



## September 2004 Eugene Buddhist Priory

We have reverted to placing the pdf calendars and Dharma articles on the members website because including them as attachments took too long for many computers to download. Both, as well as this newsletter, are available there for printing out.

Links: <http://www.eugenebuddhistpriory.org/EBPmembers/EBPmembers.htm>

or <http://www.eugenebuddhistpriory.org/EBPmembers/EBPnewsletter.htm> .

Printed copies of calendars and Dharma articles are also available at the temple; we're happy to mail you a copy if you do not have access to a printer. For this month we posted a revised version of "Dana and the Joy of Giving" as our Dharma offering.

A timely note: We will have a special work afternoon from 2:00 to 5:00 this Saturday, September 4. Its main purpose is to stack firewood, a task becoming more urgent given the frequent rains. We also need several people to help catch the tool shed walls as they come down. Only two walls to go! Any help for any length of time would be of value.

### *Fall Events of Note (September - November)*

Rummage & Bake Sale - Saturday, September 18, 9:00am - 4:00pm at Jerry Mohr's house, 190 Spring Creek Road, off north end of River Road, next to Awbrey Park Elementary

School. Please price any donation you wish to offer for the sale. Bring donations to Jerry's house for temporary storage any time [call her at 341-4922 (home) or 1-541-737-4256 (work) to arrange], the night before the sale, or at 8:00am when we set up on day of sale. It's also OK to bring them later during the day. We need volunteers for set-up and take-down and to staff the sale throughout the day. Call Pamela Wright at 344-0932 (home) or 686-7888 x268 (work) if you can help in any way, need help with transporting donations, or have other questions.

For baked items we will offer cookies made with recipes from the Shasta Abbey cookbook, *Cooking with a Gentle Heart*. Cookbooks & recipes are available at the Priory. The temple has some freezer storage for a limited amount of cookies if you need to bake ahead of time. Call Pamela regarding how to package cookies according to health regulation. Proceeds from the sale will go toward paying off our land loan balloon payment. Rummage sales are a good way to recycle unneeded possessions and can represent the cleansing of karma as we let go of things for which their time has come.

**Dharma School for Children** - Sundays, September 19 (& rehearsal on Saturday September 18) and October 17. The September class will include the children's participation in the Kshtigarbha (Jizo) Festival Ceremony. A rehearsal will be held on Saturday, September 18; we'll work out a convenient time, amidst rummage sale and all.

**Orientations** - Saturdays, September 4, October 2.

**Retreats** - Saturday/Sunday September 11-12, October 9-10.

**Work Days** - Saturdays, September 25 & October 16. Bring a sack lunch and food to share.

**Prior Away** - September 20-25; weekend of October 1-3.

**Sangha Potluck** - Sunday, October 17 after Dharma school (tentative)

**Sunday Festival Ceremonies** - Great Master Dogen, September 5; Avalokiteshvara Bodhisattva, September 12; Kshtigarbha Bodhisattva, September 19; Great Master Bodhidharma, September 26; Feeding the Hungry Ghosts (Segaki), October 31.

**Avalokiteshvara Bodhisattva Vigil Ceremony** - Wednesday, September 8.

**Sutra Study: The Lotus Scripture, Part V** - Wednesdays, September 15 and 29. (We'll try to offer the same class on Saturdays in October) : Dharma talk on Great Master Dogen's *Shobogenzo* chapter "Hokke Ten Hokke"--The Flowering of the Dharma Sets the Flowering of the Dharma in Motion. In this writing Dogen quotes from *The Lotus Sutra* in order to explain and illustrate the correct view of time, space, and reality, and how to set the Wheel of the Dharma in motion within our own hearts.

**Precepts Class and Discussion** - Wednesday, October 13.

**Renewal of Vows & Precepts** - Sunday October 24. Note that ceremony begins at 11:00 am after two periods of meditation.

**Priory Trip to Shasta Abbey** - Weekend of November 5-7, to participate in annual services honoring Rev. Master Jiyu-Kennett, founder of our temple and Order.

***Usual Weekly Schedule: (check below on specific dates)***

Mondays - Closed except for emergencies.

Tuesdays - Open at 2 pm. 7:45-8:30 pm Meditation and Evening Office

Wednesdays - 7:00-9:00 pm Service, Meditation, Dharma talk, and Evening Office

Thursdays - 7:45-8:30 pm Meditation and Evening Office

Fridays - 7:45-8:30 pm Meditation and Evening Office

Saturdays - 9:30 am Meditation, 10:00 am Short Morning Service or other service

Sundays - 9:30 am Meditation, 10:15 am Ceremony or other activity, followed by Dharma talk and tea. The Priory is closed after 2 pm.

*Note: Early meditation and morning service Tuesday through Friday usually begin at 6 am; on Sunday, usually at 6:30 am. Please call the evening before to verify the time.*

## **September Calendar:** (in addition to above daily schedule)

**Sunday, September 5th** - 9:30 am Meditation; 10:15 am Festival Memorial for Great Master Dogen followed by a Dharma talk and tea. Ends approximately 12:00 noon. Dogen was the principal founder of Soto Zen in Japan.

