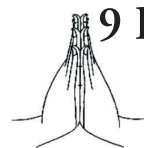


9 Bows of Gratitude



- Beth and Fred for hauling toxic stuff away.
- Hilda for the stepladder.
- Helen for the sewing machine.
- Suiho for pruning grapes.
- Jiki-e, Issei, Sidney for pruning fig tree.
- Kyle King for delivering wood chips.
- February Work Party: Monica, Dillon, Ejo, Gensei, Luke, Parang, Issei, Hilda
- Tenkan and Evelyn for sesshin soup.

Board Notes

The Board met on Feb 3rd, 2008.

- Emyo and Gensei were added to the board. Emyo is now the Treasurer.
- Financial update: Our current balance is \$6111 with \$3946 in checking, \$500 in savings and \$1665 in our construction fund. Proposed and accepted that we put %7 of our gross monthly income in savings.
- The board reviewed a list of work projects for the coming year.
- Our application to officially register as a Soto Zen Temple with Japan was approved and will be sent in March.
- The next meeting is March 16th.

Begging Bowl

- Garden Rake - for dirt
- Digging Fork
- Summer Bulbs
- Window for Garden - Single pane window for bulding greenhouse
- Dana for Bike Rack



March 2008

Butsugenji Buddha Eye Temple

Volume 8 Issue 3

Announcements

- Mala Making on Wednesday March 5th, 7 p.m. at the zendo.
- Falling in Love with the Sutras For our morning services on **Sunday, March 2nd, and Sunday, March 9th** we will take an experiential look at three sutras: The Heart Sutra, The Sutra on Loving Kindness and Hsin Hsin Ming with P'arang Geri Larkin. Both Sundays will begin with a formal meditation sitting -- our usual 40 minutes. Then on March 2nd we will be reading the three sutras together, first to simply hear them, and then to discover what lines stand out for each of us. On March 9th we will be trying out the ancient practice of copying sutras. This practice has a way of identifying themes that we need to take a closer look at in our own lives. It can also illuminate pearls of wisdom that we may otherwise miss.
- Fusatsu on Friday March 21st
- Parinirvana Sesshin was a booming success with the largest attendance of any sesshin thus far. Ejo lectured on the Buddha's Nirvana in the afternoon. The sesshin closed on Sunday with a Nirvana Ceremony.
- Bike Rack - Plans have been accepted for the construction of a bike rack on the south side of the building. It will be covered and hold about 10 bikes. The estimated cost is \$1000. Donations to support the project can be left at the zendo.

On the Tip of Your Tongue...

The Great Master Mumon said:

“If you open your mouth, you miss. If you shut your mouth, you miss too. Even if you neither open nor shut your mouth, it is a hundred and eight thousand miles away.”

Bumbling along here at the Zendo for the past four or five years since we opened our doors, a pattern of practice has developed. We come together to sit zazen, recite and study the Dharma teachings, and discuss life. There is a strong feeling of practice, and I feel happy to see many people pursuing this way with strong commitment and vigor! I also feel that this strength in practice has brought us to another challenge. Its name is “speech” and various activities like Dharma Combat and Question and Answer are opportunities to take up this challenge.

I often hear people say something like, “You can't really express it (truth, practice... ?) in words” or “Things get messed up when you talk about them” as if the difficulty of our thinking only appears once we start talking. Of course, I think we can all feel an inadequacy with words. But we shouldn't pretend as if we really understand, and we just can't figure out how to express it. “Opening your Mouth” shows how you miss. “Shutting your mouth” also shows how you miss. “Neither opening nor shutting your mouth” (i.e. opening your mouth but not being willing to say anything definite, or keeping your trap shut but spinning off into mental and emotional gymnastics...) compounds the problem ten fold!

The student of Zen must be willing to miss! What is there at the tip of your tongue? It won't do any good to pretend like it isn't there or try to contort it into an idea of understanding. Nor when you are mumbling through some thinking, not being able to form anything coherent, will keeping quiet save your bacon. If we are going to ground this practice it takes straightforward speech.

Straightforward speech requires us to step back from protective posturing and let out our ideas. This wouldn't be so hard if nobody was ever going to challenge what we say, but that is just the opposite of our tradition. Who has ever escaped the lightning tongues of those earnestly seeking the way? I hope our forays into this method will not be intimidating so much as enlivening!

Gassho,
Ejo

About the Eugene Zendo - Butsugenji

The Eugene Zendo is a Soto Zen Buddhist temple open to everyone. We are located in a residential neighborhood in West Eugene, Oregon. Activities center around zazen (seated meditation) and include ceremony, chanting, dharma study, discussion and social events.

If you are new to Zen Buddhism, an introductory class is offered at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday morning before our regular Sunday meeting. For more information, please contact our resident priest:

Ejo McMullen 541-302-4576 ejo@eugenezendo.org Website: <http://www.eugenezendo.org>

Submissions to the newsletter can be sent to butsugenji@eugenezendo.org



Eugene Zendo
2190 Garfield
Eugene, OR 97405

Dana, the first of the Buddhist Paramits (pefections, is the voluntary giving of material, energy or wisdom to others. There are no dues or fees for attendance at the Eugene Zendo's scheduled training events. However, we do have expenses and rely on the support of visitors and Sangha Members to help us transmit the Dharma to all beings.

