

# EUGENE ZENDO

Butsugenji - Buddha Eye Temple

Community Bulletin

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## September 2011

### Announcements

**This year's yard sale** was our most successful ever, raising over \$4,100 for the zendo—many bows to everyone who contributed their energies, and of course to all of those who donated items for the sale!

**Tuesday Evening Classes** on Dana-Paramita, or the Perfection of Generosity, will begin September 20 and continue throughout the Fall. Classes begin around 8:00 P.M. in the yurt, and everyone is welcome to join. Feel free to come beforehand for zazen, or to just join us for the class.

Please contact us via e-mail (butsugenji@eugenezendo.org) or sign up on the table in the front room if you would like to **receive the bulletin electronically** in PDF format rather than in printed form. This will help us save on printing and postage costs!

**Names and contact information for the Board of Directors** are available on the bulletin board in the front room. Please contact anyone on the list if you have any concerns you would like addressed at future board meetings or if you simply have questions about what the Board is or how it operates.

Please visit the **Zendo Facebook page** (Eugene Zendo – Butsugenji) where we are posting announcements about special events and other items of interest.

**Fusatsu** will occur Tuesday, September 13 this month, at 7:00 p.m.

**Dharma talks are available online** at [www.eugenezendo.org/mp3](http://www.eugenezendo.org/mp3).

**Fall Practice Term Opening:** After several months of relative relaxation around the Zendo, the time is coming for many of us to enter into a period of more rigorous practice. Fall Term will commence with a special ceremony on Sunday, September 18 and continue through December 11. Throughout the practice term, classes on the topic of Dana Paramita, or the Perfection of Generosity, will be held Tuesday evenings. There are several opportunities during Term 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 retreat/sesshin participation, attending Thursday meetings on a weekly basis. It is also possible to make individual practice commitments without participating formally as a term student or trainee. Sign-up forms and further information, including dates for practice term activities, are available on the front room table or on our website ([www.eugenezendo.org](http://www.eugenezendo.org)).

**Prajnaparamita Festival:** As reported in our July Bulletin, substantial additions are being planned to our weekday morning service for the fall, including the recitation of names of women ancestors, new dedication language, and a recitation of the “Hymn to Prajnaparamita” from the Perfection of Wisdom in 8,000 lines Sutra. To help usher in our revised liturgy, we will conduct a special ceremony in celebration of both Prajnaparamita, a female bodhisattva known as the “Mother of All Buddhas,” and more generally, the role that women have played throughout history in transmitting and embodying the teachings of the Buddha. The ceremony will be held after zazen on Sunday, September 25 (at approximately 10:00 a.m.) and will be followed by a special lunch. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend—feel free to join us for the rest of our Sunday program, or just to drop by for the festival. Throughout the fall, we will continue to refine the new liturgy before finalizing the changes in the winter, and we will continue to explore possibilities for a new altar enshrining Prajnaparamita in the main hall.

**Beginning Practitioners' Discussion Group:** On Wednesday, September 28, we will continue our series of discussions/Q&As 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. Coming into the practice here, there can be a lot which is bewildering—this is an opportunity to satisfy your curiosity regarding our temple, how it operates, what opportunities there are to

engage practice here, and how we and our tradition hold the teachings of the Buddha. Several longer-term practitioners will be on hand to help facilitate. Everyone, including longer-term practitioners, is encouraged to come join in the discussion and bring their experiences to the table.

**Seeking Children's Program Coordinators for 2011-2012:** Many bows to Yoan Nelson, our Children's Program coordinator for 2010-2011, who (with much assistance from P'arang Willis!) successfully revived the program after it went on hiatus for a year. For 2011-2012, Yoan will be stepping down as lead, and our goal is to divide responsibility for the program between three individuals, each of whom would commit to leading five sessions throughout the year. We are also seeking a larger pool of volunteers who could be called upon on Sundays to assist the lead if necessary. The Children's Program is slated to relaunch at the beginning of October and will again be held twice a month during most months through May. We will continue to conduct children's activities in the yurt during our normal Sunday program, but this time around the emphasis will be on providing generally engaging activities rather than planning a Buddhist-themed curriculum. If you are interested in helping coordinate the Children's Program or in joining the larger pool of volunteers, please contact us as soon as possible via phone or e-mail, and we will decide on a meeting time during September to iron out all the details.

### Looking Ahead

October 13-16

Diamond Sutra Study Retreat

October 30

Segaki Ceremony

November 10-13

Beginner's Mind Retreat: Gratitude, Generosity, and Food

# Eugene Zendo

# September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <b>Weekday Schedule (no 6 a.m. Sanzen)</b> 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen	2 <b>Weekday Schedule</b>	3
4 <b>Sunday Schedule</b> 8 a.m. Intro to Zendo 9:00 Service/Zazen 10:20 Dharma	5 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen ( <b>no sanzen</b> )	6 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 6 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Double Sit	7 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen with Sanzen	8 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 6 a.m. Sanzen 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen	9 <b>Weekday Schedule</b>	10
11 <b>Sunday Schedule</b> 8 a.m. Intro to Zendo 9:00 Service/Zazen 10:20 Dharma	12 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen with Sanzen	13 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 6 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Fuzatsu	14 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen with Sanzen	15 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 6 a.m. Sanzen 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen	16 <b>Weekday Schedule</b>	17
18 <b>Sunday Schedule</b> 8 a.m. Intro to Zendo 9:00 Zazen (no service) <b>10:00 Term Opening Ceremony</b>	19 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen with Sanzen	20 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 6 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Zazen and Dana Paramita Class	21 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen with Sanzen	22 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 6 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Term Student Meeting	23 <b>Weekday Schedule</b>	24
25 <b>Sunday Schedule</b> 8 a.m. Intro to Zendo 9:00 Zazen (no service) <b>10:00 Prajnaparamita Festival</b>	26 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen with Sanzen	27 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 6 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Zazen and Dana Paramita Class	28 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 4:30-6 p.m. Zazen with Sanzen <b>7 p.m. Beginning Practitioners' Discussion Group</b>	29 <b>Weekday Schedule</b> 6 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Term Trainee Meeting	30 <b>Weekday Schedule</b>	

### 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. Temple cleaning  
7:50 a.m. Formal breakfast  
8:30 a.m. Work circle and samu  
11:30 a.m. Informal Lunch

1:30 p.m. Work practice  
4:00 p.m. Evening Service

**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.

Eugene Zendo  
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Buddhist  
佛眼寺