



Daifukuji Soto Mission

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Treasuring the Past, Embracing the Present

November 2006

Thanksgiving Service General Membership Meeting

Sunday, November 19 9:30 a.m

Sangha members and friends, each one of us has so much for which to be grateful – our lives, our families, our friends and neighbors, and our Buddhist faith. Let us all come together on November 19 to celebrate the life that we share and to offer prayers of thanksgiving.

At this service our Baikako members and Kids and Teen Sangha families will be sharing with you the song offerings that our temple will be making at this year's Thanksgiving Eve Interfaith Service to be held at 7 pm on November 22, 2006 at the Kona Hongwanji Mission. Join us in singing the "Sanbo Gowasan" (Song of the Three Treasures) and the "Kannonsama Prayer," a new song written by Jiko Sensei and set to music by Taura Waleski, our Kids Sangha music director.

Our temple's **annual general membership meeting** will be held immediately following the service. The presence of all temple board members and members of the Daifukuji Soto Mission is requested. This important meeting, which is usually held in December, will be held in conjunction with our Thanksgiving Service this year.

The busy harvest and holiday season is here. As a Sangha, let us make time for meditation and prayer. The recent earthquake was a reminder of how lucky we are to be alive. Let us give thanks together.

Tea and pastries will be served following the meeting.

Earthquake Report

by Rev. Jiko



Graves such as this one were damaged in the earthquake.

The Daifukuji cemetery is a mess of cracked graves and dislodged headstones. Please check your family graves as soon as possible and make repairs as needed. If you can offer your help or if you are in need of assistance, please contact Rev. Jiko. Let us help one another in restoring the resting places of our departed loved ones.

Our nokotsudo was also a mess. Vases, flowers, and incense holders, as well as several urns and ihai tumbled to the floor. Everything was respectfully cleaned up by Chirio Miyose, Miyeko Miyose, Yoshiko Ikeda, Michael Nakade, Ryan Nakade, and Jiko Sensei. Please check your family niche and report any missing items to Rev. Jiko. Some urns and ihai were slightly damaged, but the contents of the urns were all contained.

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Earthquake Report

(Continued from page 1)

Our social hall and kitchen suffered minimal damage and were cleaned up by Chirio and Miyeko Miyose and Michael Nakade. There was some damage to the ceiling of the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall which will have to be repaired, but the hall was inspected and found safe to use.

The stonewall bordering the highway crumbled in several places and the temple board will be meeting to determine its repair.



The concrete steps leading to the minister's residence cracked on both sides, but fortunately the residence, Buddha Hall, and Kannon Hall withstood the earthquake well. Amazingly, none of the Buddhas, Kannonsamas, or Founders toppled over or were damaged. For this we can be truly thankful.

Baer and Jane Ikeda were picking coffee on the slope mauka of the temple when the earthquake struck and saw our temple shaking violently before their eyes. Rev. Jiko was attending meetings in Honolulu that weekend and didn't return until the afternoon, but Mike, Ryan, Chirio, and Miyeko took good care of our temple that day. Arigato.

Thank you also to concerned members & Dharma friends who called from near and far away. We even received a call from the Soto Shu head office in Tokyo.

Sangha Movie Night Features "The Life of Miyazaki Zenji"

(Eiheiji: 104-sai No Zenji)

Saturday, November 18

7:00 pm

This month's featured movie is about the inspiring life of Miyazaki Zenji, the now 106-year-old archbishop of the Soto Shu monastery Eiheiji. This 49-minute video is in Japanese. English translation will be provided. Delicious popcorn will once again be provided by the Daifukuji Teen Sangha. Admission is free. Bring your friends!

The temple's old television is no longer working. We will have to borrow a large television to show this movie since our projector does not hook up with a VCR.

In Memoriam

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

Mildred Tsutae Murata who passed away on October 13, 2006 at the age of 90.

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

Mahalo Nui

Thank you to the volunteer crew who spent all day working on our new cemetery pavilion on October 14. Mahalo to Jean and Myles Ikeda, Jan Bovard, Clyde Ikeda, Jack Tabata, and Bruce Miyata.

No Bottles, Please

Please do not drop off glass bottles or jars near our recycling bins. Only soda cans and plastic bottles are being accepted for recycling by the taiko group.

Fujinkai Bento Sale & Prep

Fujinkai members, it's Coffee Festival time!
Your kokua is requested on these dates:

Thursday, Nov. 9 Manju Making 7 am
Friday, Nov. 10 Bento Prep 1 pm
Saturday, Nov 11 Bento Making 5 am

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. Those members who are interested in taking the precepts and receiving a Buddhist name in the future are encouraged to attend this session.