We appreciate your continued generosity.

Cleaning Notes

- **Laundry**
Please put cleaning rags (in the cabinet to the right of the shower) in the wooden pull-out laundry bin just below that cabinet. Kitchen and bath towels should be put in the wicker basket next to the cleaning buckets.
- **Kitchen Cleaning**
Please use the towels for cleaning surfaces and reserve the sponge for dishes
- **Hand and Dish Drying Towels**
There is now an additional towel hanger on the cabinet door in the kitchen. This towel should be used to dry hands while the one hanging from the oven door should be used on dishes.

Thank you. Gensei

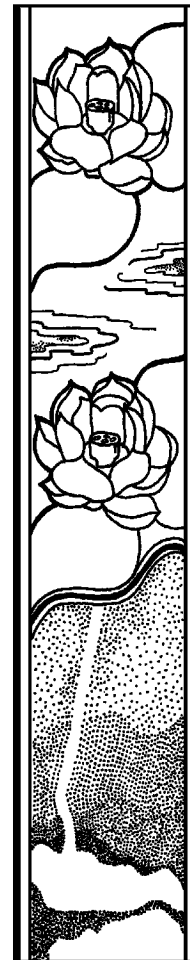


Ten Verse Long Life Kannon Sutra

ENMEI JIKKU KANNON GYO

KAN ZE ON
NA MU BUTSU
YO BUTSU U IN
YO BUTSU U EN
BUP PO SO EN
JO RAKU GA JO
CHO NEN KAN ZE ON
BO NEN KAN ZE ON
NEN NEN JU SHIN KI
NEN NEN FU RI SHIN

Kanzeon!
Veneration to the Buddha!
With Buddha I have origin;
With Buddha I have affinity;
Affinity with Buddha, Dharma, Sangha;
Constancy, joy, self, and purity.
Mornings, my thought is Kanzeon;
Evenings, my thought is Kanzeon.
Thought after thought arises in mind.
Thought after thought is not separate from mind.



Translation by Robert Aitken

Kanzeon (and Kannon in the title) is Avalokiteshvara Bodhisattva.

With Buddha I have origin. - Origin (IN) is also “cause”. So, maybe, “Taking buddha as a primary cause (in my life).” Primary cause in the sense of a seed.

With Buddha I have affinity. - Affinity (EN) is also “conditions” or “circumstances”. So, maybe, “Taking Buddha as the conditions (of my life).” Conditions in the sense of the soil in which a seed is planted.

Affinity in the line after that is the same character.

When Ejo’s teacher was here he lectured on “Ichi Dai Ji IN EN” - The One Great Matter of Causes and Conditions. IN and EN are the same as in the Enmei Jikku Kannon Gyo. Dogen Zenji begins the Shushogi with the statement, “The most important issue of all for Buddhists is the thorough clarification of the meaning of causes and conditions.”

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:00 am Intro to Zazen 9:00 am Service /Zazen and Falling In Love With the Sutras Workshop	3 Morning Schedule	4 Morning Schedule 7:00 pm Service/Zazen Home Altars Class and Double Sit**	5 Morning Schedule 7:00 pm Mala Making Workshop	6 Morning Schedule 7:00 pm Ango Student Activities	7 Morning Schedule	1 8
9 8:00 am Intro to Zazen 9:00 am Service /Zazen and Falling In Love With the Sutras Workshop	10 Morning Schedule	11 Morning Schedule 7:00 pm Service/Zazen Working with a Teacher Class and Group on Rooting Practice	12 Morning Schedule	13 Morning Schedule 7:00 pm Ango Student Activities	14 Morning Schedule	15
16 8:00 am Intro to Zazen 9:00 am Service /Zazen and Dharma Talk 12:00 Board Meeting	17 Morning Schedule	18 Morning Schedule 7:00 pm Service/Zazen Daily Zazen Class and Group on Rooting Practice	19 Morning Schedule	20 Morning Schedule 7:00 pm Ango Student Activities	21 Morning Schedule 7:00 pm Zazen and Fusatsu	22
23 8:00 am Intro to Zazen 9:00 am Service /Zazen and Dharma Talk	24 Morning Schedule	25 Morning Schedule Double Sit with Sanzen**	26 Morning Schedule	27 Morning Schedule 7:00 pm Ango Student Activities	28 Morning Schedule	29
30 8:00 am Intro to Zazen 9:00 am Service /Zazen and Question and Answer	31 Morning Schedule	Morning Schedule 5:10 am - Zazen 5:50 am - Kinhin 6:00 am - Zazen 6:40 am - Service 7:10 am - Soji 7:30 am - Breakfast	What is... Zazen seated meditation Kinhin walking meditation Soji temple cleaning Fusatsu Atonement Ceremony			* You may enter or depart during morning schedule at appropriate transitions. ** On Double Sit evening, you may join us for either of the 40-minute periods. Please enter or leave during kinhin.