

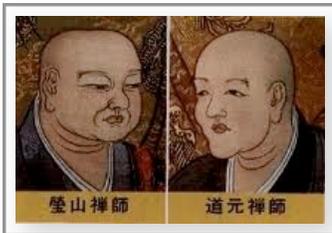


Daifukuji Soto Mission

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808-322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

*Treasuring the Past,
Embracing the Present*

September, 2010



Zen Retreat Day: An Adventure in Silence

Saturday, September 25



*Sign in 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. thru closing
circle at 3:00 p.m.*

Ohigan & Founders Service

September 12

9:30 a.m.

Members and friends are invited to Daifukuji's autumn Ohigan and Founders (Ryosoki) service on September 12.

The autumnal equinox is an opportune time to reflect upon the Buddha's teachings of the Six Paramitas, the lives of **Dogen Zenji** and **Keizan Zenji** (the eminent ancestors of our Soto Zen tradition), and the blessings received through our family ancestors. The Dharma talk will be given by **Jill Teiho Wagner**.

There will be a potluck lunch following the service, as well as a Fujinkai general membership meeting.

Please join our sangha for an enjoyable Sunday morning at Daifukuji.

The Daifukuji Zazenkai is offering members and friends a day to focus inward and feed the spirit, a day of **silent zen practice** that includes meditation and Dharma, tai chi, brushwork, shakuhachi music, yoga, & a potluck lunch.

To register, call Jan at 322-2167 by September 18. Space is limited. There is a suggested donation of \$10. All are welcome.

Please wear loose, comfortable clothes, and bring something for the potluck lunch. We ask that you plan to stay for the entire retreat.

Invite a friend. Give yourselves the gift of a day of silent, spiritual nourishment.

Library News

by Clear Englebert

The library now has the DVD, "The Cats of Mirikitani," by Linda Hattendorf. It is perfectly wonderful and will probably be one of our most checked out items for years to come. Please return it within a week.

The other new arrivals are:

"The Buddha and His Teachings" by Narada Thera

"What Buddhists Believe" by K. Sri Dhammananda

"Buddhist Dictionary" by Nyanatiloka

"What the Buddha Taught" by Walpola Rahula

"Lectures on the Samyutta, Ratha (Wagon)"

"Wooden Temples of Japan" by Peter Popham

"The Dhammapada" translated by K. Sri Dhammananda

"Kasajizo (Straw Hat Jizo)" a delightful children's book written in Japanese

"Eihei-ji"

"The Life of the Buddha: Murals in the Buddhaisawan Chapel" by Dorothy Fickle



In Memoriam

To the family of the late Shoji "George" Yamane, 82, who passed away on August 12, 2010, we express our deepest sympathy. Mr. Yamane's years of devoted service to our temple will always be remembered and appreciated.

Namu Shakamuni Butsu.

Welcome to Our Sangha

With great joy, we welcome **Dorothy Ichikawa** to our sangha. Dorothy has joined both the temple and Fujinkai membership, and will be volunteering at our Project Dana kupuna program. Welcome, Dorothy!

Mahalo Nui

Our temple is graced with a beautiful new koa lectern, thanks to the generosity of both Rodney Maeda (craftsman) and Kusato Okayama, who donated its materials and installation. We also extend a warm mahalo to the Kaneko family for their donation of two new speakers in memory of their beloved mother, the late Katsui Kaneko.

Congratulations!



Congratulations to **Ryan Nakade** who received the Buddhist name **Jigaku 慈岳**, meaning “Crag of Compassion,” at his Soto Zen Buddhist Lay Confirmation Ceremony held on August 15, 2010.

Jigaku’s wish was to receive the 16 Bodhisattva precepts before leaving home to attend the Ananda College of Living Wisdom in California. We wish him well and thank him for having served as MC at many of our temple services.



Congratulations also to **Steve Marquis**, whose confirmation ceremony was held on August 22, 2010. Steve’s Buddhist name is **Shinkaku 真覚**, which means “Awakening to the Truth.” Shinkaku enjoys

zazen and Dharma study, and will be serving our sangha as a temple volunteer.

