



Daifukuji Soto Mission

P.O. Box 55 Kealakekua, HI 96750
808-322-3524

*Treasuring the Past,
Embracing the Present*

Darumaki & Eitaikyo Services

Sunday, October 4 9:30 a.m.

All are invited to join our sangha in observing Daruma-ki in remembrance of Bodhidharma or Bodai Daruma Daishi, a legendary sixth-century Zen master who, to this day, inspires us to be diligent and focused in our Zen practice and daily life.

An Eitaikyo service to perpetually remember deceased members will also be held. Their names will be recited during the service.

Guest speaker will be Ryan Nakade who will speak on Buddhism and life as seen through the eyes of a 17 year old.

All are invited to stay for a simple lunch to be prepared by the Fujinkai. Please deliver flowers for the altar by the morning of Friday, October 2. On Oct. 4, please bring canned food for our Food Basket collection.

We hope you'll join us for a morning of meditation, chanting, song, and Dharma fellowship.



Wide-eyed Bodhidharma

As in this drawing by the late Bishop Koryu Oyama, ink drawings of Bodhidharma often depict him with a shaved head, bulging eyes, a determined look, and a scruffy beard.

The monk Bodhidharma travelled from India to China in the sixth century. Embodying a spirit of steadfast and unshakable dedication to zazen, he taught by example, sitting for nine years in meditation facing a wall, thus becoming a symbol of great perseverance.

Daruma dolls, which are popular in Japan, help people attain their goals. They have no pupils in their eyes at first. When one sets a goal for oneself, one draws in one black pupil. It is only when this goal is realized through much hard work and perseverance that one draws in the second



pupil, giving Daruma-sama his second eye.

Welcome, New Members

With much aloha, we welcome Karen and Ian Perreira into our sangha ohana.



Ceremony before & were very impressed. During the Sutra copying, we were accompanied by beautiful shakuhachi playing and "singing bowls" which added to the peacefulness of the moment. The potluck lunch was super. It's surprising how hungry one gets at a retreat. There were more than forty people doing yoga in the cultural hall. Bodies everywhere!



Zen Day: A Silent Success

by Jan Bovard

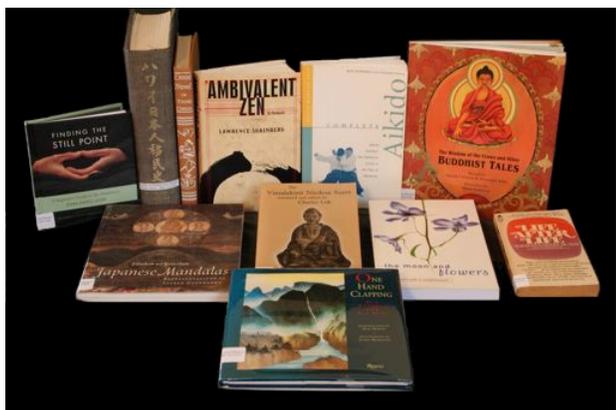
Aloha Members and Friends,

On September 5, our Zen Adventure Day, which was organized by the Zazenkai, was attended by an overwhelming number of people. With a few comings and goings we had between forty and fifty people. The events were well organized and on time, and we were able to maintain silence. I was surprised at how many people were really looking forward to that aspect of the day. It did feel like a retreat.

Seeing all the people sitting in zazen touched my heart. How wonderful! All the participants were so impressed with the variety of presentations. We had Tai Chi, and some people signed up with instructor Bob Yokomoto for more classes. Some people had never seen a formal Japanese Tea

For many people it was their first time at our temple. People didn't want to leave when it was over. They stayed to visit with each other after being in silence all day. So, a good time was had by all. This was a new event for our temple and one that is sure to be repeated. Mahalo to the members of Daifukuji Zazenkai for a successful Zen Adventure Day.





Library News

by Clear Englebert

Of the new arrivals, the most important one is “The Vimalakirti Nirdesa Sutra” translated by Luk — not necessarily the easiest book in the library, but still one of the most important ones, and well worth the effort of study.

The most visually engrossing books are “Japanese Mandalas: Representations of Sacred Geometry” by Grotenhuis and “A History of Japanese Immigrants in Hawaii” from 1964. The latter book has vast treasure of fascinating old photographs with captions in English and Japanese.

The two most engrossing reads are “Life after Life” by Moody and “Ennin’s Travels in Tang China” by Reischauer. The first book simply recounts the stories of what people have said when they have been resuscitated after been declared clinically dead. It was on the recommended reading list in the Soto monastery where I trained. The latter book starts in 838 and continues to tell the story of Ennin’s nine years of travel in China in search of the Dharma. Travelogues are often page-turners, and

this is no exception. It even has maps so you can follow along.

