

EUGENE ZENDO

Butsugenji - Buddha Eye Temple

Community Bulletin

2190 Garfield St., Eugene OR 97405

(541)302-4576

butsugenji@eugenezendo.org

February 2011

Announcements

Our children's program continues on alternating Sundays. All grade school-aged children are welcome. Kids join the rest of the assembly for chanting and ten minutes of zazen, after which they go to the yurt to take part in various activities under the supervision of our children's program director, Yoan Nelson. For more information, please call or e-mail us.

The Eugene Zendo welcomes its newest resident, Junmei Kashnig, who will live at the temple as a part-time trainee.

A three-day sesshin—an intensive silent retreat with zazen, formal meals and work practice—will take place beginning on Friday, February 18 at 5:10 a.m. and continuing through the morning of Sunday, February 20. Schedules and sign-up forms are available on the front room table and on our website.

Fusatsu will occur at a later time than usual this month—8:15 P.M. on Friday the 18th—to accommodate our schedule for sesshin. You may join us beforehand for zazen at 7:35.

Dharma talks are available online at www.eugenezendo.org/mp3.

Spring Practice Term Opening and Parinirvana

Ceremonies: On Sunday, February 13, a special ceremony will mark the opening of the Spring 2011 practice term. Beforehand, we will also observe the Buddha's passing into final Nirvana, as is traditional in Buddhist countries during this time of the year. During the 90 days of practice term, there are several



different ways in which to formally engage practice together with the community. *Term students* commit to daily zazen, meeting with Ejo throughout the term, helping out around the temple, and attending three special Thursday evening meetings. *Term trainees* make additional commitments related to attendance at the zendo, engagement with the teacher, temple upkeep, and sesshin participation, attending Thursday meetings on a weekly basis. It is also possible to make practice commitments without participating formally as a term student or trainee. Sign-up forms and further info are available on the front room table or on our website (www.eugenezendo.org).

Tuesday Night Classes on "Practicing with Foundational Buddhist Teachings" will begin on February 15, proceeding through the end of the Practice Term. The classes will focus on foundational teachings such as karma, dependent origination, the three seals, the four noble truths, and the Buddhist view of the structure and functioning of the mind. There will be a particular focus on integrating these teachings into daily life as "good medicine" and exploring how they inform the practice of the Six Perfections. Classes begin around 8:00 P.M. in the yurt. All are welcome to come, and it is not necessary to attend zazen beforehand.

New Food Offerings Altar: An altar for food offerings now sits in front of the Quan-Yin altar in the front room. Food altars are very common in

Japanese temples, and we hope that its presence will help highlight the flow of generosity that sustains our entire community and particularly, the practice of our budding residential community. Residents rely primarily upon donations for the food that they eat, and all offerings are accepted with gratitude. Please place offerings directly upon the altar, or if they are too large, underneath it.

Beginning Practitioners' Discussion Group: On Wednesday, February 23, we will hold the first of a monthly series of discussions aimed at people who are new to our community and to the Soto Zen tradition. An optional sitting period will begin at 7:00 p.m., followed from 7:30 to 9:00 by an informal discussion in the front room. Several longer-term practitioners will be on hand to help facilitate. This is an excellent opportunity to pose all of your nagging questions—What is sanzen? How can I become more involved at the Zendo? What are the funny bibs that people wear around their necks?—and also to share experiences and touch base with other beginning practitioners. Longer-term practitioners are encouraged to come join in the fun and bring their experiences to the table.

Board Notes: The Eugene Zendo Board of Directors met on January 18 for its first meeting of the New Year. For 2011, the board welcomes new members Issei Weil (serving as board treasurer) and Sogaku Neal, who replace outgoing members Myobun Freinkel and Emyo Hoemann. Thelma Soderquist continues to serve as board president, while Kogen Houseknecht remains grounds and maintenance head. Zuishin Madrone and Seiyo Kleinfelder likewise continue to serve on the board. The meeting opened with a discussion of the previous year's expenditures and a rough overlook of the budget for the coming year. For 2011, we will be revamping our budgeting process, streamlining the way that we categorize expenditures for easier presentation to the temple membership. We will also be fielding estimates for all of our various costs so as to better direct fundraising efforts and more effectively pinpoint possible cost-saving measures. The Board also discussed several possibilities for construction projects, particularly an expansion of the front room into the room behind the current office. An expansion would, primarily, help alleviate the quite considerable congestion experienced during Sunday mornings and other well-attended events. Some fundraising would be required in order to cover improvements to the expansion, including bamboo flooring matching that in the front room, new drywall for the ceiling, a new door, and other expenditures. The Board would like to field interest from the larger community—you may speak with any of the board members directly, or e-mail the board using butsugenji@eugenezendo.org.

Looking Ahead

March 25-27

3-Day Sesshin

March 31

Term Student Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Eugene Zendo

February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Zazen & "Gender and the Way" Discussion	2 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6:00 Zazen with sanzen	3 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 4:30 – 6 p.m. Zazen	4 Weekday Schedule	5
6 Children's Program Sunday Schedule 8 a.m. Intro to Zendo 9:00 Service 9:30 Zazen 10:20 Dharma	7 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Zazen with sanzen	8 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Zazen & "Gender and the Way" Discussion	9 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Zazen with sanzen	10 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 4:30 – 6 p.m. Zazen	11 Weekday Schedule	12
13 Sunday Schedule 8 a.m. Intro to Zendo 9:00 Service 9:30 Zazen 10:20 Parivvana and Term Opening Ceremonies	14 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Zazen with sanzen	15 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Zazen and Foundational Teachings class	16 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Zazen with sanzen	17 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Term Student Meeting	18 8:15 p.m. Fusatsu	19 Sesshin
20 Children's Program Sunday Schedule 8 a.m. Intro to Zendo 9:00 Service 9:30 Zazen 10:20 Dharma (End of Sesshin)	21 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Zazen with sanzen	22 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Zazen and Foundational Teachings class	23 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Zazen with sanzen 7 p.m. Beginning Practitioners' Discussion Group	24 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Term Trainee Meeting	25 Weekday Schedule	26
27 Sunday Schedule 8 a.m. Intro to Zendo 9:00 Service 9:30 Zazen 10:20 Dharma	28 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Zazen with sanzen					

Sanzen:
Sanzen is an opportunity to meet privately with a teacher for the purpose of studying the Buddha Way. Sanzen is available on a regular basis Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Please come to the zendo between 4:30 and 6:00 p.m. and follow the posted instructions. Sanzen is also available during the second period of morning zazen (6:00 a.m.) on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sit at the seats marked "sanzen" next to the door and listen for Ejo's bell.

Weekday Schedule:

- 5:10 a.m. Zazen
- 5:50 a.m. Robe verse and kinhin
- 6:00 a.m. Zazen
- 6:40 a.m. Morning service
- 7:25 a.m. Morning cleaning
- 7:50 a.m. Oryoki breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. Tea and work circle
- 11:30 a.m. Informal lunch
- 1:30 p.m. Work practice
- 4:00 p.m. Evening service