Daifukuji members who have yet to receive the precepts and a Buddhist name are invited to do so. For information regarding this ceremony, please talk to Rev. Jiko.

The receiving of the Buddhist precepts is a gift to help you strengthen your resolve to do something that you already wish to do, which is to live in

ways that bring peace and happiness to yourself and others.

Fujinkai News



On September 21st, the Daifukuji Fujinkai went *holo holo* to the Onizuka Space Center at the Kona

International Airport, where they enjoyed the many exhibits and hands-on activities. Many expressed being moved by the video about Kona’s astronaut, the late Ellison Onizuka, who always took the time to encourage the children of Kona to follow their highest aspirations.

The group then visited Jill Teiho’s Future Forests nursery and zendo in Kaloko mauka, where, surrounded by the beauty of nature, they took pleasure in eating delicious bento lunches & desserts.

The last stop of the day was made at the Doutor Mauka Meadows botanical gardens in Keopu. After a downhill stroll through the gardens, everyone enjoyed sipping samples of delicious Kona coffee in a pavilion overlooking a gorgeous infinity pool that carried the eye to a sweeping view of the Kona coast. The Doutor folks kindly gave everyone a ride uphill to the parking lot.

Many thanks to Reiko Sekine for coordinating this field trip, to Jill Teiho for her warm hospitality, to those who brought refreshments, and to the drivers who made sure everyone had a ride.



Family Services Have Begun

All are invited!

Our Daifukuji family sangha is a very special group which gathers on Sunday mornings (see calendar for schedule) to experience the simple joys of a child-friendly Sunday service held inside the Kannon Hall.

With the littlest children sitting on their parents' and older siblings' laps, the group, led by Jiko Sensei and Teiho Sensei, are taught how to sit in meditation "just like the Buddha." Dharma songs are sung to ukulele and piano accompaniment, and simple Buddhist teachings shared. The children themselves volunteer to lead the Kannonsama prayer.

Once in a while, special arts and crafts activities are done following the services, such as the creating of vision and "Mara" boards last Sunday, an activity inspired by Ryan Jigaku's dharma talk. On September 19th, instead of gathering at the temple for a service, the family sangha will be taking a field trip to Teiho's zendo and tree nursery to learn about nature and ecology.

There is a \$15 donation to the Daifukuji Sunday School that is collected annually when family registration forms are handed out at the beginning of a new Dharma school

year. This donation is used for field trips & refreshments.

All are invited to join the Family Sangha program. For information, please call Rev. Jiko at 322-3524 or Jill Teiho at 325-2377.

Thursday Evening Programs

Thursday evening Dharma programs for the month of September will be held as follows:

September 2 "Just Sitting" Zazen Only

September 9 Chanting, Zazen, Dharma

September 16 "Just Sitting" Zazen Only

September 23 Chanting, Zazen, Dharma

September 30 Movie Night: "The Buddha: The Story of Siddhartha," Part I, followed by sharing & discussion

Thursday evening programs start at **7:00 p.m.** and generally end around 8:45 p.m. A small donation box is placed on the sign-in table for those who wish to make an offering.

Morning zazen is offered every Wednesday morning from 6 a.m. to 7:20 a.m. All are welcome.

Zazenkai Members: There will be a Zen Retreat Day planning meeting following a half-hour sitting at 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 22. Please attend this important meeting.



A Letter to My Ancestors *(Written and shared by Jiko Sensei at the 2010 Betsuin & Taishoji Obon services)*

Dear Family Ancestors,

Obon is here and you are in my thoughts once more. On to-ba memorial tablets, upon which the scent of the forest lingers still, I've written your names with great reverence. With brush dipped in black ink, I have painted the ancient prayer: "May all hungry beings be spiritually nourished, and may generations of family ancestors attain enlightenment," all the while recalling your good deeds, your hard work, your grit, your tears, your love. Because of you, I am here. I can feel you -- all of you -- in my bones, my marrow, my cells. You, who departed long ago, have left your imprint upon my body, my being. We are connected, you and I, in a world without boundaries.

