness, and Peace” by Jack Kornfield

Three new food books are:

“Three Bowls: Vegetarian Recipes From an American Zen Buddhist Monastery” by Seppo Farley and Myochi O'Hara

“Why Should Man Be a Vegetarian?” by Rev. Kuo Tung

“The Book of Tea” by Kakuzo Okakura

The new CDs are:

“Eight Means to Enlightenment: Dogen's Hachidai Ningaku (Chapter 83, Shobogenzo)” by Jiyu Kennett

“Segaki 2009 Sesshin Talks” by Daishin Morgan

“Only a True Flower Shows Its True Face: Dogen's Hokke ten Kokke (Chaper 90, Shobogenzo)” by Jiyu Kennett

“What is Truly Meant by Training and Enlightenment: Dogen's Shushogi” by Jiyu Kennett

“Feeding of the Hungry Ghosts Retreat 2007” by Daishin Morgan

“August 2009 Sesshin Talks” by Daishin Morgan

The new Thich Nhat Hanh books are:

“The Miracle of Mindfulness: A Manual on Meditation”

“Being Peace” with illustrations by Mayumi Oda

“Touching Peace: Practicing the Art of Mindful Living”

“The Diamond That Cuts Through Illusion: Commentaries on the Prajnaparamita Diamond Sutra”

“Interbeing: Commentaries on the Tiep Hien Precepts” lutiun munityuw uw.

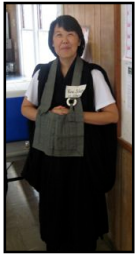
Mahalo Nui

Domo arigato to Kris Yamauchi for helping Taichi Harada maintain the temple yard and haul away the weekly trash. Thank you also to Tyrone Ohta for joining the Friday samu crew. **How truly grateful we are for everyone's kokua!**



The members of the Daifukuji Baikako Plum Blossom Choir express their heartfelt thanks to the Reverend Onoda from Yamagata, Japan who conducted a baika workshop at Daifukuji on October 9 which was attended by Rev. Jiko and ten members of the Baikako. Rev. Onoda's thorough

explanations on *baika-ryu eisanka* etiquette, note reading, singing, and the Dharma were appreciated by all in attendance.



Thanksgiving Greetings from Rev. Jiko

Happy Thanksgiving, dear members and dharma friends! How truly thankful I am for each one of you! You are all dear to my heart; you are the bountiful blessings that fill my cornucopia to overflowing. For me, true abundance is having good friends of the Way with whom to walk the path of the Buddha.



Every morning when I open the temple I offer incense and say thank you for all of you. Sometimes I walk from the main hall to the Kannon hall to the nokotsudo chanting “*arigato gozaimasu, arigato gozaimasu*” over and over. This is my prayer of thanksgiving -- *arigato gozaimasu* to the buddhas and bodhisattvas, *arigato gozaimasu* for wise Teachings, *arigato gozaimasu* for wonderfully kind sangha friends. *Arigato gozaimasu. Arigato gozaimasu. Thank you, thank you, thank you.*

Recent temple events such as the Zen Retreat Day, the Baika-ryu Eisanka “goeika” workshop, and the celebration of Project Dana’s 3rd anniversary have all shown me that Dharma gates are indeed boundless and that there are

many forms of Buddhist practice, each one an aspect of Kannon-sama’s boundless compassion & skillful means leading people to peace, joy, and liberation from suffering.

Onoda Sensei, who taught the *goeika* workshop, explained that through the practice of reverently singing *eisanka*, a person, over time, naturally learns the teachings of the buddhas, bodhisattvas, and dharma ancestors and begins to live in true harmony with others. In order for one’s own voice to blend in with the voices of others, one must learn to truly listen and adjust one’s pitch.

The path of service is another Dharma gate through which many enter the Buddha Way. By serving on the temple board of directors or as a member of the *samu* crew that cleans the temple weekly or as a Project Dana volunteer who helps take care of our *kupuna* or as a Fujinkai member who prepares meals for the sangha & gives comfort to friends in need, one learns to go beyond the confines of one’s small ego-self to the broader, greater Big Mind, Buddha Heart. Through service to others we begin to see ourselves more clearly, to see our shortcomings, as well as our great capacity to love and to give, as the boundaries between self and other dissolve away.

