



Daifukuji Soto Mission

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808-322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

*Treasuring the Past,
Embracing the Present*

August, 2011

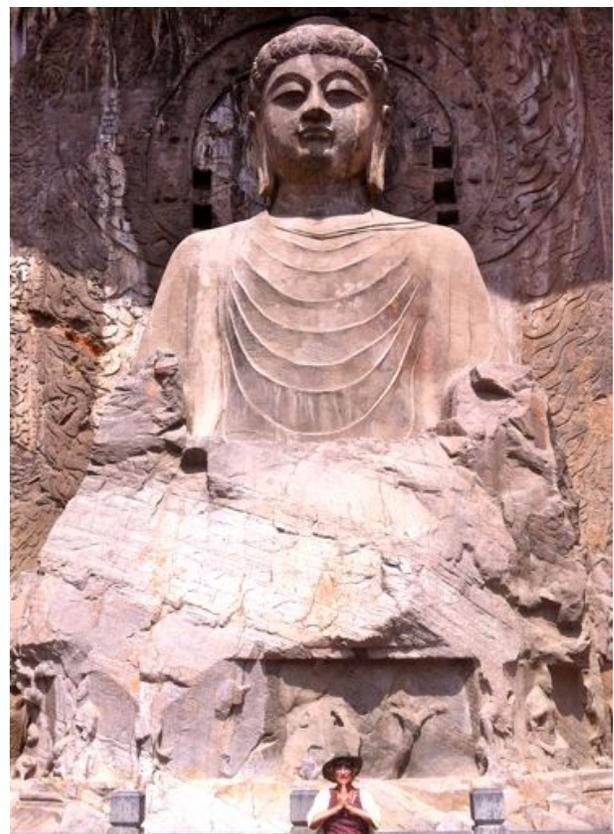


The Sixteen Soto Zen Precepts for



Living Wisely in the World

1. I vow to take refuge in the Buddha, the fully Enlightened One.
2. I vow to take refuge in the Dharma, teachings of great wisdom.
3. I vow to take refuge in the Sangha, my community of spiritual friends.
4. I vow to not create evil.
5. I vow to practice all that is good.
6. I vow to actualize compassion for all beings.
7. I vow to respect all life.
8. I vow to respect the property of others.
9. I vow to remain faithful in my relationships & not misuse my sexuality.
10. I vow to speak the truth.
11. I vow to avoid substances that cloud my mind.
12. I vow to abstain from gossip and false speech.
13. I vow to refrain from elevating myself and blaming others.
14. I vow to practice generosity & freely share the Dharma.
15. I vow to be aware of anger and the suffering that can result.
16. I vow to hold the Three Treasures in my heart, and to always protect the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha



Buddhist Confirmation and The 16 Precepts

by Ambika Jo-an Rose

I formally received the precepts in 1994 and was given the name Jo-An, "Pure and Peaceful." Since then I have done my best to live up to that name and to

follow The 16 Buddhist Precepts. I fall down many times, yet I trust that I can pick myself up and continue to strive, and thrive with these guideposts and the Sangha to support me.

For me, receiving the precepts was a “sacred” moment, a kind of turning point in my life. I have had a very broad education and celebrated with many religious, spiritual groups. I had, along with my yoga practice, begun Soto Zen Meditation in the 1970’s in California. By committing here at Daifukuji to live by The Precepts to the best of my ability, I felt a step onto a true Dharmic path. This is a shared path with our wonderful diverse Sangha. I follow with you, however humbly and imperfectly, in the “steps of Buddha.”

I am fortunate as a spiritual seeker, an artist, educator, and traveler to have been in many of the places in the world where the historical Buddha lived and taught, specifically India and Nepal. In 1978 I received a Fulbright Grant to India to write curriculum for the public schools combining the Buddhist Jataka Tales with animal Yoga postures. I lived in Japan in the 1980’s. Most recent I joined a group from the University of Hilo Buddhist Studies Program and went to the original temples in China, which were the birthplaces of Zen and Shingon Buddhism. I have been blessed.

On a more practical level, I daily, or sometimes less frequently, review my day in light of The Precepts. Where have I succeeded, where have I been less than true? Sometimes I do “blame myself or others.” It’s a “habit” from childhood, or a “natural” human response. However, I do have the guidepost of The Precepts

to honestly evaluate myself and to aspire to do better the next day.

