



Daifukuji Soto Mission

P.O. Box 55 Kealahou, HI 96750
808-322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

*Treasuring the Past,
Embracing the Present*

December, 2008

Rohatsu Sesshin Dec. 1-8

"8 Mornings of Zazen" 6:00-7:15 a.m.

We sit together in silence, facing the wall, and this makes all the difference in our lives. Join us for one or more mornings of zazen during the week of Daifukuji's *rohatsu sesshin*, the period of daily meditation leading up to the Buddha's Day of Enlightenment, the 8th of December.

Zazen sessions are open to all. Participants may sit on either a chair or cushion (zafu). We sit in silence for 25 minutes, do a 10-minute slow walking meditation, sit again for 25 minutes, and conclude with a 15-minute morning service in the Kannon Hall. Please call Jiko Sensei at 322-3524 for more information.

Mochi Orders

Our temple's annual mochi tsuki (mochi-making event) is scheduled for **Sunday, December 28**. Please use the enclosed MOCHI ORDER FORM to place your order. Tickets will be assigned on a first-come-first-served basis. See p.5 for more info.

Bodhi Day Jodo-e Service, General Membership Meeting, & Potluck

December 7

9:30 a.m.

With the holidays comes Bodhi Day, the day of the Buddha Shakyamuni's Great Enlightenment, an experience of such proportion that it illuminated the world.

We invite all members and friends to join our sangha for a Bodhi Day Jodo-E service starting at 9:30 a.m. on December 7. The Dharma message "Creating a Vision for Daifukuji" will be given by Reverend Jiko.

Lunch will be a potluck, so please bring a dish or dessert to share. All members are encouraged to attend the temple's annual general membership meeting which will be held in the social hall following lunch.

Please drop off flowers for the altar on the morning of Friday, December 5.

Have a happy Bodhi Day!

Kannon-ko & Ofudayaki Service

Wednesday, December 17 10 a.m.

Old *ofuda* (house blessing cards) and *omamori* (Buddhist prayer charms) will be respectfully burned at the Ofudayaki service on December 17 at 10 a.m.

Please bring your old *ofuda* and *omamori* to the temple before or on December 17 in time for the service. New *ofuda* and *omamori* will be available at the New Year's Blessing services.

Please join us for a morning of candlelight, chanting, goeika music, and prayer.

Namu Daihi Kanzeon Bosatsu



Zazenkai Bodhi Day Breakfast

On the last morning of the Rohatsu Sesshin, the Daifukuji Zazenkai will be having a Bodhi Day breakfast at Teshima's following the morning service. Zazenkai members, please call Jiko Sensei at 322-3524 by December 1st if you can attend.



A Warm Farewell to Rev. Shunko Sakai

Having served as a minister in Hawaii for 21 years, the Reverend Shunko Sakai of the Soto Mission of Hawaii in Honolulu returned to Japan on November 17. We will miss her radiant smiles, her hearty laughter, and her clear and beautiful voice. *Thank you, Sakai Sensei, for the Dharma guidance you've given us. Thank you for your "jihi," your compassion.*

"JIHI"

by Rev. Shunko Sakai

*JiHI is like the ocean,
Accepts every tributaries,
Masses together,
And purifies them.*

*JiHI is like the ocean,
A large, magnanimous mind.*

*JiHI is like the moonlight,
Illuminates darkness,
Spots footsteps
And gives us direction.*

*JiHI is like the moonlight,
A bright, inspiring mind.*

Daifukuji Hosts Blood Drive

Tuesday, January 6 7:30am-4:30 pm

Did you know that more than 250 donors are needed every day to maintain an adequate blood supply to fulfill Hawaii's blood needs? According to the Blood Bank of Hawaii, only 2% of Hawaii's population donates blood, and studies show that nearly 60% of us will require blood at some point during our lifetime.

Daifukuji has twice hosted a blood drive in recent years, and is happy to again offer the use of our social hall to the Blood Bank of Hawaii on January 6, 2009.

If you would like to make an appointment, please call the Blood Bank of Hawaii at 1-800-372-9966, ext.721. Give the gift of life!

Check Your Telephone Bills

by Rev. Jiko

If your telephone bill or cell phone bill is unusually high, it's good to go over your bill carefully or find a family member or friend who can help you do this. You could find extra charges for services to which you did not subscribe or unknowingly subscribed. Third parties can bill you through the phone company unless you request something called a third party block.

Recently, our temple treasurer Joyce called my attention to a higher-than-normal monthly phone bill. Upon close inspection, we discovered that we were being charged for outside services for

which we had not subscribed, and were able to clear this matter up through our phone company.

Not long after that, I discovered unusual charges on my family's cell phone bill, and had to clear up those charges through the wireless phone company. In both cases, I was able to request that a "block" on outside charges be applied to these accounts.

