



## Daifukuji Soto Mission

P.O. Box 55 Kealahou, HI 96750  
808-322-3524 [www.daifukuji.org](http://www.daifukuji.org)

## Treasuring the Past, Embracing the Present

October 2006

### Daruma-ki & Eitaikyo Services

Sunday, October 8 9:30 a.m

Members and friends are cordially invited to the Daruma-ki & Eitaikyo services to be held October 8 at 9:30 a.m. Daruma-ki is held in remembrance of Bodhidharma, as known as Bodai Daruma Daishi or Daruma-san. At Daifukuji one can find an image of this great Zen teacher seated upon a chair in an alcove located to the right of the main altar. Bodhidharma was a 6<sup>th</sup> century Indian monk who carried the teachings of the Buddha from India to China during a long three-year journey. The 28<sup>th</sup> patriarch of our lineage, he was a person of great determination and magnanimity of spirit who sat in zazen facing a wall for nine years at the Shorinji Temple. October 5<sup>th</sup> is the anniversary of his death. We of the Daifukuji Soto Mission Sangha will pay our respects to him at the Daruma-ki service on October 8.



An eitaikyo service to perpetually remember deceased members in prayer will also be held. Please join us for a morning of meditation, song, and prayer. The Dharma talk will be given by Rev. Jiko.

Everyone's invited to a simple lunch following the service. Fujinkai members, we humbly ask for your kokua in the temple kitchen at 6:30 a.m. on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Adult Zen Taiko Open House

Tuesday, October 3 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Interested in taiko? Have you always wanted to play, but didn't know how to get started? Willing to approach taiko as Zen practice? Or perhaps you just want to listen. Then, join Daifukuji's Adult Zen Taiko group on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5 pm until 8 pm and see what Zen Taiko is all about.

Our doors are open to all who wish to experience the Zen of Taiko, so please come join us.

If you choose to participate, please dress comfortably, be prepared to move, warm up, and possibly break a sweat. After all, this IS taiko!

If you will be attending on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, please call 756-4343 and leave a message with Rob Rothrock. Space in the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall is limited, and the Zen Taiko group wants to make every effort to accommodate all that wish to join in the fun and joy that is taiko.

If you can't attend this Open House, please feel free to drop into any of our regular Zen Taiko sessions which are held each Tuesday from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.



Mothes Sensei instructs Ryan at first aikido class. Classes are open to new students. Call Rev. Jiko for information.

## Goeika Workshops To Be Held October 24 & 25

Oct. 24 *Beginners Workshop* 2- 4 pm  
Oct. 25 *Baika Workshop* 10 am – noon

Members of the Daifukuji Baikako, please mark your calendars and prepare for the next goeika workshop to be held Wednesday, October 25 from 10 am –noon. This year we are privileged to have the Reverend Ryuko Sagawa, resident minister of Tokurinji in Mie Prefecture, Japan come to Daifukuji to teach goeika.

He will be teaching a new song called “Magokoro Ni Ikiru” (To Live With a Sincere Heart) which was composed by Kosetsu Minami, a well-known singer-song writer. The workshop will be followed by lunch. Baika members, please call Yoshiko Ikeda at 322-3533 to let her know if you will be attending the workshop and if you’ll be staying for lunch.

A free beginners workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 24 from 2-4 pm. Those interested in learning the fundamentals of goeika are invited to attend. Please call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 to register. The Daifukuji Baikako invites new members to join their group. Men and women of all ages are welcome.



Reiko Sekine took the beginners class at the last workshop which was taught by Rev. Akita in August. Beginners are always welcome.

## Sangha Movie Night Features “Life of Buddha”

Saturday, October 21

7:00 pm

This month’s featured movie is a beautifully made documentary filmed in India. It tells the story of the Buddha, showing the key places in his life. Delicious pan popcorn will once again be provided by the Daifukuji Teen Sangha. Admission is free. Bring your friends!



Teen Sangha Initiation Ceremony

September 3

From left to right: Jill Teiho Wagner, Ryan Nakade, Sarah Hoffman, Abraham Andl, Rev. Jiko, Taura Waleski, Avis & Brian Yamamoto (Not pictured – Zadoc Watson, Justin Coleman)

## In Memoriam

The members of Daifukuji express their deepest sympathy to the families of the late:

Stanley Sadayuki Shimizu who passed away on August 27, 2006 at the age of 78

Momoe Inouye Furuuchi who passed away on September 6 at the age of 82

Yasuno Sugamoto who passed away on September 14 at the age of 94.

May you be held in the loving light of the Buddha and bodhisattvas. We send you loving thoughts during this time of sorrow.

## Zen Meditation & Dharma Talk on Precepts

Saturday, November 4 9:00 am to noon

Potluck Lunch

Upon the invitation of the Daifukuji Zazenkai, the Reverend Robert Joshin Althouse of the Zen Community of Oak Park in Chicago, Illinois will be offering a morning of zazen and a Dharma talk on the Buddhist Precepts on Saturday, November 4 from 9 am to noon. A vegetarian potluck lunch will follow. Please bring a dish to share.