Children (and everyone) will enjoy “One Hand Clapping: Zen Stories for All Ages” by Martin and Soares. The artwork is truly beautiful and the stories are wonderful. The same is true of “The Wisdom of the Crows and Other Buddhist Tales”, which comes from a unique array of sources and is utterly charming.

Two very useful how-to books are “Finding the Still Point: A Beginner’s Guide to Zen Meditation” by Looi and “Complete Aikido” by Suenaka. Other new arrivals are: “The Moon and Flowers: A Woman’s Path to Enlightenment” edited by Kalyanavaca and “Ambivalent Zen: A Memoir” by Shainberg.

Also — no more card catalog. Several times a year, there will be updated printouts available at the library. Copies of these printouts are available for checkout, sorted by title, author, and subject. The library uses the “honor system” and somebody needs to be honorable and return volume 2 of the graphic novel “Buddha” by Tezuka. No card was filed in the box when it was borrowed, and it’s way overdue.

Mahalo Nui

Thank you to Gilbert and Mildred Kaneko for donating a new amplifier for our social hall, and to Gilbert and Steve Mann for installing the system. Domo arigato to Tyrone Ohta for repainting the “Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall” sign. Mahalo nui to all who contribute time, love, energy, and financial support to Daifukuji.



Big Island Taiko Fest 2009

by Barbara Bosz

Kona Daifukuji Taiko was invited to play in Hilo for the 1st Big Island Taiko Festival the weekend of June 13-14. Our group rode over on Friday morning & stayed at Taishoji Soto Mission right in downtown Hilo. It was a big and comfortable zen temple that was fun to explore.

Practice on stage for lighting, sound, & technicalities came first. Then out we went to Pizza Hut for dinner. I had them cut our pizza pupu style in square pieces instead of triangles. It was fun. Then we were up watching movies kinda late on Justin's computer.

Saturday morning we were up early and out to IHOP for breakfast, then practice with the other groups. The opening & finale we all did together. It looked good.

After rehearsal, the group went off to the mall & I went downtown for shopping. Then, it was back to Taishoji to rest & get ready for the show.

Opening night was a full house. The concert began!

Puna, Hui Okinawa, & Daifukuji taiko groups performed during the first half. Everyone played well. All the speaking flowed, and it was nice to hear about the pieces. Blaine got laughs with his mask & play acting. It was a first for the audience -- the laughing. A little boy, about 7, next to me said it was hilarious. Dancing Dragons was a hit. The gong sounded so good! Soon it was intermission and we were done with our pieces! They were wonderful!

Taishoji Taiko's set was fun & their taiko players were very vibrant. They seemed so relaxed with the big audience, and interacted smoothly, with lots of variety in their pieces.

Then came the finale! Our banner was purple like our happi & there must have been 50 people on stage. Yeah! We did it! I was bursting with pride & joy. Photos were taken & we went out to Ken's for a celebration supper, after which it was back to the temple late, full, tired, & grateful. We slept hard for it had been an exciting night and we felt good.

Sunday morning we slept in. I walked over to KTA for OJ, Diet Pepsi, & a Sunday paper. The festival was front page news in Friday's Hilo Tribune Herald. Our group went over to McDonald's for breakfast to go. Breakfast tasted good. Ahhh, coffee! We slowly packed, cleaned, & loaded our things.

I really enjoy our group. The students practice hard, and they're fun, kind, polite, growing kids of whom I am so proud. Their parents are very supportive & involved and Akemi & Justin are such good teachers, taiko players, & people.



The Roots of My Zen Practice by Amy Jikai Nakade

Since I was little, my practices as a Buddhist have made an impact on my life every day. Now, while training as a lay temple assistant, I feel extremely fortunate to not only be able to further understand who I am as a person, but to also have the opportunity to experience my *otera* life from a new and deeper perspective. Being able to contribute to the temple in ways that I haven't been able to before have really touched my heart. I can now see why Rev. Jiko, a.k.a. Rev. Mom, and Jill Teiho are passionate about being at the temple and why they love what they do. I'm also beginning to see the roots of my zen practice.

When my family moved back to Kona to take care of Tutu Mildred thirteen years ago, I enrolled in Beginner's Taiko under Rev. Tamiya, not knowing what I would experience. However, as time progressed and I slowly advanced to the next level, it was evident that taiko was one of my first sources of *shugyou* (zen training) for it demanded that one be determined and motivated to both work hard and have fun at the same time, while being completely in the present

moment. At every practice before we started playing (and still do), we always began with stretching exercises, running (or other strenuous exercises if the weather was bad), and then a short period of zazen after which we would say, "*Yoroshiku Onegashimasu*" to each other to prepare ourselves both physically and spiritually for what was to come that day. When I look back on those first years of taiko practice, I realize that it may have been the seedlings of my temple training today. I just didn't know it at the time. A shy person, I wanted to try something that I thought I could enjoy for many years to come. I'm glad I gave taiko a try, and also glad that I stuck to it.