Even temple groups that do not talk about Buddha are silently practicing the Buddha Way -- the way of wisdom and compassion, love and understanding. The taiko students learn to take care of their drums, their *dojo*, and each other, thus becoming a harmonious whole; the orchidists learn to give tender loving care to each plant & gaze into the face

of each flower; the Sangha Sisters learn to sit in a circle and deeply listen to one another.

Even the books in the temple library and the items in the gift shop are all singing the songs of the buddhas and bodhisattvas, calling us to greater understanding of ourselves and others, greater clarity of heart and mind, greater love and compassion for all living beings. The *ojuzu* which encircles our hands, the *zafu* upon which we sit in meditation, the serene face and posture of a Buddha statue, the fragrance of a stick of incense, a Dharma verse on a card -- each one beckon us to return to our true selves, our true home in the Dharma.

It doesn't matter through which Dharma gate you've come to the Path. What matters is that you are here. We are here together, all caring for and supporting one another.

For this, I am truly grateful. *Arigato gozaimasu! Arigato gozaimasu!*

May you have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Namu Kie Butsu. Namu Kie Ho. Namu Kie So.

In gassho, with much aloha,
Rev. Jiko



Thursday Evening Sessions

All are welcome to join the following Thursday evening sessions during the month of November:

November 4 Chanting, Zazen, Dharma
November 11 "Just Sitting," zazen only
November 18 Chanting, Zazen, Dharma

Evening sessions begin at 7:00 p.m. and end around 8:45 p.m. Participants are asked to arrive 10 minutes early. A small donation box is placed on the sign-in table. Questions? Call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524.



Coming Up in December...

Rohatsu Sesshin Dec. 1-8 6 a.m.
Jodo-e Bodhi Day Service Dec. 5 9:30 am
Project Dana Dec. 8 (Bodhi Day!)
Kannon-ko, Ofudayaki Dec. 15 10 a.m.
Mochi-making Day (*mochitsuki*) Dec. 28
New Year's Blessing Services Dec. 31, Jan.1

Sangha Photo Gallery

Daifukuji Baikako with Rev. Onoda



Daifukuji's seniors and volunteers celebrated Project Dana's 3rd anniversary on Oct. 13, 2010 with a short service followed by a Halloween costume contest & other festivities. Guest speaker was Rose Nakamura, co-founder of Project Dana statewide. Mahalo to all Project Dana volunteers and honored elders!



November 2010

October 2010							November 2010							December 2010						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31					
31																				

- Sangha Sisters
- Youth Taiko
- Adult Taiko
- Family Service
- Major Service
- Temple Board
- Fujinkai
- Kannon-ko Service
- Project Dana
- Zazen
- Samu
- Special Events
- Baikako Practice
- Dharma Study
- Happy Strummers
- Offsite Backup
- Bon Dance Group
- Teen Sangha
- Orchid Club

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:30 AM Family Service	1 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	2 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	3 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	4 7:00 PM Zazen & Dharma	5 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko 6:30 PM Lantern Parade	6
7 8:00 AM Baikako Practice 9:30 AM Family Service	8 6:00 PM Youth Taiko	9 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	10 Project Dana 8:30 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 5:30 PM Happy Strummers Perform 7:00 PM Orchid Club	11 7:00 PM Zazen Only	12 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters	13 4:00 AM Fujinkai Bento Making 9:30 AM Coffee Festival Grand Parade
14 9:30 AM Family Service	15 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	16 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	17 Kannon-ko 10 AM 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	18 7:00 PM Zazen & Dharma	19 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	20
21 Thanksgiving Service 10:00 a.m.	22 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	23 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	24 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	25 Happy Thanksgiving!	26 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	27
28 General Clean Up 8 am	29 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	30 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	1 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	2 7:00 PM Temple Board	3 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	4