

Eugene Buddhist Priory
Temple of Boundless Compassion
85415 Teague Loop
Eugene, OR 97405-9536 USA
(541) 344-7377; news@eugenebuddhistpriory.org

June 2, 2010

Dear Good Friends,

Thank you for all your kindness and support these past few months. Each of you is vital for the life of the temple. In fact, you are the life of the temple. It can be easy to think that one's small effort or contribution is unimportant, but I assure you it is not so. Great Master Dogen teaches, "Even a small coin or a blade of grass can cause the arising of good." Even when it's hard to see, trust that your training matters.

In times of change, great or small, it can be useful to remember the enormous strength and depth of the Three Refuges. And it's up to each of us individuals to continually take such refuge. While such activity can't take the place of meditation, it never becomes insignificant. In Buddhist practice it's often the case that, as with meditation, when we don't want to may be when we need to the most.

Herein is a link to a recent Dharma talk offered by Rev. Master Meian, Acting Abbess at Shasta Abbey, on "On What May We Rely?" We'll have a couple of copies at the temple for those without internet access. <http://www.shastaabbey.org/audio/rmmonwhat2010.mp3>

In reflecting on Rev. Master Eko's resignation at Shasta Abbey, I found an article by Rev. Master Jiyu particularly helpful: "Beware of Old Influences" in the Spring 1988 issue of *The Journal of the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives*. Without condoning mistakes made by religious leaders, she emphasizes the importance on the part of congregations for compassion, forgiveness, and lack of vindictiveness. Copies will be available at the temple for those who don't have back issues.

I'm also including here a couple of links to short articles on daily life practice that I thought particularly apt & uplifting by Rev. Master Koten. Copies will be available at the temple for those who don't have internet access.

<http://www.lionsgatebuddhistpriory.ca/From%20DFM%20files/The%20Most%20Important%20Ingredient.pdf> and
<http://www.lionsgatebuddhistpriory.ca/From%20DFM%20files/First%20Things.pdf>

And, attached/included is an excerpt from an article on "Ceremony and the Art of Dance," which I read to you a while back. We may post the entire article on the Priory website at some point. Speaking of which, our thanks to Linda Pierce for bringing order to the Priory website.

Members Meeting. On Sunday June 6 following meditation we will have a members meeting to discuss our options for the front porch.

Dogen Film. On June 27 we'll view a new Japanese film (with subtitles) on the life of Great Master Dogen. It's beautiful and inspiring and contains much teaching as well.

Lay Sangha care coordinator for June is Bev Schenler, 342-4228.

Dharma school for children is scheduled for June 13 and July 25.

Ceremonies for Avalokiteshvara and Achalanatha will be June 20 and July 18 respectively. On Sunday July 4 we'll have a ceremony to bless the nation and send merit to the president.

Guest Monk. Rev. Oriana LaChance, a senior monk from Throssel Hole Abbey in England, will be taking care of the Priory and offering teaching during July while I am away part of the month for renewal. See calendar for dates. I hope you will each make the opportunity to show your support and benefit from her offering of the Dharma. Rev. Oriana is a disciple of Rev. Master Daishin Morgan, the Abbot at Throssel Hole. She lived in Medford and trained as a lay minister at Shasta Abbey before ordination as a monk in our Order.

Outside events: Our lay ministers continue to speak each term at Thurston High School for Kevin Durfee's sociology class on comparative religions. We appreciate their giving of their time to help young people learn about Buddhist practice. On May 19 Rev. Oswin was invited by interfaith friend Veena Howard to speak on Buddhism to her Religions & Nonviolence class at Lane Community College.

Visitors: On April 14th, we enjoyed a pleasant tea with Phra Laosue Laolee, a young monk from Thailand, and his sponsor, a retired Eugene businessman. The visit to the United States and tour of Buddhist temples was a gift upon the monk's graduation from a New Delhi, India university. We learned a lot about the social and educational conditions of the hill tribes of northern Thailand and about the challenges of monastic training in that setting.

Travels: Rev. Margaret of Portland Priory and Rev. Oswin traveled by bus to Wallowa Temple on March 17th to the 24th to join Rev. Master Meido in celebrating her 30th ordination anniversary. Both were happy to be a part of the lovely ceremony (and bounteous potluck afterwards), and appreciated the opportunity to train with their older Dharma sister for a few days. On April 21 John Kieres, our lay resident, journeyed by train, bus, and car to Pine Mountain Temple to help set up for their stupa dedication and 10 year anniversary of their present location. We were glad he had the chance to represent the Priory, train with other OBC monks, and participate in this significant event, particularly since Rev. Oswin was unable to attend.

Thank you for all your kind donations and gifts that support the temple. Specific gifts included various foods, prescriptions & supplements; transportation & errands; Dharma films & books; gravel, dump fees, indoor & outdoor plants; cat supplies, *Handiwipes* & light bulbs; and a door screen, glass pitcher, spice grinder, tea kettle, & a hummingbird feeder. We are also grateful to Phyllis Commeree and Peggy Nulsen for donations toward two memorial gardens, adjacent to the orchard & animal cemetery. Each has a new statue and will have benches for meditation and reflection, together with plantings for privacy. The two gardens are in memory of Gloria Peters and Jack Nulsen, Peggy's mother and brother, who died within the past five months.

May you all please take good care and be well, happy, safe & secure.

Yours in the Dharma, *Rev. Oswin*

[Most Recent Offering](#)
[Other Offerings](#)

[June 2010 Calendar](#)
[July 2010 Calendar](#)