**Wednesday 8th** - 7:00-9:00 pm Meditation, Vigil Ceremony for Avalokiteshvara Bodhisattva: Calling upon the 108 Names and Forms of Great Compassion, tea.

**Saturday 11th** - Retreat\* (9:30 am-8:30 pm). 9:30 am Meditation; 10:00 am Short Morning Service. **Retreatants:** please bring food contribution to prepare three meals: Saturday lunch and supper, Sunday breakfast. Also, let the Priory know if you plan to attend the entire retreat. If you can come for only part, please arrive in the fifteen minutes before the half hour (for example, 9:15-9:30) when there is a break in the sittings.

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**Sunday September 12th** - 9:30 am Meditation; 10:15 am Festival Ceremony of Avalokiteshvara, Bodhisattva of Great Compassion, formal Dharma talk in meditation hall. Ends approx. 12:30pm

**Wednesday 15th** - 7:00-9:00 pm Mid-day Service, Meditation, Lotus Sutra Study, Pt. V (see above), tea, Evening Office.

**Saturday 18th** - 9:30 am Meditation; 10:00 am Short Morning Service. Dharma School rehearsal (call for time). Garage & Bake Sale 9:00am until 5:00pm at Jerry Mohr's (see above for details).

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**Sunday, September 19th** - 9:30 am Meditation; 10:15 am Dharma School & other preparation for ceremony; 11:00 am Festival Ceremony of Kshatigarbha (Jizo), Bodhisattva of Benevolence & Kindness, tea and short Dharma talk. Ends approximately 12:30 pm.

**Wednesday 22nd** - 7:00-9:00 pm Evening Service, Meditation, Dharma tape, Evening Office.

**Saturday 25th** - 9:30 am Meditation; 10:00 am Short Morning Service. Work Day until 5 or 6 o'clock. Lunch at approximately 12:30 pm; bring sack lunch and food to share. You're welcome to come for as much of the day as you can.

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**Sunday, September 26th** - 9:30 am Meditation; 10:15 am Festival Ceremony of Great Master Bodhidharma, the First Chinese Ancestor, Dharma talk & tea. Ends approx. noon. (Rev. Master Jisho Perry visiting - tentative).

**Wednesday 29th** - 7:00-9:00 pm Evening Service, Meditation, Dharma talk and tea, Evening Office.

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**Sunday October 3rd** - 9:30am Meditation; 10:15am; Full Morning Service; 11:00am Dharma tape and tea.

**Note: a detailed calendar of October events will be e-mailed you you toward the end of September. We hope to have the October pdf calendar posted next week sometime on the members website.**



## News of the past month

August has been a quiet month at the temple. The warm weather motivated the purchase and installation of outdoor blinds and shade cloth on the skylights to help keep the main building cool during the day. Work on most of our summer projects progressed slowly, with the firewood storage and wood stove installation completed so far. We are about half-way through paving the stupa site.

Many of our members attended Rev. Master Meian Elbert's retreat at Shasta Abbey in late August. Retreats are always of value, even though they are usually hard work. Nothing of value comes without effort and certainly is true of meditation and spiritual practice. Attending a retreat with other members can prove especially helpful for the shared learning people bring back to the temple.

The month ended with a Renewal of Vows & Precepts attended by about a dozen members. It was good to hear the reading of the Precepts and recommit to them and the Bodhisattva vow. Rev. Master Oswin lectured from the Dharma seat after the reading, clarifying what the "will of the Eternal" means: There is no set plan or blueprint for any of us. In each moment we shape our future by the choices that we make. The will of the Eternal or the Unborn is simply the wish for all beings to realize their True Nature and harmonize with It. Keeping the precepts is a way of accomplishing this harmonization in daily life. As we train and make preceptual choices, the "will of the Eternal" unfolds. Rev. Master Oswin particularly pointed out the importance of making our use of language accord with the Buddhist understanding of truth and reality: Nothing is "meant to be" for there is no being who plans with meaning in mind. If our choices harmonize with the Unborn, we align ourselves with Its Pure Love and become a part of Its "salvation" or "liberation" of all sentient beings. This is a wonderful ideal, but there is no preordained plan as to how that is accomplished. A more accurate, roughly equivalent (and probably what we may mean anyway) is "if and when all conditions ripen."

## Notes

**Bus Pickup Drivers Needed:** We try to provide a ride to Wednesday and Sunday meetings for those who do not have transportation. To meet this need, we need volunteers to create a monthly rota of drivers willing to pick up anyone

who travels by bus as far as they can. Each driver would be responsible for one month, with another person as the backup. The next month the backup would become the principle driver.

A ride is usually requested only once, or at the most twice, a month, so the commitment is primarily just to be available during that month or to arrange for someone else to cover the ride. If a dozen people volunteer, that means only one month a year for each driver.

Those who need a ride may call that month's driver directly or call the Priory and be referred to the driver. In order to make the trip shorter, we wish to change the pickup point from the downtown bus station to the parking lot next to South Hills Veterinary Clinic. Please continue to call at least half an hour before the meeting is scheduled to begin. Each driver may work out with their rider where to drop them off after the meeting.

