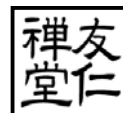


EUGENE ZENDO

JULY 2001

BUDDHA EYE DHARMA ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2



Parking and Entering at the New Zendo

When coming to the new zendo please park on Kingswood in front of the house. If that area is full, start parking on either side of Brookwood directly adjacent to the house. For the time being we will be entering through the sliding glass door around the back. Come through the gate in the fence and leave your shoes outside. If you are late or arrive during a service it is ok to quietly enter the zendo and find a place. Remember it is important that we arrive early so that we are actually starting at the scheduled time.



Summer Time Buddha

Arzu

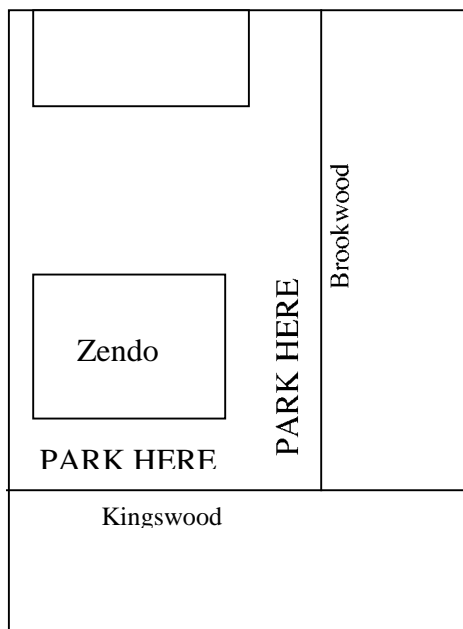
Things tend to thin out at the Zendo during the summer. People are busy going camping, visiting friends or perhaps just enjoying the evening air in their back yards. Summer commands, "LIVE!!!" What was that? What is this? Cool water, banana Popsicle, dusty road, huckleberry, bare baby butt...

While our formal Buddhist practice may slow down during the summer our lives don't. As you relax into your summertime activities, take some time to incorporate forms into your life. One of my favorite summertime activities is zazen on the top of rocks. Chose a nice rock in the middle of a stream or one hanging off the side of a cliff. It may take some time to get yourself perched in a way that feels comfortable, but I think you will be surprised at how soft a rock can be. Sitting under a tree is the original zendo. Spread out a blanket or gather some grass under a tree and spend a few minutes (or hours.... or days) opening up the doors and letting the breeze blow through your body and mind.

You may hear the rolling chant of Kannon-sama on the banks of a river or surprise Jizo-sama on a mountain path. There is no shortage of meetings that can coax a gassho and crack a smile. When camping, I always go down and chant with the river or the frogs.

At Amazon pool you can sit and listen to the voices of a hundred Buddhas as they wile away their afternoon in the sun. The little white field daisies give a lecture on dependent origination; a skateboarder is teaching about "not two".

Please don't think that the summer is a time to take a rest from investigating the mystery. In some ways it is the best time to investigate it. Drink deeply summer time Buddha!



Announcements:

- Starting in September, Ejo will offer classes on Thursday nights. We are working towards starting a practice period calendar similar to those of the larger centers. They reflect the traditional 100 day practice periods of the east. These classes are a start. Let Ejo know if there are any texts or topics that you are interested in studying in more depth.
- There has been some talk of a short retreat in August, possibly out at Horton Road Organics (Debra's farm). No date or format has been set as of yet.
- Our website has changed it's address. It is now located at: eugenezendo.org.
- Ejo's email has also changed to: ejo@eugenezendo.org
- Sanzen (one on one dharma discussion with a teacher) will resume. Look for the signup at the Zendo.
- Everyone is welcome to the Saturday morning sits at the Eugene Aikikai. Talk with Kip about details.

Every Action

One day many years ago when I was living in Japan, I offered my seat to an old man on a crowded train. He was reluctant to take the seat, but with a little insistence on my part he said, "Arigato Gozaimasu" and sat down. We rode together for five or six stops. When the old man got up to exit the train, he came to hold my hand and tell me his secret. He was one of the only survivors of a fierce battle between the Americans and Japanese on a small island in the South Pacific. There were tears in his eyes. He said, "Until today I have always held a grudge against Americans, but today you have lifted it out of my heart. Thank you." Then he was gone. The train rolled on and I never saw him again. Our lives shifted together.

Even though we are mostly unaware of it, every act of our life matters. Sometimes we are fortunate to have feedback about how our choices have affected others, but mostly we don't get that feedback directly. As we nurture awareness in our lives, we may become more and more able to see how our actions affect our surroundings. This is an integral function of Buddhist practice. But even when we don't see how it could possibly matter, each moment our choice to open our heart or close our heart has a profound affect on the entire universe.

Dhana

Things are running smoothly with the pledge format we adopted for this year. Getting an envelope in the mail seems to be good for most people, and we had 100% return during the month of May. For people who pledge, I will notate on your envelope any months that you have missed. Most of us need a reminder from time to time. If you can't make a month, please simply send me a note in the envelope. I am trying to minimize the affects of the human tendency to forget or put off and bring some stability to the way we collect pledges.

We also had a very generous anonymous donation of \$800 to cover the remodeling expenses of the garage. A special thanks to that donor and the spirit of dhana.

Ejo

The Cloud and the Butterfly

The idea that's just popped into my head
Is that butterfly settled
On the field's warped bamboo fence.

At times it just gathers wings and rests,
Then flits wildly about the field:
The fence has nothing to do with the butterfly,
I have nothing to do with my idea.

Go dig in the field, you won't find me:
I'm neither field for fence.

There's a white cloud above,
But I'm not that either.
The cloud? It seeks the butterfly
Which, wings folded, lies on the cold ground.

SHINKICHI TAKAHASHI

From Zen: Poems, Prayers, Sermons, Anecdotes, Interviews

Calendar for July 2001

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	3 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen/Dharma	4 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	5 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	6 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	7 Zazenkai at Eugene Aikikai from 8:30 AM
8	9 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	10 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 6-6:45 PM Sanzen 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen/Dharma	11 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	12 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	13 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	14 Zazenkai at Eugene Aikikai from 8:30 AM
15	16 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	17 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 6:15 PM Zendo Meeting Deadline for Newsletter 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen/Dharma	18 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	19 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	20 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	21 Zazenkai at Eugene Aikikai from 8:30 AM
22	23 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	24 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen/Dharma	25 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	26 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	27 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	28 Zazenkai at Eugene Aikikai from 8:30 AM
29	30 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service	31 6-7:15 AM Zazen/service 6-6:45 PM Sanzen 7:30-9:30 PM Zazen/Dharma				

Summary of Weekly Schedule

Monday – Friday: 6 – 7:30 AM Zazen, Service, Tea
 Tuesday: 7:30-9:30 PM Service, Zazen, Dharma Study