

Daifukuji Soto Mission

Treasuring the Past, Embracing the Present Looking forward to our 2014 centennial celebration!



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

February, 2013

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org



Nehan-e Service

Sunday, February 10 9:30 a.m.

All are cordially invited to Daifukuji's Nehan-e Service which will be held on Sunday, February 10 at 9:30 a.m. In observance of the Buddha's passing and entering Nirvana, a scroll depicting the reclining Buddha surrounded by mourning followers & animals will be on display inside the temple.

The Dharma message will be given by Rev. Jiko Nakade.

Lunch will be prepared by the Daifukuji Fujinkai Women's Association. All are invited to stay for a simple meal and sangha fellowship.

Flowers for the altar are needed and may be dropped off on Thursday, February 7 or the morning of Friday, February 8.

Pancake Breakfast, Plant & Baked Goods Sale



***Saturday, February 23
7 a.m. to 11 a.m.***

Our Fujinkai ladies are welcoming the Year of the Snake with a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser. At \$7 apiece, tickets are available in advance through Fujinkai members and the temple office. Tickets will also be sold at the door. Each ticket is good for one breakfast platter and coffee, tea, or juice.

A plant sale and baked goods sale will also be held. Come early for the best selection. (Donations of potted plants and cut flowers are appreciated & may be dropped off at the temple Friday morning, February 22. For more information, call Hilda at 322-2958.)

Let's all support our Fujinkai's fundraising efforts. Proceeds help to defray conference expenses and fund field trips and educational activities sponsored by the Fujinkai.

FUJINKAI NEWS

Fujinkai Hatsumairi

On January 6, 2013, the Daifukuji Fujinkai Women's Association gathered inside the temple for the group's *hatsu-mairi* or first service of the new year. *Happy new year! Happy new year!* New Year's greetings exchanged by the women rang throughout the temple.

Rev. Jiko shared a Dharma message, recognized the ten new members who joined the Fujinkai in 2012, and presented ojuzu bracelets to those who were present. New members are: Mildred Inouye, Susan Inouye, Mikie Hanato-Wells, Rosanne Hayakawa, Sachi Hara-Joesting, Jien McLaughlin, Rose Obana, Christine Wada, Edna Yamane, and Yukie Yamane. Ladies, thank you for joining!



District representatives, as well as kitchen head Alfreida Fujita and outgoing corresponding secretary Lorraine Tanimoto, were thanked by President Joyce St. Arnault. A candlelighting



ceremony conducted by Rev. Jiko was held to install the 2013 Fujinkai Board, which is made up of the following officers: Joyce St. Arnault, President; Merle Uyeda, vice-president; Rowena Inaba, recording secretary; Jean Ikeda, corresponding secretary; Elaine



Fernandez, treasurer, and Amy Nakade, historian. With such good leadership, our Fujinkai is certain to have a productive year.

Games, fellowship, and good food were enjoyed in the social hall following the service and installation.

Fujinkai Temple Tour February 3 at 2:00 p.m.

Rev. Jiko and Clear Houn Englebert will be conducting an informative temple tour especially for the Fujinkai on Sunday, February 3 at 2:00 p.m. Fujinkai members are invited to learn more about our temple and its history, as well as the significance of its altar objects and art. Chairs will be provided.

There will be coffee, tea, and fellowship after the tour. Donations of desserts & sliced fruits are welcome. Ladies, you are sure to learn facts about our temple that you never knew before. Need a ride? Call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524.

The Zen Spirit of Cooking: An Afternoon with Dai-En Sensei

On Sunday, March 10 at 2:00 p.m., the Reverend Dai-En Bennage will be giving a Dharma talk on "The Spirit of Cooking According to Dogen Zenji" to Fujinkai members and those interested. A potluck supper will follow her presentation.

Rev. Dai-En Bennage is the founding Soto Zen teacher of the Mt. Equity Zendo in Pennsylvania. She will be coming to Hawaii upon the invitation of our temple to initiate a series of Dharma events to be held in conjunction with our centennial. We are truly privileged to have her come to our temple, the starting point of her Hawaii Dharma tour. Please come out to welcome her.