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 or pick up a zazenkai brochure at the temple.

Zazenkai members, your help at this special event would be greatly appreciated. We need help with set up, registration, serving tea, lunch set up, and clean up. If you can volunteer, please see Jiko Sensei.

Zazen sessions are held at Daifukuji every Wednesday morning from 6:00 am to 7:15 am, and on selected Thursday evenings. Please check the calendar at the end of this newsletter for this month's zazen schedule.

Zen Center of Hawaii Offers Traditional Zen Teachings For Our Times

Robert Joshin Althouse Sensei and the members of the Zen Center of Hawaii are offering the following schedule of teachings which are open to the public:

Film of Maezumi Roshi's Life and Work
Friday, Nov. 3, 7 pm at Unshinji in Kaloko Mauka Call 325-2377 for directions.

Zazen and Dharma Talk on Precepts
Saturday, Nov. 4 9:00 am - noon
Daifukuji Soto Mission Potluck Lunch

Day of Reflection
Sunday, Nov. 5 8:30 am – 2:30 pm
Holualoa Zendo Call 322-2173 for directions.

Coming Up in December

In observance of the enlightenment of the Shakyamuni Buddha, a full week of morning zazen will be offered December 1 – 8 from 6:00 am – 7:15 am each day.

The annual Bodhi Spiral Walk will be held on December 2 at 7:00 pm.

The Jodo-E or Bodhi Day service will begin at 10:00 am on December 3. Guest speaker will be Rev. Earl Ikeda of the Puna Hongwanji Mission.

All are invited to these events and services held in celebration of the Buddha's enlightenment.

Also in December:

December 9 Year-end Temple, Yard, and Hall Clean Up Day 8 am (All temple groups are asked to participate.)

December 17 Ofudayaki & Kannonko 7:30 pm

December 28 Mochitsuki Day

Dec. 31 New Year's Blessing Service 11:45 pm

Kona Daifukuji Taiko Group Says Mahalo

by Barbara Bosz-Burczyk

The Kona Daifukuji Taiko group and families send our heartfelt thank you to all who helped in any way to send us to Japan. We had an unforgettable trip!

We were on the coast of the Sea of Japan most of the trip. With the help of Mike Nakade interpreting and having family ties, we had some very special times. We arrived in Nagoya after flying in a double-decker JAL. We rode the subway, toured the Nagoya Castle, and the Toyota Museum within the first 24 hours of our arrival in Nagoya, Japan. From there we went to Fukui Prefecture where we toured an atomic energy plant, a kamboko fishcake factory, the scenic Tojimbo cliffs, and saw the beauty and felt the presence of Eiheiji Monastery. Also in Fukui, we were invited to Mike's parents' house, ate at his cousin's restaurant, stayed at his classmate's charming, hospitable inn for two nights, and went to a public hot spring (onsen) facility. With our very competent driver, we rode the bus along the beautiful coast and through the forested mountains. There were fields of rice, buckwheat, and many gardens. We watched and played with the awe-inspiring taiko group Otaiko Za Myojin.

From Fukui we headed north to Niigata. On the way, we stopped at the Asano Taiko Museum where we saw the trees out of which taiko are made. A highlight was seeing and spending time with the Tamiyas in Niigata city. They are all well and send their love. Their temple is tucked in, just off the sidewalk, on a city block. We performed in a park for over 60 of Sky's schoolmates. The children all wore different colored caps of blue, green, and yellow. Sky is 5 years old and will enter elementary school as a first grader in April, 2007.



Here we are with the Tamiya family inside their temple.

From Niigata we rode the bullet train to Tokyo where we had our first cold, windy, rainy day. We visited the famous Sensoji Temple in Asakusa, a very busy, big temple. A huge red lantern hangs in front near the Thunder Gates. We even saw a statue and paintings of the Thunder god who is on our Daifukuji taiko t-shirts. After getting some shopping done in Tokyo, it was time to head to the airport in Narita. Arriving back in Kona, we were mighty surprised by our families holding a big banner welcoming us home. What an ending to a very memorable trip that opened our hearts and minds!

*Silky smooth ivory
Melts creamy light in your mouth
Japanese tofu*

*Birds chirping singing
Water lapping on the shore
Morning in Japan*

*Man making thunder
Energy pounding pulsing
Taiko is alive*

*Time and time again
Prayers are said, offerings made
Peace at Eiheiji*



Thanksgiving Greetings from Jiko Sensei

Dear Members and Dharma Friends,
Happy Thanksgiving!