When I began my first year of college, I wanted to continue my Buddhist practices. In my first semester, I practiced with Taishoji Taiko, and also attended a few Sunday School services with Mr. and Mrs. Nishino. After that, my schedule was always changing and it became difficult to make it to the temple. Although I had to leave Taishoji to concentrate on my studies, I knew that the *otera* would always be there for me when I needed it, just like my Daifukuji Ohana is always there for me.

All through my college years it's been important for me to continue my Buddhist practice no matter where I am, even on late nights in my dorm room at UH Hilo. Every night before I go to bed, I recite the Golden Chain, and say "Namu Kie Butsu, Namu Kie Ho, Namu Kie So. Thank you for today." Reciting this not only helps me to go to sleep, but also gives me a positive outlook for the following day. I am grateful for this path and for the roots of my zen practice that constantly ground me.



Sensei's Message

Dear Members and Friends,

How are you doing today? This may seem like a strange question, but are you suffering in any way? If you are happy and at peace, I am very happy, too, because this is my greatest wish and prayer for you. However, if you are fearful, dissatisfied, troubled, confused, angry, jealous, or stressed, then I hope you will remember to turn to the Buddha's teachings which can lead you out of suffering to joy and peace.

This is what Buddhism is really about. The Buddha offered a practical, down-to-earth, experience-based Way to transform one's life. In other words, the Buddha taught a path out of suffering, a way of overcoming ignorance with wisdom and transforming one's heart and mind with compassion.

Unless we're enlightened, all of us experience some form of suffering every day. We may be unhappy with what we have or who we are, we may desire that which we don't have, or we may be reluctant to part with something that must inevitably change or go away. All of these things cause us mental and emotional suffering or simply put, stress. Millions of people suffer from stress every day, and this affects their health, happiness, and peace of mind, not to mention the well being of those around them.

The Buddha can be likened to a great physician who offers us spiritual medicine which we call the Dharma or Teachings. He also taught us how to form a sangha, a community of good friends who are there to support each other on life's rocky road. Put together, the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha are known as the Three Treasures or Three Jewels. These three precious jewels are there for all of us, like the most delicious mangoes dangling on a tree in our own back yard.

Nature gives us mangoes, but unless we ourselves accept and taste them, we may never know how sweet, juicy, and refreshing they are. In a similar fashion, the Buddha has given us the Dharma, and it is up to us to try these teachings, which are dangling right before our eyes.

"Ehi passiko. Come and see," the Buddha was fond of calling out. Filled with aloha, he offered the Dharma freely. Over two thousand five hundred years later, his invitation is still standing. *Ehi passiko. Come and see!*

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

In gassho,
Rev. Jiko

Coming Up in November...

Project Dana	Nov. 11
Coffee Festival Bento Sale	Nov. 14
Teen Sangha Meeting	Nov. 15
Kannon-ko Service	Nov. 18
Thanksgiving Service	Nov. 22
Year-end Temple Clean Up	Nov. 29

Sangha Photo Gallery



Zen Adventure Day



Project Dana Kupuna



Masao Sasai & Tea Ceremony Group



Project Dana September Birthdays



Hot Potato Winners!

October 2009

September 2009							October 2009				November 2009												
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27	28	29	30					25	26	27	28	29	30	31		29	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
- Bon Dance Group
- Teen Sangha
- Orchid Club
- Samu

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:00 AM Baikako 9:30 AM Family Service 10:30 AM Just for Teens	28 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	29 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	30 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	1 7:00 PM Temple Board	2 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	3
4 DARUMA-KI 9:30 AM	5 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	6 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	7 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	8 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	9 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters	10 9:00 AM HI Ministers Meeting
11 9:00 AM HSMA Fall Meeting	12 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	13 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	14 Project Dana 8:30 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Orchid Club	15	16 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	17
18 8:00 AM Baikako Practice 9:30 AM Family Service	19 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	20 6:30 PM Baikako Dinner 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	21 Kannon-ko 10 AM 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	22 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	23 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	24
25 9:30 AM Family Service 10:30 AM Just for Teens	26 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	27 6:30 PM Adult Taiko	28 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	29 7:00 PM Evening Zazen	30 8:00 AM Samu 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	31