In Memoriam



To the family of the late **Betty Shizue Abe**, who passed away on January 14 at the age of 75, we express our deepest sympathy. A private service will be held.

*Namu kie butsu. Namu kie ho. Namu kie so.
We surround you with our love.*

Welcome, New Members



With much joy, our sangha warmly welcomes the following new members: Gary Akamatsu, Kathryn Heller, Fiona McDonough, and Christina and Daniel Piccuta.

The Daifukuji Family Sangha welcomes Kara and Devin Ota and grandma Karene.



Bare Bones Writing Workshop by Jien McLaughlin

Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Feb 12, Feb 19, Feb 26, Mar 5, Mar 12 and Mar 19

The Bare Bones Writing Workshop is an open-heart writing experience. This workshop is designed to access your inner raw voice and to express your authentic spirit. This is a workshop for all, no experience needed. Each class will begin with a meditation and we will do several writes that begin with a prompt. We will write fast and furiously to sprint past the ego and inner critic so we can unearth fruitful material that is held in the unconscious.

Based on the book, *Writing Down the Bones*, by best-selling author, Natalie Goldberg, a practicing Zen Buddhist, this workshop is not only therapeutic, but is a great way to connect with your inner spirit. This workshop will benefit both the inexperienced writer, as well as the seasoned writer trying to tap into deeper places of creativity and wisdom.

Jien McLaughlin, a recent member of Daifukuji, lives on the Big Island six months out of the year. She has a masters in Organizational Leadership and has led several workshops on the mainland in personal development, including expressive open heart exercises, holistic health, and eastern philosophies.

Suggested donation to Daifukuji: \$5.00 per session. Bring a notebook and 2 pens.



Mahalo Nui

We sincerely thank artist Gerald Ben of the Dovetail Gallery in Holualoa for crafting and donating two exquisite koa food offering stands for our main altar. We are most grateful for Gerald's generous centennial gift to Daifukuji.

Membership Dues & Donations



Domo arigato gozaimasu to those who have sent in their 2013 membership forms and donations. We truly appreciate the outpouring of generous support received. Thank you very much!

Welcoming Guest Dharma Teacher Rev. Patricia Dai-En Bennage

by Rev. Jiko Nakade

It's with a joyful and grateful heart that I will be welcoming Reverend Dai-En Bennage, or Dai-En Sensei as I've been affectionately calling her over the years, to Daifukuji in March of this year and I would like to invite all of you to join me in greeting this special guest teacher who is coming here upon the invitation of our temple as part of the Dharma programs leading up to our centennial celebration.



Dai-En Sensei is the abbess and founder of Mt. Equity Zendo, a Soto Zen meditation center in Pennsylvania (<http://mtequity.org/index.htm>). Our fortuitous meeting took place over thirty years ago at the Aichi Semmon Nisodo, a training temple for Soto Zen Buddhist nuns in Nagoya, Japan, at which I had the opportunity to stay for two months. I was nineteen and Dai-En Sensei about 40. At the time, Dai-En Sensei was the only American nun in training among the twenty-five nuns living at the Nisodo. Since I hardly spoke any Japanese, you can imagine how grateful I was to meet an American nun who spoke English! The daily schedule of zazen, samu (the cleaning of the temple and grounds), services, and study was extremely rigorous for this Hawaii teenager and I would look to Dai-En Sensei for inspiration. Watching this radiant nun “*gambaru*” (do her utmost) in everything that she did, I vowed to do the same. A resident of Japan for what turned out to be twenty-three years, she spoke beautiful Japanese and endured years of rigorous Zen training, first in the Rinzai Zen tradition and later in the Soto Zen tradition. Dai-En Sensei is an Associate Master Teacher, authorized to assist other teachers' disciples and assist in major ceremonies. In 2008, she was presented with the "Outstanding Women in Buddhism Award," given by the United Nations International Women's Day Association for the promotion of the status of women.