Had I not examined my 8-page bill carefully, I would have simply paid the total amount. It's worth taking the time to check your phone bills carefully.

May I add that it also takes time, energy, aloha, and patience to get these matters cleared up. Luckily, I found the customer service folks at the phone company to be pleasant and helpful, once I got past the recordings and was able to speak to another human being. Be sure to ask a family member or friend for help if you run into difficulties.

In Memoriam

To the family of the late Setsu Honda Chai, 83, who passed away on October 23, 2008, we express our deepest sympathy.

We also send our loving thoughts to the family of the late Tamotsu "Tamo" Iwanaga, 68, who passed away on October 27, 2008.

Our love surrounds the family of the late Hatsuko Yoneyama, 91, who passed away in Hilo on November 17, 2008.

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

H o l i d a y Wishes from Jiko Sensei



Happy Bodhi Day, dear members and friends! I wish you peace and joy this holiday season, and thank you for the love and kindness which you've extended to my family and to our temple throughout the year. You are my precious sangha, and I love and appreciate each one of you.

May the wisdom-light of the Buddha illuminate all your days and nights. Have a peaceful holiday season and a happy new year! *Rainen mo yoroshiku onegai itashimasu.*

In gassho,
Jiko Sensei

Coffee Festival Mahalo

Domo arigato gozaimashita to chairperson Michiko Enomoto and the many Fujinkai members and supporters who made this year's coffee festival manju and bento sale a huge success. Thank you, everyone, for your time and donations.

Congratulations to the Kona Daifukuji Taiko group for your excellent performance and prize-winning float! You inspire all of us. Many mahalos to the instructors, parents, and supporters of Kona Daifukuji Taiko.

Library News *by Clear Englebert*

The library has recently received two aikido books, both by Koichi Tohei. They are difficult to find in the public library system and we are happy to offer them for checkout. They are: "Aikido in Daily Life" and "Ki in Daily Life". We have also received two cookbooks donated by the American Cancer Society: "The Great American Eat-Right Cookbook" by Jeanne Besser and Colleen Doyle and "Kids' First Cookbook". We also have two small pocket-size books of sayings by the great nun Cheng Yen, who was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for her compassionate social activism. The books are extraordinarily beautiful; bound in silk with curved metal corners. The titles are: "Jing Si Aphorisms 1 & 2".

Daifukuji's lending library has been in operation for decades, but not every temple in the state has a library. Both the main temple in Honolulu and the Molokai temple are looking to set up lending libraries. We have shared advice with them and when the time comes, we hope to also pass along extra copies of books. The wheel of the Dharma is always turning.

Other new arrivals are:

"Buddhism Core Ideas" by Hsing Yun

"The Dhammapada: The Path of Perfection" translated by Juan Mascaro

"Golden Zephyr: Instructions from a Spiritual Friend" by Nagarjuna and Lama Mipham

“How to Raise an Ox: Zen Practice as Taught in Zen Master Dogen's Shobogenzo” by Francis Dojun Cook

“Master of Love and Mercy: Cheng Yen” by Yu-Ing Ching

“Opening the Hand of Thought: Approach to Zen” by Kosho Uchiyama

“Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty” by A. Herbert and M. Pavel

“The Silk Route and The Diamond Path: Esoteric Buddhist Art on the Trans-Himalayan Trade Routes” edited by Deborah Klimburg-Salter

“Taking the Path of Zen” by Robert Aitken

“A Technique for Developing Enlightened Consciousness: A Traditional Buddhist Meditation on Avalokiteshvara” by Tangtong Gyalbo

“The Three Pillars of Zen: Teaching, Practice, Enlightenment” edited by Philip Kapleau

“The Tibetan Book of the Dead” translated by W. Y. Evans-Wentz

“Tranquility & Insight: An Introduction to the Oldest Form of Buddhist Meditation” by Amadeo Sole-Leris



Mochitsuki (Mochi Making & Sale) to be Held Sun., Dec. 28

3:00 a.m. Rice cooking begins
5:00 a.m. Mochi making begins
9:00 a.m. - 3:00p.m. Mochi Pick Up

Kagami Mochi \$4.00 per set (2 pcs)
Ko-mochi \$5.00 per tray (10 pcs)

Mochi making at the end of the year is a Japanese tradition, one which involves a lot of hard work and which brings joy and good fortune to one's family, sangha, and community.

Daifukuji's mochi tsuki is only possible with the help of many volunteers. Please come out and help, even for an hour or two, and be part of the merry mochi-making fellowship. We need helpers throughout the day, especially at clean-up time. *Onegai shimasu!*

Taiko students and Teen Sangha members, please gather at the temple at 8 a.m. on Saturday, December 27 to wash the mochi rice and equipment and to prepare for the mochitsuki. Thank you.

A mochi order form is enclosed with this newsletter. You may also purchase mochi tickets after the Bodhi Day Service on December 7th. If you are in need of a form, please call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524.