Joshin Sensei is an ordained Zen Buddhist priest and founder of the Zen Center of Hawaii. He and his wife June Ryushin Tanoue now reside and teach in Illinois.

Dana donations to the Daifukuji Soto Mission are requested. Please dress comfortably in subdued colors and in a way suited to visiting a spiritual place, and do not use strong fragrances in the meditation hall. For more information on zazen and zendo etiquette, please visit our website at [www.daifukuji.org](http://www.daifukuji.org) or pick up a zazenkai brochure at the temple.

Zazen sessions are held at Daifukuji every Wednesday morning from 6:00 am to 7:15 am, and on selected Thursday evenings from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. The Thursday evening sessions combine zazen and the study of Buddhism. All are welcome.

Note: The Zen Center of Hawaii will be hosting a series of Dharma talks and events during Joshin Sensei's stay in Kona. For information, please call Jill Teiho Wagner at 325-2377 or pick up a schedule at Daifukuji Soto Mission.

## What's a hossu?

Ever wonder about the whisk-like thing that Jiko Sensei carries during funeral services? Called a *hossu*, it is ceremonial object that consists of a long tuft of animal hair or vegetable fibers attached to a handle. In ancient times, priests in India used it to shoo away flies and other insects. In China, it became an ornament carried by scholars when they made public appearances. Today in Japan, the *hossu* has come to symbolize the Buddhist teachings themselves and indicate that the priest carrying it is the officiant of the memorial service. Isn't it fascinating how a once practical object has taken on symbolic significance and is used in a different way?

Zen priests carry other similar objects such as a *kotsu*, a scepter-like wooden staff that is bent like a fern frond at one end, or a *nyoi*, which looks something like a backscratcher because that's what it originally was.

These three objects – *hossu*, *kotsu*, and *nyoi* – symbolically indicate that the bearer is worthy to transmit the Buddha's teachings, and are passed on from teacher to disciple. Perhaps in time new ritual objects will be used, ones made of koa or coffee or mango wood. As time goes on the forms change, but the Dharma continues to shine and shine and shine.



Clear Englebert's Feng Shui presentation on September 10 made the energies flow. Thank you, Clear!

## Mahalo Nui

A warm mahalo to Sailor Scouts 4-H member Danielle Hubbard for participating in the August 20 Cemetery Clean Up. Thank you for volunteering, Danielle. And arigato to Dr. Julia Crawford for spraying the weeds up at the cemetery and along the road. Thanks to our hardworking volunteers, the cemetery is looking great.

454 beautiful Hawaii Kannon lauhala omamori were lovingly made by the following members of the Daifukuji Fujinkai to whom we express our warmest mahalo:

Beverley Arai, Gladys Arase, Jean Ikeda, Matsue Ikeda, Yoshiko Ikeda, Renee Kimura, Sakae Oshima, Joyce St. Arnault, Hilda Sugai, Kay Sugai, Kikuko Ushijima, Evelyn Tabata, and Nancy Tanaka.

These omamori will be blessed and made available at the New Year's blessing services.



Fujinkai and Kids & Teen Sangha families pose in front of the King Kamehameha Statue ...



and on the steps of the Kohala Tong Wo Society Taoist Temple on August 27. Mahalo to Nancy, Lorraine, & Joyce for planning this field trip.

## Soto Zen in Hawaii

Between 1884 and 1908 approximately 108,000 Japanese immigrants arrived in Hawaii to work mostly on sugar plantations. In 1903 the Soto Zen Tradition opened its first temples on plantations in Waipahu, Oahu and Wahiawa, Kauai. This was followed by the construction of temples at the Kawailoa camp on Oahu, Paia camp on Maui, and Aiea camp on Oahu.

The history of urban Soto temples began when sugar plantation workers, having completed their contracts, began settling in urban areas. In 1913 the Honolulu Betsuin was built. This was followed by the construction of temples in Hilo and Kona on the island of Hawaii, and Kaunakakai on Molokai. Daifukuji Soto Mission was founded in 1914.

Our temples quickly became a gathering place for the *issei* and their families, a place where they found comfort and joy in the teachings of the Buddha and in the strength of the Sangha. Priests not only conducted Buddhist services, but also taught Japanese language and culture.

For nearly four decades Soto Zen temples flourished, but all this came to a halt with the onset of World War II when temples and Japanese language schools were closed and many ministers were sent to internment camps on the mainland.

The war came to an end in 1945 and the 1950s began the dawn of a new era for Japanese Americans and for the Buddhist temples. Hawaii became the 50<sup>th</sup> State in 1959 and Buddhist temples flourished once more.

Today, many Buddhist temples in Hawaii are facing challenging times and are looking for new ways to meet the needs of their members and of society at large. However, the number of American Buddhists is steadily rising, indicating that our path to peace is alive & meaningful. Our job is to keep the Dharma lamp burning brightly and to open our doors & hearts to all.

## **Gassho**

**by Jiko Sensei**

The practice of gassho can change the world. It can change the world because it changes the individual. When the individual changes, the world around that individual changes. Have you noticed how a single flower can brighten up the atmosphere of the entire room?

