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Spring 2013



One Day Sitting at Jikoji
June 8, 2013
9:00am-5:00pm

Temple Cleaning Day



Poems from Our
Sangha

We received the following

Bamboo Leaves

Meeting everything that arises with a warm heart and an open mind.

Successful Temple Cleaning Day



Thanks to the dedication of our sangha members, we had a very successful temple cleaning session on April 27. In a short two hours, we finished our "To Do" list which included washing windows and blinds, vacuuming cushions, chairs and rugs in the zendo, convening area and hallway, dusting our bookshelf, as well as bringing up our new file cabinet and filling it with office supplies. We offer special gratitude for the initiative members took in taking on the following additional tasks: cleaning the track lighting, dusting all the Buddhas of their unstained bodies and resizing the convening room table to create more space.

We extend special thanks to the team that did the work:

- Joyce Kennedy
- Don Clark
- Jeff Goldfein
- Yumi Sakakibara
- Tongbo Chen
- Peter Hansell
- Tim Szymanski

Origins of Haiku

Haiku as we know them have their origins in Japan. Centuries ago, poets gathered at parties to compose long poems called renga. Each renga began with a starting verse called a hokku. Commonly poets would compose a hokku on their way to the party in the hope that it might be chosen as the renga's opening stanza. Since only one hokku was chosen, many were never used. Eventually, poets began publishing their unused hokku in poetry collections. By 1900, people in Japan began recognizing hokku as poems in their own right and renamed them haiku.

Reference: Padgett, Ron. *The Teachers and Writers Handbook of Poetic Forms*. 2nd ed. New York: T&W Books, 2000. Print.

We received the following submissions from Sangha members in response to our call for original haiku. Enjoy!

kesa
inky sky black robe
no bright moon hidden here
sweep away dust of remnant
stars –
nothing ever lost
-Jeff Goldfien

Leaves on thin green trees
Whoosh! Rustled by a warm
breeze
Flowing, flowing, gone
-Don

dharma winds share
breath of beauty
clearing out old corners
picking up lost thoughts

Quick pause
for a tear
dropped
in the ash hill
of a snapping
wishbone
-Skye Taylor

The splendor of Spring
unfolds
in sweet cherry and orange
blossoms
Now, jewels fall from the
sky.

Spring winds ring the bells
Oxalis spread their purple
leaves
Stone jewels basque in the
sun.
-Rev. Val

Guest Haiku

Carrying others across
Splendor & shadows unite,
Moonlight as our raft.
-Roshi Diane Martin

Further Exploration of the Ox and the Herdsman

This past winter, Reverend Val led a series of classes exploring the Ox and the Herdsman at the Bamboo in the Wind Zen Center in Sunnyvale. The classes met in February, wrapping up in early March. For those who missed the series or are seeking additional insight into the ox-herding drawings and their accompanying commentaries, we are fortunate to have another great resource available to us. Stephen Damon, priest at San Francisco's Bamboo in the Wind Zen Center, explores the Ox and the Herdsman in a series of posts on the Bamboo in the Wind blog. You can find the initial post [here](#).

A Guide to Zendo Forms by Rev. Val

This is the first in a three part set of guidelines for Zendo Forms.

Part One: Entering & Exiting

Bowing in Gassho (hands folded-prayer like) when entering the zendo
Bowing in Shashu (left hand wrapped around thumb, right hand covering left hand) when exiting the zendo

To exit from your place the person on each side of the room farthest from the altar leads by going in front of the Sangha members in their row up towards the altar. About the location of the top of the tatami mat closest the altar, make a "U" turn and walk toward the exit along the same row, weaving in with members from the other side of the room at the back of the zendo as you exit.

Donation Destination by Joyce

For those curious about the destination of donations to Bamboo in the Wind, please see the monthly expense overview below.

Recurring Monthly Expenses

Sunnyvale Zendo Rent	593.75
Seikokai Christ Church S.F. Group Rent	120.00
State Farm Liability Insurance	42.66
Silicon Valley News Ad	50.00
Ministerial Allowance	<u>200.00</u>
Total	\$1,006.41

Updated Website

Our [website](#) has a new look. We hope you'll stop by for a visit!

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