Grandfather Kanosaburo, you who came from Nagano, Japan, and died before I was born, I especially pray for you now, and am so sorry you were killed in an internment camp in Oklahoma. Matsuura Sensei was there. He said that you were playing hanafuda, when a faraway look entered your eyes. You dropped your cards and said you were going home, home to Hawai'i. As you ran toward the barbed-wire fence, your friends tried to stop you. "Don't shoot!" they yelled. "He's lost his mind." But, the sentry fired his gun,

and, Grandfather, you came home, a pile of ashes, to the tear-stained faces of your wife and eleven children. Grandfather Kanosaburo, you and I have never met, yet I pray for you now, at Obon.

Grandmother Matsu, how frightened you must have been when the police took your husband away to be interned the night Pearl Harbor was bombed. How many tears you must have shed when he died in a distant land, never to return to Kona or to you, -- you, a strong woman who gave birth to twelve, and died in your sleep with your youngest child asleep beside you. Matsu Obaachan, you, too, died before I was born. I think of you now, at Obon.

Grandfather Kinjiro, I speak to you now. Have you returned, following the light of the chochin swaying in the summer breeze? Long ago, you left Fukushima for a new land, labored in the pineapple fields of Kunia, married, raised a family, opened a store in Wahiawa, sent medicine and clothing to orphans during the war. You died when I was a young child, yet I see you still, writing the Hannya Shingyo on brown paper bags, over and over again, until death swept you away to the Other Shore.

Gya-te gya-te hara gya-te, hara so gya-te bo ji sowaka hannya shingyo...

Grandmother Haruko, you were the joy of my heart, the joy of everyone's hearts. With an apron tied around your waist, your white hair held neatly in a hair net, you had an ever-ready smile, a deep and humble bow. I can hear you still, chanting the Hannya

Shingyo at dawn, intoning the Nembutsu at night. "Gimme five!," you'd say, laughing, with an outstretched palm, your grandchildren clustered around you, calling "Grandma, Grandma." Obaachan, you are in my heart at Obon.



*Dear Mom and Dad,
I offer this incense for you.
On trails of fragrant smoke
may it rise,
swirling in the*

summer breeze, finding you where the white lotus blooms. You were everything to me.

Dad, you were working all the time, day and night, to keep our family business going. The times we spent together, hauling the trash to the dump, tending the fire for our furo, going to Kannon services at our temple, were all so precious to me, especially since you died when I was just nine. Dad, after you died, Mom taught me your precepts name, which you received when Koho Zenji came to Daifukuji in 1960. Renpoin Zenshin Doryu Jo Za. As a child, I often recited your beautiful name. Dad, I recite it for you now, at Obon.

Renpoin Zenshin Doryu Jo Za.

Mom, it was you who dressed me in a bright yukata, made me a happi coat with pink flowers, and danced with me around the yagura. You loved Obon, and so do I. You are still my bright star, my guiding light. Mom, my life is good because of you. Dance with me in spirit. The season we love is here.

*The Buddhist priests are chanting,
the taiko drummers, drumming,
and round and round the yagura
the people dance with joy.
We celebrate our oneness,
elevate our consciousness,
promote family togetherness,
re-dedicate our lives.*

*Let us serve all humanity,
let us heal our planet's wounds,
let us build a bright tomorrow,
and,
dear ancestors,
let us always
remember...
you.*



Coming Up in October...

October 3 Bodhidharma Day Daruma-ki Service

October 9 & 10 Baikako Workshop with Baika Instructor from Japan

October 13 Project Dana 3rd-year Anniversary Celebration

October 20 October Kannon-ko Service

October 23 - 24 Hawaii Soto Mission Association Conference hosted by Daifukuji

Sangha Photo Gallery



Ryan Jigaku's Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony



Steve Shinkaku's Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony



Daifukuji Family Sangha



Fujinkai Field Trip