When I was a little girl, I practiced gassho only at the temple and in front my family's home altar. I thought that gassho was reserved for the Buddha and was something done only at the temple until an elderly Japanese woman showed me the heart and power of a single act of gassho. During my teenage years I volunteered as a candy striper at the Kona Hospital. Wearing a pink smock with pockets that my mother had lovingly sewn for me, I went from room to room visiting patients and delivering flowers, water, and juice. One afternoon I spent time with a tiny elderly Japanese woman who was in excruciating back pain and could not move in bed without grimacing and moaning. She could barely talk. She thanked me for visiting, not through words, but through her eyes and a single gesture – that of gassho. Automatically, my hands responded in gassho and we exchanged a wordless prayer of love and gratitude. I have never forgotten that *obaasan* and to this day can visualize her beautiful face and hands in gassho. At the age of 19 I experienced Zen training in a Soto Zen nunnery in Japan. The first thing I noticed was that the nuns practiced gassho all the time, and I do mean

*all the time.* Whenever they passed each other in the hallway, they stopped and bowed to each other in gassho. If they were carrying something in one hand, they would stop anyway and do a one-hand gassho with the hand that was free. They bowed in gassho to say thank you, excuse me, and please teach me. I learned to do the same.

In the beginning, my gasshos were awkward and tentative, but within a few days I was able to gassho naturally and sincerely to everyone I met. Surprisingly, I also began to see the world in a new way. Gassho became an expression of gratitude and unity, a way of silently acknowledging the shining Buddha nature of the other person.

Buddhist teacher Jack Kornfield shares a similar story in his book [After the Ecstasy, the Laundry: How the Heart Grows Wise on the Spiritual Path](#) in which he describes how he learned to bow when he became a Buddhist monk in a forest monastery in Thailand. He was instructed to bow not only when entering the meditation hall and when receiving teachings, but also to his elders. When he asked who his elders were, he was told that they were all of the monks who had trained longer than he had. Since he was the new monk on the block, he had to bow to everyone, including the monks whom he did not at first like and respect. To make it work for himself, he began to look for some worthy aspect of each person to which he could sincerely bow. He bowed to the weathered faces of the old monks and to the youthful vitality of the young ones. Over time, he found himself bowing to anything that moved – to flowers, trees, animals, to the beauty and wisdom of Life. He began to bow to Life itself in whatever form life presented itself. This is the beauty and power of the practice of gassho. Over time we learn to bow not only to the Buddha, to the people we like, and to the pleasant aspects of our lives, but also to the people we don't like and to situations that are hard and difficult. Our hearts naturally open wider and wider and we begin to embody a spirit of equanimity that brings joy and balance to our everyday lives.

With deep respect, I encourage the practice of gassho at Daifukuji and have noticed that many members, children included, already gassho to each other upon meeting and departing. Please remember that the Buddha is not a statue to which we bow, but the awakened Mind, the compassionate Buddha nature that pervades the entire universe.

### October 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Goeika Practice 8 am Family Service 9:30  Yoga 4 pm	2  Happy Strummers 7:30 pm	3  Zen Taiko Open House 5-8 pm	4  Zazen 6 am  Fujinkai Board Meeting 7 pm	5  Evening Zazen & Dharma Study 7:30 -9 pm	6  Samu Temple Clean Up 8 a.m  Aikido 3:30pm	7  Aikido 9 am  Youth Taiko Group Returns from Japan
8 Fujinkai Cooking 6:30 am Daruma-ki & Eitaikyo Services 9:30 am, Yoga 4 pm	9	10	11  Zazen 6 a.m.	12  Temple Board Meeting 7 pm  No Evening Zazen	13 Samu 8 a.m. Aikido 3:30 pm  Sangha Sisters 7:00 p.m.	14  Aikido 9:00 a.m.
15 Family Service 9:30 am Yoga 4 pm  HSMA Meet., Oahu	16  Happy Strummers 7:30 pm	17	18  Zazen 6 a.m.  Kannonko 10 am	19  Zazen & Dharma Study 7:30 p.m.	20 Samu 8 a.m.  Aikido 3:30 p.m.	21 Aikido 9:00 a.m.  Sangha Movie Night 7 pm
22 Family Service 9:30 am  Yoga 4 pm	23	24  Beginners Goeika Workshop 2-4 pm	25 Zazen 6 a.m.  Goeika Workshop 10 am – noon	26  Zazen & Dharma Study 7:30 p.m.	27 Samu 8 a.m.  Aikido 3:30	28  Aikido 9:00 a.m.
29 Family Service 9:30 am  Yoga 4 pm	30	31	1	2	3	4 Zazen and Dharma Talk by Joshin Sensei 9 am – noon Potluck Lunchs

Regular Activities:

\* Youth Taiko- Mon 3:45 p.m. & Wed. 5p.m.

\*\*\* Yoga –Sun. 4 p.m.

\*\* Adult Taiko-Tues. 6:30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*Aikido Fri. 3:30 p.m. Sat. 9:00 a.m.