The recent earthquake did more than rattle our houses – it rattled our nerves, as well. I hope that you and your homes are all okay. Many of you have told me how you reflected upon the Buddha's teachings on impermanence and attachment while you were sweeping up the pieces of your precious china and antiques. With the earthquake came a reminder of the power of nature, the reality of impermanence, and the wisdom of letting go. "I have fewer possessions now," one woman told me. "I feel lighter."

During the days following the earthquake, friends greeted friends, saying "Nice to see you again" and truly meaning it. Pets that had bolted in fear and stayed away for a few days returned home and were welcomed with much love. Feelings of fear and anxiety are gradually settling, and many are feeling the pure joy of simply being alive. Life is precious – it's as simple as that—but sometimes it takes a big earthquake to shake us out of our slumber.

Now comes the task of repairing and rebuilding, with neighbor helping neighbor. I am hoping that our Sangha members will step forward to help put our cemetery back together again. There is much work to be done there, and the work must be done with much respect and care. I am sure that our temple board will provide us with much-needed guidance as they have done in the past.

Everyone, please put down your coffee baskets for a couple of hours and come out to our Thanksgiving service and general membership meeting on November 19 at 9:30 am. This meeting is usually held at the time of Jodo-E in

December, but this year Rev. Earl Ikeda and members of the Puna Hongwanji Mission will be joining our Bodhi Day service and luncheon. For this reason, we are holding the general membership meeting this month. Please join us.

At the Darumaki & Eitaikyo service I talked about the meaning of Sangha, saying that our community of Buddhists is one of the Three Treasures -- not no. 3 in priority, but one of the Three Refuges, and equal in importance to the Buddha and the Dharma. In the months ahead, we will be celebrating the Sangha in broad and exciting ways. At the Thanksgiving Eve Interfaith Service at the Kona Hongwanji on Nov. 22, our Sangha will be made up of friends from the various religious faiths found in our Kona community. On December 3, our Sangha will be the coming together of Daifukuji and Hongwanji members and friends in order to celebrate what is dear and precious to all of us -- the enlightenment of Shakyamuni Buddha. And, when we begin the New Year 2007, we at Daifukuji will have the honor of hosting on January 6th the first Big Island gathering of the Hawaii Association of International Buddhists. Then "our Sangha" will be made up of Dharma friends from all Buddhist traditions around the island. Like the stone walls that crumbled in the earthquake, the walls that have separated Buddhist groups from each other are also crumbling, and out of the rubble will arise a new Sangha body, one without walls.

"Let the Sangha body be my body" said Vietnamese Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh, who also thinks that the buddha to come, Maitreya, the Buddha of loving-kindness, may not be an individual, but rather a great Sangha of individuals who will practice the ways of loving-kindness and bring peace and stability to the Earth.

Dear members and friends, I wish you and your families a warm and happy Thanksgiving and invite you to become active members of our Sangha.

November 2006						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Zazen 6am Fujinkai Board Meeting 7 pm	2 No Evening Zazen	3 Samu Temple Cleaning 8 am Lantern Parade, Kailua-Kona	4 Morning of Zazen and Dharma with Joshin Sensei 9 am-noon, potluck
5 Goeika Practice 8 am Family Service 9:30 am	6 Happy Strummers 7:30 pm	7	8 Zazen 6 am Daifukuji Orchid Club Meeting	9 Manju Making 7 am Temple Board Meeting 7 pm (No Evening Zazen)	10 Samu 8 am Bento Prep 1 pm Sangha Sisters 7 pm	11 Bento Making 5 am, Kona Coffee Festival Grand Parade and Fujinkai Bento Sale
12 9:30 am Baikako & Sunday School combined song practice	13	14	15 Zazen 6 am Kannonko Service 10 am	16 Evening Zazen (without Dharma study) 7:30 pm-8:45 pm	17 Samu 8 am	18 Sangha Movie Night 7 pm “Eiheiji’s 104-year-old Zenji-sama”
19 THANKSGIVING SERVICE AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 9:30 am	20 Happy Strummers 7:30 pm	21	22 Zazen 6 am Thanksgiving Eve Interfaith Service Kona Hongwanji 7 pm	23 Happy Thanksgiving! (No Evening Zazen)	24 Samu 8 am	25
26 No Family Service	27	28	29 Zazen 6 am	30 Evening Zazen (without Dharma study) 7:30 pm-8:45 pm	1 Rohatsu Sesshin Begins 6 am Samu 8 am	2 Zazen 6 am Bodhi Spiral Walk 7 pm

Regular Activities:

* Youth Taiko- Mon 3:45 p.m. & Wed. 5p.m.
*** Yoga –Sun. 4 p.m.

** Adult Taiko-Tues. 6:00 p.m.
**** Aikido Fri. 3:30 p.m. Sat. 9:00 a.m.