



November 2010

SHINGI

Newsletter of the Tendai Buddhist Institute



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Thank you!

Virtually everyone in the active sangha pitched in and worked hard in planning, logistics, cleaning, repairing and filling many positions during the ceremonies in Canaan and Boston.

While the proceedings were important, momentous, even historic, the role of the sangha and the way the people pulled together to make everything happen would have been worthwhile even without the focus of the

November Events Calendar



Weekly Meditation Services (WMS) are on Wednesday evenings. They begin at 6pm with a discussion or talk (see below for this month's discussion topics). At about 7pm there is a meditation service followed at 8pm by a potluck supper. All of Wednesday evening's events are open to the public. There is no fee, and reservations are not required.

November Wednesday Meditations and Discussions

3th Incense: its Variety and Uses. Incense use in religious ritual was developed in India and China, and transmitted to Korea, Japan and Vietnam. Incense holds an invaluable role in East Asia. We will investigate different types of incense and its uses.

10th Chapter 10 - Evolving Traditions of Buddhism: South, East, North and West, from *Foundations of Buddhism* by Rupert Gethin (1998 - Oxford University Press). Please read this chapter for discussion on Wednesday. This is the Final Chapter of an ongoing series of monthly discussions based upon *Foundations of Buddhism*.

17th Words and Awakening. In this discussion we look at language and its relationship to awakening. First listen to the podcast WORDS - <http://www.radiolab.org/2010/aug/09/> - by Robert Krulwich and Jad Abumrad, then join us for what may prove to be a fascinating discussion on the nature of awakening. You can either read the material or listen to it online.

24th Thanksgiving Meditation Service. We start a slightly longer service and meditation this evening at 6:00 PM

events.

Working together as a sangha reminds us of our shared commitment to our practice, our spiritual path and our intention to liberate all sentient beings.

[\(cont.\)](#)



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and finish about 7:30 PM. There will be no discussion and no potluck dinner.

Other Events

6th Morning Service and Sutra Class, 8:30 - 10:30 AM - We continue investigating *The Sutra of Brahma's Net*. This work has had a profound influence on East Asian Buddhist thought and practice. The ramifications of that effect influence the ways we look at and practice Buddhism in the west. This week we will examine the second volume of the translation, pages 84 - 124, of *The Very Mahayana Buddhist Ethics: Introduction and Translation of the Fan-wang-ching* by Shigeru Osuka.

Food Pantry at Jiunzan Tendai-ji. The need is much greater than the resources of the local food pantries. Please bring non-perishable food items to the Tendai Buddhist Institute on Wednesday's. We contribute these items to the Chatham Silent Food Pantry.

Disposal of scriptures, sacred writings, religious items and other items that you deem to require special disposal. Many items such as those in the preceding list should be handled and approached with respect, courtesy and humility, including their disposal. Sometime during the week of December 26th Monshin will conduct a small ceremony to dispose of such items. The items are first blessed as gratitude and an observance of their importance, then burned in a fire, and finally, the ashes are buried. Please bring the items you would like properly disposed of to Tendai Buddhist Institute during the month of November and the first few weeks of December. Ensure that they are properly marked for sacred disposal. Non-flammable materials will be buried, not burned.

Thanksgiving Interfaith Service at [St. James Church](#) November 23rd in Chatham from 7:00 PM. We will be participating in the service.

Meanderings (cont. from side bar at left)

Meanderings (cont. from side bar at left)



We celebrated anniversaries with a 5th and 15th year ceremony, an ordination of six non-Japanese Soryo (priests) in Canaan, NY and a goma ceremony at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

Twenty-nine monks came from Japan, including ten dignitaries from different parts of Japan who lead the ceremonies.

The dignitaries included an envoy from Enryakuji, Mt. Hiei, Komori Shukei; a representative from the Tendai-shu assembly, Kayaki Kanshou; a councilor to Tendai-shu, Nishioka Ryoko; the Chair of all The Tendai Districts, Sugawara Kochu; Shujun Kanda the Monzeki Abbot of Rinno-ji and Kanei-ji, Tendai temples in Tokyo; Yamada Shunwa, Abbot of Chuson-ji temple complex in Iwate; and Sono Jitsujo, Vice Chairman of the Jigyodan. Accompanying them were the Tendai Young Buddhist Association, and the Jigyodan (Japanese Tendai Overseas Foundation).

They were on a short visit due to the timing of the events. We will be placing copies of the speeches and addresses on the US Tendai web site, tendai.us, in the next week.

We estimate that approximately 100 people attended the Saturday events in Canaan, NY and there were over 500 people attending the events in Boston.

The observance of the anniversary celebrations is important for the Betsuin and Tendai in Japan. These ceremonies mark important milestones in the life of our community and they bring together people who are crafting Tendai outside of Japan with the Japanese, who have generated, protected, and maintained this magnificent tradition in Japan.

Again - Thank you for your hard work and your support.

Gassho . . . Monshin



Group Tokudo Photo

The Third Jewel-- **SPECIAL PHOTO EDITION:
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!!!**



Kanda-Sensei Ceremony



Lining up for Tokudo



During Tokudo Ceremony



Komori-Sensei's Goma at MFA

For many, many more pictures of the celebrations and ceremonies both at TBI and at the MFA, click on the link to Sangha-member [Kevin Hughes' collection](#).

Call for material: Please [send the Shingi](#) photographs, artwork, poems, book reviews, articles, etc. that you have created that you consider an outgrowth of your Buddhist practice or that you think reflect Buddhist themes, ideas, questions, etc. If submitting an image, you may wish to include a short statement sharing some of your thoughts to accompany it.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Contact . . .

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