Rev. Patricia Dai-En
Bennage

We at Daifukuji are truly privileged to have such an eminent Soto Zen teacher as Dai-En Sensei come to our temple to give talks on the Dharma. All are cordially invited to attend the following programs:

Friday, March 8. 7:00 p.m. Dharma talk “Soto Zen Buddhism: What Brought Me to This Path”

Saturday, March 9. 8:30 a.m. through 4 p.m. One-day silent retreat including two Dharma talks, “The Practice of Zazen” and “Living Zen in Daily Life” (detailed information on retreat in the March newsletter)

Sunday, March 10. 9:30 a.m. Family Service talk especially for the children. Also, an afternoon Dharma talk on “The Spirit of Cooking According to Dogen Zenji” at 2:00 p.m. for the Fujinkai Women’s Association and anyone who’s interested. Potluck supper to follow.

Let us welcome Dai-En Sensei with much aloha!



2012 Temple Report

At the general membership meeting held inside the temple on December 9, 2012, vice-president of the Board, Ron Iwamoto, gave a year-end temple report. Also presented was the slate of officers and directors who will be installed at the Daifukuji New Year's party on January 27, 2013. The Board of Directors for 2013 & 2014 is as follows:



President: Steven Tanaka
Vice-President: Myles Ikeda
Recording Secretary: Judie Fekete
Treasurer: Joyce St. Arnault
Assistant Treasurer: Elaine Fernandez
Directors: Ron Iwamoto, Rene Kimura, Clyde Ikeda, Bob Bowman, Ann Nakamoto, Jan Bovard, Wade Yasuda, Bobby Command, and Michele Abe

Outgoing officers and directors are: Julia Crawford, Raymond Baltero, George Harai, Masa Oga, and Stanley Oshima.

In preparation for the temple's 2014 centennial celebration, invitations to former ministers and their families have been sent out. The Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa's convention center has been reserved for the centennial luncheon. (The centennial service will be held at Daifukuji.) A new cloth banner bearing the two crests of the Soto sect is being made by local artist Ellen Crocker. The altar table, sutra book tables, and columbarium niches have been refurbished and the pews are in the process of being refurbished. Termite-damaged areas in the main hall and Kannon Hall are being repaired. New toba stands were made by Kris Yamauchi.

The mauka parking project was completed at a cost of \$3,120 with a wheelchair ramp to the columbarium installed by Bob Main. The 2012 bazaar made a little less than the previous year's bazaar, but the results were still good. New sutra and gatha books containing English translations arrived and the DVD "Soto Zen Buddhism in Hawaii," funded by the Hawaii Soto Mission Association, were distributed to temple members.

A study of the demographics of our membership revealed that we have 88 members age 80 and above, which means that there will be a significant natural decline in our membership over the next ten years or so. It was encouraging, therefore, to learn that we gained 23 new members (17 families) in 2012.

Thank you very much to all of our members and supporters for making it possible for Daifukuji Soto Mission to grow and thrive.

Library News

by Clear Houn Englebert

I wholeheartedly recommend all the new arrivals, especially the first and last books:

“Xuanzang: A Buddhist Pilgrim on the Silk Road” by Sally Wriggins. This biography of the seventh-century Chinese Buddhist monk is quite wonderful because of the many maps and photographs that accompany the text. He made a sixteen-year pilgrimage to India. His journey is the source material for the Chinese folk novel “Monkey.” His name is pronounced Schuen Tsang, and is sometimes spelled Hsuan Tsang.



“The Prajna Paramita Heart Sutra”, was originally translated from Sanskrit to Chinese by Hsuan Tsang (the same person as in the previous book), and from then Chinese into English by Lok To.

“Women in Buddhist Literature” by Bimala Law. This is an extremely interesting book which was originally published in 1927.

“Gold and Fish Signatures” is a very deluxe book by poet Paul Reps. The front cover has a square of gold leaf.

“Paticcasamuppada: Practical Dependent Origination” by Bhikkhu Buddhadasa. This is a slender, manageable explanation of a basic Buddhist doctrine, which is essentially a detailed version of the Four Noble Truths.

“Buddhist Tales for Young and Old, Vol. 5” by Stephan Levitt is a new children’s book. This continues a popular series of Jataka tales.