Turn in your order as soon as possible. Tickets are limited.

“Mochitsuki”
by Amy Jikai Nakade

Waking up at four a.m.,
Waiting for the long day ahead,
Listening to bustling feet in the kitchen,
As I prepare myself in the darkness
around me

We gather in the kitchen at five,
The sound of a mallet pounding the
newly steamed rice
filling the air...
As we prepare the Buddha’s Kagami
Mochi

We soon set to work,
Processing, cutting, and shaping,
Attempting to create soft, round mochi,
Trying hard to avoid burning our hands

**2009 Dharma
Sessions: “A
Buddhist Call
to a Troubled
World”**
Thursday Evenings
7:00-8:45 p.m.



January-March Session Dates:
January 8, 15, 22, 29
February 12, 19, 26
March 12, 19, 26

Beginning January, 2009, Jiko Sensei will be offering Thursday evening Dharma sessions which will include chanting, meditation, Dharma study, discussion, and an optional second period of meditation. She will be using the DVD series “Mutually Sustaining Life: A Buddhist Call to a Troubled World.”

These sessions are open to all and pre-registration is not needed. A donation box will be left on the table. The schedule for each session will be as follows:

6:45 p.m. Arrive, sign in, be seated.
7:00 p.m. Evening Service Begins
7:15 - 7:40 p.m. Zazen Meditation
7:40- 8:00 p.m. DVD on Buddhism
8:00 - 8:20 p.m. Discussion, Q & A
8:20-8:45 p.m. Zazen (optional)
8:45 p.m. Carry the silence home.

December 8 Bon Dance Session Cancelled

Winifred Kimura has announced that the Bon Dance practice session scheduled for December 8 has been cancelled.

Coming Up

December 31 New Year’s Blessing Service
January 1 New Year’s Blessing Service
January 4 Fujinkai Hatsumairi
January 17 New Year’s Party **Luncheon**



Sangha Photo Gallery



Goeika Workshop, Oct. 22



Bento Experts Kelley & Michiko



Daifukuji Baikako & Rev. Iwata



Kay, Ann, & Kikuko



Jan, Lorraine, & Rowena

December 2008

November 2008							December 2008							January 2009								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
						1	7	8	9	10	11	12	13							1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8								4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
30																						

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 KOKUA NEEDED CLEAN UP DAY 8 A.M.	1 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	2 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	3 6:00 AM Zazen 3:00 PM Youth Taiko for Beginners 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	4 6:00 AM Zazen 6:00 PM Aikido 7:00 PM Temple Board	5 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	6 6:00 AM Zazen
7 Jodo-e Se... 9:30 AM 6:00 AM Zazen	8 NO Bon Dance Class 6:00 AM Zazen 7:30 AM Zazenka Breakfast 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	9 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	10 Project Dana 8:30 AM 6:00 AM Zazen 3:00 PM Youth Taiko for Beginners 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Orchid Club	11 6:00 PM Aikido 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	12 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters	13
14 8:00 AM Goeika Practice 9:30 AM Family Service	15 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	16 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	17 Kannon-ko 10 a.m. 6:00 AM Zazen 3:00 PM Youth Taiko for Beginners 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	18 6:00 PM Aikido 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	19 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	20
21	22 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	23 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	24 6:00 AM Zazen 3:00 PM Youth Taiko for Beginners 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	25 6:00 PM Aikido	26 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	27 8:00 AM Mochitsuki Prep
28 MOCHITSUKI 5 A.M.	29 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	30 5:00 PM Aikido 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	31 NY Service 11:45 PM 6:00 AM Zazen 3:00 PM Youth Taiko for Beginners 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	1 New Year ...ice 10 AM	2 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	3

2008 Daifukuji Mochi Order Form

Mochi Tsuki is scheduled for **Sunday, December 28, 2008**


pick up from 9:00am – 3:00pm.

A fundraiser for the Daifukuji Soto Mission's Teen Sangha & Taiko Group

If you are not able to purchase tickets from Taiko members or at the Jodo-E service, please complete the information below and return promptly. Do not enclose payment; we will accept payment on pick up day, December 28, 2008. Please call the temple, 322-3524, with any questions.

While every effort will be made to accommodate our members and long-time customers, we will assign tickets on a first come first served basis. Once tickets are sold out, names will be added to a Wait List. When we determine that we have extra mochi, we will call individuals from this list. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause and humbly ask for your understanding. We enjoy being a part of your New Year tradition and truly appreciate your support!

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Quantity Ordered	Item	Price
	 Kagami Mochi	\$4.00 per set
	Ko Mochi	\$5.00 per tray of 10* <small>(*Note: 10 mochi per tray)</small>

Return form to: Daifukuji Soto Mission
79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy.
Kealahou, HI 96750
ATTN: Mochi Order