Please help with this if you can; call David Zeiss at 345-8255 or let the Priory know.

#### **Third Refuge Assistance Coordinators**

September, Nancy Fletcher, 683-4137; October, Dave Wagar, 684- If you're a member of our sangha and need assistance due to illness or other pressing circumstances, contact the coordinator for that month to see who has offered to help in those particular ways. The sangha is one of the Three Treasures and is worthy of our offerings, time, and care.

#### **Phone List Update**

Please update your phone list: Talbot Bielefeldt (work) 434-8937; Doreen Hock (work) 345-1608; Paul King (work/cell) 501-0568; Angela Martinek (cell) no longer in service.

#### **Shasta Abbey cookbook available**

The long awaited cookbook from Shasta Abbey is here! Entitled Cooking with a Gentle Heart, it features almost 400 recipes, two hundred of which come directly from the kitchen of Shasta Abbey. A number of the other recipes were offered by our Priory members. Copies are available at the Priory cost \$22, or you may order directly from Shasta Abbey Buddhist Supplies ([supplies@BuddhistSupplies.com](mailto:supplies@BuddhistSupplies.com)). All proceeds go to help the Abbey finance the recent construction of the Bodhidharma Hall, a residents for monks at the monastery. Furnishings have arrived and monks have moved into the building. We'll be selling the cookbook at the rummage & bake sale on September 18.

#### **Respectful Dress at the Priory**

In keeping with our intent to restrain the senses and cultivate a pure heart, please wear clothing at the temple that is both comfortable for meditation and at the same time respectful and neat. Body and mind being one, how we treat and regard our physical form can have a significant impact on our spiritual practice. Inappropriate dress includes shorts, jeans, tights, halter tops, tank tops, low cleavage dresses, T-shirts with loud slogans, and highly-scented lotions and perfumes.



## Alms Bowl

**Alms & Offerings.** We are very grateful to all who have made offerings in the past month. All offerings--large or small, material or spiritual, tangible or in service--enable the temple to exist as a place of teaching and refuge for those who wish to practice in the Serene Reflection tradition transmitted by Rev. Master Jiyu. Our support of the Priory is another way we show our gratitude for all that she bequeathed to us.

In addition to an abundance of summer garden produce and other food items, the temple received lumber, mortar, mini-discs for recording purposes, sterile first aid pads, a box of latex gloves, *Joint Care* for Shila Cat, prayer flags and banner from Nepal, altar candles, Segaki offering dishes, recycled paper for photocopying, four double-pane windows, bamboo poles, a shelf unit, a small freezer and a tile saw blade purchased with a gift card, a CD from Shasta Abbey of lectures on "Female Buddhas" (from Rev. Master Koten's retreat last spring), and two copies of a biography of Achariya Mun, a Thai forest meditation master.

We also thank Doreen Hock for veterinary care and blood tests for Shila Cat (she seems fine), Tom of Bladeworks for driveway maintenance, Rick Movsky for loan of wood splitter, and David Wagar for loan of a *Saws-All*. Also thanks go to: Kevin McCormack for work on the stupa site; Bev Schenler for work on the new firewood shed; and David Zeiss for work on dismantling and moving the tool shed. Other help provided included cooking of meals, sewing an apron and monk's bag for Rev. Master Oswin, Dharma tape production and organizing, bookkeeping, mailing list maintenance, Buddhist Supplies upkeep, and sacristy work.

Lastly, we express our sincere thanks to Shasta Abbey, the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives, and Rev. Master Jisho Perry for making their books available as dana offerings. The Shasta Abbey Press books are profound in nature, and offering in them in this way will enable more people to discover and benefit from the Dharma. Future copies of books will be sponsored by donations and offered in the same way. Copies of most books are available at the Priory. Ask if you do not see them.

**Alms Bowl Requests.** Items which the temple could use are: canola oil, nuts (walnuts, almonds, pecans, etc.), whole wheat flour (both bread and pastry types), butter, 60-minute cassette tapes, 37-cent stamps, poly-fill pillows, toilet paper, canned cat food (fish flavors), *Brillo* pads, square freezer containers, and spring-flowering bulbs, such as daffodils, crocus & hyacinth. We are also in need of someone who could do a number of "odd jobs" around the temple, such as hanging pictures. No particular skills or long-term commitment needed.

"The two kinds of alms, material and spiritual, have the endowment of boundless merit: Now that they have been fulfilled in these acts of charity, both self and others gain pleasure therefrom."

Thank you for all your kindness, generosity, and sincere training.

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**Credits & Feedback:** Thanks go to Mike Running and Jerry Mohr for their help with this calendar and news. Thanks go to Jerry as well for maintaining the Priory public and members website

Let us know if the e-mailing of the calendar and news provides you with information and updates about the Priory in an easily accessible and timely manner. Any thoughts or suggestions regarding format, design, articles, graphics, mailing, etc. are appreciated. We also welcome contributions of articles or questions about meditation and Buddhist practice, as well as artwork, graphics, and digital photographs with a Buddhist theme.

If you do not wish to continue receiving email from the Priory, please type "Remove" in the subject line and return this email.

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