There are four excellent new books written in Japanese. The first two titles have exquisite cord bindings, also known as stab bindings.

“Buddhist Statues of Nara”

“All About Temples and Buddhist Statues” Here is everything you ever wanted to know about Buddhist statues. The drawings that accompany the text are brilliant, even showing how a metal statue is made.

“Essence of the Heart Sutra: The Dalai Lama's Heart of Wisdom Teachings” by The Dalai Lama, translated by Yuko Miyasaka.

“Meguru Rakuen” by Kazuyoshi Miyoshi is a pictorial book about a pilgrim’s visit to 88 temples in Shikoku, Japan. The pilgrimage took 3 years and covered 40,000 kilometers. There are over 300 full-page color photographs, and the book is signed in calligraphy by the author. It’s quite a wonderful book regardless of whether you read Japanese. It’s one of the greatest visual treats of our entire library.



February Dharma Programs

The following programs will be held in Daifukuji Soto Mission's Kannon Hall.



Zen Meditation (Zazen)

- * Every Wednesday morning from 6 a.m. to 7:15 a.m.
- * The following two Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.: February 14 and February 28
- * The following two Saturday mornings from 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.: February 2 & February 9 (before Precepts Study Sessions)

Please arrive a few minutes early. Beginners are welcome. One may choose to sit on either a chair or cushion (zafu). Call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 for further information or to arrange an appointment for basic instruction in the practice.

Buddhist Movie Night *Seven Wonders of the Buddhist World*

At 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 21, we will be watching a 74-minute film about seven spectacular monuments built by Buddhists throughout the world, joining historian Bettany Hughes as she travels to the Mahabodhi Temple in India, Nepal's Boudhanath Stupa, the Temple of the Tooth in Sri Lanka, Wat Pho Temple in Thailand, Angkor Wat in Cambodia, the Giant Buddha in Hong Kong, and the Hsi Lai Temple in Los Angeles. Bring a mug for tea.

Precepts Study Sessions

- * Saturday, February 2 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- * Saturday, February 9 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Join us as we explore, discuss, and reflect upon the Sixteen Bodhisattva Precepts of the Soto Zen tradition. All are welcome. Study materials are provided. Bring a mug for tea.

Shakyo & Shabutsu: *Tracing the Sutras & Pictures of Buddhas & Bodhisattvas*

On Saturday, February 9, there will be a shakyo session from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Kannon Hall. Mindfully tracing the Heart Sutra and pictures of buddhas and bodhisattvas harmonizes body, breath, and mind. A meditative activity done in silence. All materials are supplied.

These programs are open to all. Donations may be placed in the small wooden offertory box on the table. Call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 or email her at rev.jiko@daifukuji.org for more information.



Sending Aloha to Deployed Troops

As their community service project for this year, the Daifukuji Fujinkai Women's Association is gathering supplies that will be sent to deployed troops overseas. Donations of the following items may be dropped off at the temple: lip balm, chewing gum, hard candy, mints and other candies, body lotion, shampoo, eye drops, sun block, multivitamins instant drink mix, underwear, socks, shoelaces for boots, Lysol wipes, snack mix except chocolate, deodorant, body and foot powders, packets of baby wipes, sealable freezer bags, AA and AAA batteries, playing cards, puzzles, books, games, CDs and DVDs. Items must be unused and in new condition. For more information, call Fujinkai president Joyce St. Arnault at 329-3833.



Mochitsuki Mahalo

The families of Kona Daifukuji Taiko extend their mahalo to all for a very successful 2012 mochitsuki. Thank you very much to those who volunteered their time to help with the mochi making and thank you to the many customers who supported this fundraising project for the temple's youth groups. A special mahalo goes out to mochitsuki coordinators Avis and Brian Yamamoto for doing a tremendous job of spearheading this event year after year. Many people commented on how heartwarming it was to see the taiko alumni not only returning to help at this annual fundraiser, but also mentoring the younger taiko students in art of mochi making, thereby passing on a valuable tradition. A big mahalo to all!