I meditate at home and weekly on Wednesdays here with the Daifukuji Zazenkai. Sometimes my mind is quiet, sometimes my mind is a cockroach. I do my best not to judge myself or others. I smile, help others, and set an intention for Peace within and without. “Acceptance” and “Equilibrium” are my current mantras.

I appreciate the opportunity to share my journey.

In Gassho,
Ambika Rose

In the spring of next year, Bishop Shugen Komagata will be coming to Daifukuji to officiate a Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony in which all Daifukuji members age 16 and older are invited to participate. Those who participate will receive a Buddhist name, a certificate of confirmation, and a *wagesa*, the sacred collar that can be worn to services. Two study sessions will be held prior to the ceremony. There is a \$50 application fee to the Hawaii Soto Mission Association. Application forms and brochures will be mailed out to all Daifukuji members. Please contact Rev. Jiko for further information.





Temple Clean Up Mahalo

Thanks to all the volunteers who showed up at the temple on June 12, 2011. It was a beautiful and sunny day, but that didn't shy away all who came that early morning. We all worked together to accomplish one goal—to prepare the temple for the Obon season. It really showed how all members and friends can work very hard and still have fun and enjoy the company of all.

Kudos go out to Kris Yamauchi & David Fleming for cleaning the storage area below the temple earlier in the week and to Judie Fekete for taking all hazardous waste to the recycle site.

Special thanks go out to Fujinkai president Joyce and her Fujinkai members for preparing such a delicious lunch for all. You ladies are always willing to help the temple. Until we meet again in November for the next clean-up...



Ronald Iwamoto, Temple Clean-up Chairman



Pancake Breakfast Mahalo from Kona Daifukuji Taiko

Dear Sangha Ohana,

The Daifukuji Taiko Youth Group and their families would like to thank you for your support of our very successful pancake breakfast which was held on July 3, 2011. Our hearts are filled with love and appreciation for your continued support and generosity. Without you, our fundraiser events could not be possible. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts.

With much love and aloha,
Ciara Cetraro, Nick Cetraro, Malia Command, Blaine Luiz, Alyssa Tokumura, Justin Uchimura, Akemi Iwamoto and Justin Fernandez

Bon Dance Mahalo



Teru teru bōzu, thank you for doing a good job of keeping the rain away the night of our temple's bon dance. Under clear skies and bright lanterns, hundreds of folks danced to the powerful rhythms of the taiko, chatted with friends old and new, and enjoyed *ono* food purchased at the taiko group's concession stand. Upon



surveying the festive scene, a temple member joyfully remarked, “This is what community is all about.”

It takes a group of dedicated volunteers working harmoniously together to put on a bon dance that benefits the whole community. Thus, we thank **all** who helped set up, help out during the dance, and clean up the next day. A special mahalo goes to bon dance instructor, Winifred Kimura, for leading weekly practice sessions prior to the dance, and for gracefully leading the dancers around the *yagura*.



And if you’re wondering what a *Teru teru bōzu* is, here’s a picture of Myles Ikeda with this handmade Japanese doll which is hung with a wish for clear skies and fair weather -- a wish that was granted this year. *Arigato!*



Library News *by Clear Englebert*

There are four new DVDs. “101-Year Old Poster Girl: Stories of Hawaii's Nikkei Immigrants” by BS Productions Japan was filmed on the Big Island in Kona & Hilo. The title refers to Shizuko Teshima who is the focus of much of the film. The Manago Hotel is also featured as well as Daifukuji Temple. The film is in Japanese with English subtitles, but since most of the people are speaking in English, it’s a very easy film to watch. I recommend this wonderful film to everyone.

“Searching for Buddha in Bangkok, Thailand 2010” by Randy Magnus is a delightful excursion through the beautiful temples of Bangkok, with special attention to the magnificent golden statues.



The other new DVDs are: “How to Cook Your Life” by Dorrie Dorrie and featuring Edward Brown “A Pictorial Biography of Sakyamuni Buddha” narrated by Shamay Scimeca

The new books are: “Soto Zen” by Keido Chisan Koho Zenji. This was originally published by Sojiji Temple in 1960 when the author was the abbot. “Zen and the Sutras” by Albert Low. There are five basic scriptures in Zen: Prajnaparamita, Diamond, Vimalakirti, Lankavatara, and Surangama. It can be

intimidating to just open them up and start reading. This book gives a synopsis and commentary of each sutra, without over-simplifying them.

