

EUGENE ZENDO

JANUARY 2002

BUDDHA EYE DHARMA ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1



Zafu Retreat

On January 19th and 20th we will be holding a work retreat at the Eugene Zendo to manufacture zafu. We will be joined by some members of the Eugene Aikikai who hold a Saturday Zazenkai. Please look at the schedule below and then sign up at the Zendo. You are welcome to come for part of the retreat. There is room available for people who would like to sleep at the zendo. Your help is most appreciated.

Saturday:

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| 6:00 | Zazen, Kinhin, Zazen |
| 7:30 | Morning Service |
| 7:50 | Breakfast |
| 8:30 | Work Period |
| 12:00 | Lunch |
| 1:00 | Zazen |
| 1:30 | Work Period |
| 6:00 | Evening Service |
| 6:15 | Dinner |
| 7:15 | Zazen, Kinhin, Zazen |
| 8:45 | Closing |

Sunday:

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| 6:00 | Zazen, Kinhin, Zazen |
| 7:30 | Morning Service |
| 7:50 | Breakfast |
| 8:30 | Work Period |
| 12:00 | Zazen |
| 12:40 | Closing |

We will have an informal lunch after the closing.

If you have any questions or have a sewing machine to bring, please contact Debra Martin at 925-3019, horton@pond.net.

You may make a donation at the end of the retreat to help pay for expenses and support the zendo.

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Spring Practice Period

We will try a practice period format for the first time this Spring. Practice periods are an American adaptation of the traditional 100 day Ango of the Zen schools. There is a long history, dating back to the days of Shakyamuni Buddha, of setting aside a period of time for more structured, intense practice. In India the monks would gather during the rainy season to practice together and take shelter from the constant rain. They would then disperse and travel throughout the country spreading Dharma. That tradition later developed in China and Japan with two periods a year forming the basis of the monastic training schedule with breaks between that give monks a chance to travel and seek admittance to a different monastery.

While we are not trying to form a monastic training environment, a more developed yearly schedule will go a long way to helping schedule in advance and give us a chance to look at the overall picture of what is offered through the Eugene Zendo. I hope that by using the container of a practice period we can better organize our efforts and bring a stronger concentration on formal practice.

We will start our first period February 19th and it will run through May 28th. On those two Tuesdays we will have a special ceremony to open and close the period. I will explain more about the notion of practice vows during the month of January, and I encourage people to think about taking on some form of daily practice for this term. We are also planning two short retreats during the period as well as regular Thursday night Dharma study classes. The Zendo jobs will also change. There will be a sign up sheet on Tuesday nights for people who are interested.

There will be a full schedule of the period included with the February newsletter. If you have any questions or suggestions don't hesitate to contact me.

-Ejo

Announcements

- The Spring Practice Period will run from February 19th to May 28th. We will have a full schedule of classes and retreats during this period.
- Please sign up for a new practice position to start with the Spring Practice Period.
- There will be a zafu making retreat January 19-20. We will be joined by the Eugene Aikikai who have been running a Saturday morning Zazenkaï each week but don't have any zafu. We would like to make some zafu for the Zendo, Eugene Aikikai and to sell. Anyu and Debra are coordinating the event. Sign up at the Zendo.
- Be sure to send in the survey below or give it to Ejo directly.
- A group to discuss the current international conflict in light of Buddhist practice has been meeting on a regular basis. The next meeting will be held at Thelma Soderquist's house on January 10th at 7:00 PM. Please contact Thelma (344-4222) with questions. Thelma's address is 2577 Nixon St.
- Ejo is looking for someone to start helping with this newsletter. If you are interested in participating in any way, please contact Ejo.

Contact us at: eugenezendo.org -or- 430 Kingswood, Eugene, Oregon 97405 -or- call Ejo at (541) 302-4576

TUESDAY NIGHT SURVEY

During our monthly Zendo meetings we have repeatedly taken up the question of how to schedule activities for our Tuesday night meetings. As our Sangha evolves there have been suggestions from many people about what they would like to happen. At our last meeting we decided it would be nice to take a pole of our group before deciding the calendar for the Spring Practice Period. Please read the article on the Spring Practice Period and then take a few minutes to fill out the following survey. Either send it with your monthly pledge or give it directly to Ejo. Please feel free to add additional comments on separate paper.

How often do you attend Tuesday night meetings? _____

How often do you attend Thursday night classes? _____

How often do you attend Morning service and Zazen? _____

How often would you like to see the following activities during Tuesday night meetings (i.e. weekly, once a month, twice during a practice period...):

_____ Dharma Talk (Kyogen) _____ Dharma Talk (Ejo) _____ Reading and Discussion

_____ Informal Question and Answer (Ejo) _____ Double Sit _____ Sanzen

_____ Practice Discussion _____ Other: _____

Please write down any ideas to enhance the Tuesday night schedule or the schedule overall:

Calendar for December 2001

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| | | 1 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen | 2 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 3 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 4 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 5 Zazenkai at Eugene Aikikai from 8:30 AM |
| 6 | 7 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 8 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen Reading and Discussion | 9 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 10 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 11 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 12 Zazenkai at Eugene Aikikai from 8:30 AM |
| 13 | 14 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 15 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen Dharma Talk-Ejo | 16 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 17 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 18 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 19 ZAFU Work Retreat 6AM-9PM |
| 20 Zafu Work Retreat 6AM-1PM | 21 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 22 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 6:15 PM Zendo Meeting Deadline for Newsletter 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen and Sanzen | 23 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 24 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service INTRODUCTION TO ZAZEN 7-9 PM | 25 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 26 Zazenkai at Eugene Aikikai from 8:30 AM |
| 27 | 28 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 29 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen Reading and Discussion | 30 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | 31 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service | | |

Summary of Weekly Zendo Schedule

Monday – Friday: 5:30-6 AM Japanese Service; 6 – 7:15 AM Zazen, English Service
 Tuesday: 7:30-9:30 PM Service, Zazen, Dharma Study