Greetings of Aloha from Rev. Jiko

Dear members and friends,

It brought me great joy to begin this year with those of you who came to Daifukuji's New Year's blessing services and Fujinkai *hatsumairi*. For me, nothing is more gratifying than marking an occasion together with all of you, my Sangha. The lovely intertwining of our lives -- like the strands of a lei -- is indeed precious.

I began this year by sharing a story about a two-headed bird, a story which I found in the book Japanese Buddhist Temples in Hawai'i by George and Willa Tanabe. This bird, called *jitvamjivaka* in Sanskrit or *gumyocho* in Japanese, can be found in Pure Land Buddhist art. Here's how the story goes.

There once was a bird that had two heads. Each head considered itself a being distinct from the other. One day, one of the heads found a sweet fruit, which it ate but did not share with the other head. Angry, the second head found a poisonous fruit, which it fed to the first head. As a result, the two-headed bird died.

How often do we forget that "the other" is actually part of ourselves and that inflicting harm upon another is inflicting harm upon ourselves? Mindlessly, we live, thinking that we are distinct beings, when in actuality we are connected, interdependent, one. Being a Buddhist means looking deeply into that which we call the "self." What is this "self" anyway? This ego? What perceptions do we have that separate ourselves from others, making us so angry at times that we want to feed another some poisonous fruit?

At the first precepts study class, I quoted the words of Tibetan Buddhist teacher Ani Tenzin Palmo, who wrote in her book Reflections on a Mountain Lake that Buddhist ethics is based on the principle of non-harming -- not harming ourselves, as well as not harming others.

Whether it's within the context of our families or within the context of our sangha, let us be mindful of the harm that we can inflict through our thoughts, words, and deeds. Again and again, even when we deviate from the path, let us return to the Buddhist precepts, which are our guide to daily living. When we are kind to each other and live without harming, we bring light, happiness, and peace into our own lives and into the lives of those around us. *Namu kie butsu. Namu kie ho. Namu kie so.*

In gassho, with much aloha,

Rev. Jiko

Coming Up in March...

- March 8, 9, & 10 Dharma Talks and Programs with Rev. Dai-En Bennage
- March 13 Project Dana Kupuna Activity Morning
- March 17 Spring Higan & 33 Kannon Service (Guest speaker: Rev. Shuji Komagata)
- March 24 Family Sangha's Spring Field Trip to Bee Museum at Big Island Bees



February 2013

| January 2013 | | | | | | | February 2013 | | | | | | | March 2013 | | | | | | | |
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- 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 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 27 New Year'...rty 11 am | 28 5:00 PM Youth Taiko | 29 5:00 PM Zen Taiko | 30 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko | 31 7:30 AM Yoga 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Zen Taiko | 1 8:00 AM Samu | 2 7:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Precepts Study 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko |
| 3 Fujinkai tour 2 pm 9:30 AM Family Service | 4 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:30 PM Happy Strummers | 5 5:00 PM Zen Taiko | 6 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board | 7 7:30 AM Yoga 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Temple Board | 8 8:00 AM Samu 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters | 9 7:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Precepts Study 9:00 AM Shakyo 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko |
| 10 Nehan-e Ser. 9:30am | 11 5:00 PM Youth Taiko | 12 9:00 AM Writing Workshop 5:00 PM Zen Taiko | 13 Project Dana 8:30 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Orchid Club | 14 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Evening Zazen | 15 8:00 AM Samu | 16 9:00 AM Ministers Meeting 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko |
| 17 9:00 AM HSMA Meeting | 18 5:00 PM Youth Taiko | 19 9:00 AM Writing Workshop 5:00 PM Zen Taiko | 20 Kannon-ko 10 AM 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko | 21 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Movie "7 Wonders" | 22 8:00 AM Samu | 23 PANCAKE BREAKFAST 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko |
| 24 7:45 AM Baikako Practice 9:30 AM Family Service | 25 5:00 PM Youth Taiko | 26 9:00 AM Writing Workshop 5:00 PM Zen Taiko | 27 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Taiko Board meeting | 28 9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Evening zazen | 1 8:00 AM Samu | 2 9:30 AM Beginners Youth Taiko |