“The Basic Purpose of Following the Buddha” by Yin Shun

“Mangala Sutta Uannana” by K. Gunaratana

“The Core Teachings” by Hsing Yun

“Who is Responsible for Our Problems?” by K. Sri Dhammananda

“Mindfulness: The Path to the Deathless” by Ajahn Sumedho

“The Concept of Emptiness in Pali Literature” by M. D. Thero

“Chanoyu (Tea Ceremony): A Beginner's Handbook” by Sen Soshitsu

“Becoming Your Own Therapist” by Lama Yeshe

“Zen for Beginners” by Judith Blackstone and Zoran Josipovic

“Transformation at the Base: Fifty Verses on the Nature of Consciousness” by Thich Nhat Hanh

“Joys in Practicing Buddhism” by Thich Thanh Tu

“Verses, Sutras & Readings” by Daifukuji Zazenkai



Summer Dharma Fun *by Ryan Jigaku Nakade*

To my delight, helping my mom lead the Dharma Fun program has brought me joy and fulfillment. A wonderful group of children

have been gathering in the Kannon Hall almost every Saturday morning for a half hour of Dharma Fun. We have been singing Buddhist songs, doing some yoga, chanting, and meditating. What a bright and sweet group of young souls the children are! They listen very intently to the story that I have been telling them of the Buddha's life, week after week, and willingly sing and engage themselves in challenging yoga postures. Even the moms & tutus have been crazy enough to try the poses! I have been impressed by the children's superb concentration and by how they exert a full and sincere effort in zazen. It has been an honor to work with these bright young souls, and to plant the seeds of the Dharma in their open minds and hearts. Arigato gozaimasu and namaste!



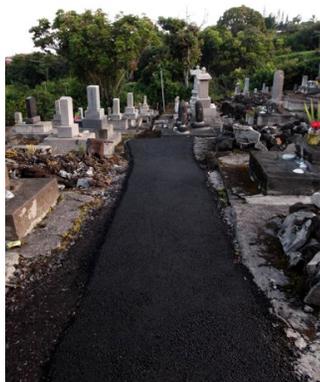
New Mauka Parking, Walkways, and Rock Walls

Thanks to the hard work of the Daifukuji Board and to the financial support of all of our temple members and friends, our mauka construction project has come to fruition and we now have 30 additional parking stalls in various cleared areas mauka of the temple, a better drainage system, a walkway leading to the columbarium, a walkway into the center of the cemetery, and rock walls along the makai side of the road. In the weeks ahead, we will be installing handrails along the walkways, removing felled trees, and

planting ground cover to reduce erosion. Special thanks go to Harold Murata for his engineering



advice and to Mitsuru and Lillian Sakamoto of Pearl City and Toru Sakamoto of Pasadena, California for their generous donations to this project.



Everyone, we hope that you are pleased with these improvements. Please continue to drive slowly and safely up and down the mauka road and exercise caution when

visiting graves at the cemetery.

Summertime Aloha

Dear Sangha Members and Friends,



Let's all take a break on the 14th of August and *hele on* down to Keauhou Bay Park for a day of relaxation and fun. A sangha picnic is a good opportunity to sit back and chat with old friends and also meet the new folks who have joined our temple ohana.

I thank the members of the picnic planning committee -- Julia Crawford, Ann Nakamoto, & Ron Iwamoto -- for organizing this event, and hope that many members and friends will come out and have a good time together.

Please call me if you need a ride. I'm hoping to see all of you at beautiful Keauhou Bay!

Thank you so much for all that you do for our temple and sangha. I wake up feeling grateful every day.

With much aloha, in gassho,
Rev. Jiko

Zen Meditation



* **Every Wednesday morning from 6 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. in the Kannon Hall**

* **Two Thursday evenings in August: August 11 & August 25 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

Please arrive for zazen a few minutes early. Beginners are always welcome. Please call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 for further information or instruction.

Coming Up in September...

Sept. 11 Ohigan & Ryosoki Services, Fujinkai General Membership Meeting

Sept. 14 Project Dana

Sept. 21 Kannon-ko service

Sept. 24 Baikako Workshop with Mrs. Faye Komagata

Sept. 25 Fujinkai Gatha Singalong & Potluck Lunch



***A Relaxing Day at Keauhou Bay:
Fellowship, Games, & Good Food***

**Daifukuji Sangha Picnic
Sunday, August 14
Keauhou Bay Park**

9:30 am - 2:00 p.m.

***Bring pupus, salads, side dishes, desserts, and snacks to share. Temple will provide hot dogs, burgers, drinks, and paper goods.**

***Tables, tents, and a number of chairs will be provided. If you have beach chairs, please bring them to the picnic.**

***Carpooling can be arranged. If you need a ride or have questions, please call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524.**

***Donations of game prizes appreciated. Please drop off at Daifukuji by August 5th.**

Let's all have a great day at Keauhou Bay!



Hawaii Soto Mission Bishop's Office
Hawaii Soto Mission Association
c/o Soto Mission of Hawaii
1708 Nuuanu Ave. Honolulu, HI 96817

June 2, 2011

Dear Hawai'i Soto Mission members and friends,

We wish to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all of the individuals and groups who have made generous contributions to the Soto Shu Japan Relief Fund to help with the recovery efforts of the victims of the earthquake and tsunami that struck the Tohoku and Kanto regions of Japan in March. We are overwhelmed by the warm and loving support that we received from so many people.

A total of \$100,223.00 (as of April 30, 2011) has been received from the nine Soto temples in Hawaii. We would like to report to you that the donation was transferred from the Hawaii Soto Mission Association account to the Soto Shu Japan Relief Fund account on June 1, 2011.

Your donation will be distributed by the Soto Zen Central Disaster Relief Headquarters to the temples in the areas that were devastated by the tsunami and earthquake to help the people there with whatever they need.

Your expressions of encouragement and support have surely touched the people who were affected and will help them move forward.

We will continue to collect donations for the Japan Relief Fund as the recovery process will take many years. Let us continue to send our love and support to them.

Also, the names of the donors have been listed on the Soto Zen homepage (<http://global.sotozen-net.or.jp/eng/news/prayforjapan.html>).

If you would like to keep your identity anonymous, please notify the resident minister of your temple or send a message to sotohawaii@hawaiiantel.net. We will make the correction as soon as possible.

Finally, we apologize for taking so long to send this thank you letter to you and we sincerely pray for your continued happiness and good health.

In gassho,

Shugen Komagata, Bishop
Hawaii Soto Mission Bishop's Office

Kenichi Watanabe, President
Hawaii Soto Mission Association

Sangha Photo Gallery



Family Sangha Picnic



Tristan & Grandma Elaine, Project Dana



Sangha Friends Waiting for the Jizo-ko Service to Begin



Ladies Enjoying Osettai at Bon Dance



Myles and Jean in Matching Bon Dance Attire

August 2011

July 2011							August 2011							September 2011							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		
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
- Bon Dance Group
- Teen Sangha
- Orchid Club

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 AM Taishoji Bon Service	1 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	2 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	3 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	4 7:00 PM Temple Board	5 8:00 AM Samu	6 10:00 AM Youth taiko-beginners
7 9:30 AM Family Service	8 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	9 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	10 Project Dana 8:30 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Orchid Club	11 7:00 PM Zazen & Chanting	12 8:00 AM Samu	13 10:00 AM Youth taiko-beginners 7:00 PM Daishiji Bon Dance
14 Keauhou Bay Park Picnic 9:30am-2 pm	15 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers	16 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	17 Kannon-ko 10 AM 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	18 7:00 PM Session with D. Katayama	19 8:00 AM Samu	20 10:00 AM Youth taiko-beginners
21 8:00 AM Baikako Practice 9:30 AM Family Service	22 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	23 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	24 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	25 7:00 PM Zazen & Chanting	26 8:00 AM Samu	27 10:00 AM Youth taiko-beginners
28 9:30 AM Family Service	29 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	30 6:00 PM Adult Taiko	31 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	1	2 8:00 AM Samu	3 10:00 AM Youth taiko-beginners