

Bodhi Bulletin News Briefs

WINTER 2008

All Welcome to Chinese Lunar New Year Program - "Shining Dharma on the New Year" Saturday, February 9th

Please bring your family and friends to join us in our annual Chinese Lunar New Year program. You are welcome to come and participate in any part of the program or in its entirety. In the morning Ven. Jen-chun will give a New Year talk and we will have a special devotional service and a candlelight walking meditation chanting "Guan Yin Pu Sa" (Bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara). In the early afternoon, the Three Refuges and Five Precepts will be administered for those who would like to take them. Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi will then give the afternoon lecture. Lunch is usually eaten in silence at the monastery, but on this occasion we drop the rule of "Noble Silence" so that we can socialize. Special Chinese New Year dishes will be served. We also welcome you to bring a dessert or fruit to supplement the meal, but it is not necessary! We look forward to seeing you.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. If anyone local is able to help with preparation of the monastery on Friday, February 8th or if you would like to help during the program on Saturday, February 9th, please respond as soon as possible

CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR PROGRAM

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| 09:15 am | (Arrival: Please arrive by 9:15 am if you want to attend the morning lecture) |
| 09:30 am | New Year Talk by Ven. Jen-chun (Lecture Hall) |
| 10:20 am | Devotional Service and Candlelight Circumambulation (Buddha Hall) |
| 11:30 pm | Social lunch (Dining Hall) |
| 12:30 pm | Three Refuges and Five Precepts (for those who want to formally undertake them) (Buddha Hall) |
| 01:15 pm | Talk by Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi (Lecture Hall) |
| 02:00 pm | End of Program/Clean-up |

to: bodhimonastery@gmail.com.

SNOW DATE will be on Saturday, February 16th. If there is heavy snow predicted on the 9th, please check your email for the latest update.

Winter Dharma Retreat Review

The Yin Shun Foundation sponsored its first Winter Dharma Retreat over the New Year weekend in response to having so much enthusiasm and participation at the Summer Dharma Retreats that they have sponsored since the year 2000 at Bodhi Monastery. There were over 45 retreatants who attended the English program and over 80 retreatants at the Chinese program. Thank you to all of our teachers. We appreciate the hard work of all of the volunteers as well as the very helpful retreatants.

Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi's Majjhima Nikaya Course Completed

Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi gave the final lecture of his Majjhima Nikaya course, "Exploring the Word of the Buddha," on Tuesday, December 11th. The course took place at Bodhi Monastery over a five-year span from January 2003 through December 2007 and consists of a massive 123 lectures! The effort and thought put

into the design and execution of this course is quite evident. It has become very popular worldwide through its availability as audio MP3 files on our website. It will also be available as a complete set on compact discs to be produced in early 2008. His students are deeply indebted to, and appreciative of, their generous, kind, and wise teacher, Bhante Bodhi, for his great gift of this Dhamma. Thank you!

Further Lectures on the Majjhima Nikaya in the Spring

Bhante has offered to continue to lecture on other suttas from the Majjhima Nikaya beginning in the Spring. We will keep you informed of the schedule.

Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi's Sutta-Nipata Lecture Series Now Available on Website

This series of lectures was given to the Saturday lay community at Bodhi Monastery from October 2004 through February 2007. Bhante plans to even-

tually add to this series by lecturing on some remaining suttas from the Mahavagga and suttas from the Parayanavagga. The Sutta-Nipata contains some of the oldest discourses in the Pali Canon. It is a rich source of texts offering guidance to lay Buddhists and also abounds in suttas that extol the contemplative ideals of early Buddhism. Though the Sutta-Nipata as a collection exists only in the Theravada tradition, some of the individual suttas are found in other traditions. One whole chapter, the Atthakavagga, is also found in the Chinese Tripitaka.

"Great Bodhi Mind" a New Booklet of Essays by Venerable Jen-chun is Now On-line

A PDF of a new booklet of Shifu's essays "Great Bodhi Mind" is now posted on the website. This booklet consists of miscellaneous lectures that had been translated into English. The actual booklet will be published early this year. A PDF of his first booklet of essays, "Gateway to the

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Dharma” is also now posted on-line. This booklet consists of talks given by Ven. Jen-chun as preparation for the study of Ven. Yin-shun’s “The Way to Buddhahood,” a monumental treatise by the foremost Chinese scholar-monk of modern times.

Welcome Back to Venerable Bill

Venerable Bill who had previously resided at Bodhi Monastery several years ago, returned in November to reside here again. Originally ordained as a Chinese Mahayana monk in 1997, Ven. Bill has now practiced in the

Theravada Thai tradition for six years. His practice is using the Vipassana system, starting with Gayanupassana-Satipatthana – mindfulness of sitting rupa, walking rupa and all minor postures, which then develops into the four foundations of mindfulness. This method was taught by the late Ajahn Naeb for 40 years in Thailand. Ven. Bill has also translated books by Ajahn Naeb into Chinese, such as The 15 Principles of Vipassana, The Sure Way of Practice, Shut Down the Way to “The Hell”, and Conversations Guiding Vipassana Retreats with Monks & with Lay-people.

Ven. Bill is conducting sutta study of the Dhammapada on Saturday mornings at 9:50 a.m. and lectures on Saturday afternoons at 12:40 p.m.

Sunday Group Meditation Now Led by Venerable Bill

Sunday Group Meditation:
9:30 – 10:45 am
Introductory Meditation Class on
first Sunday of each month:
9:00 – 9:30 am

Winter 2008 General Dharma Schedule

Daily

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| 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm | Chanting Liturgy |
| 5:05 pm – 6:00 pm | Sitting meditation |

Saturdays

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| 9:00 am – 9:40 am | Group Meditation |
| 9:50 am – 10:40 am | English: Dharma Talk/Discussion – Dhammapada Chinese: Dharma Talk |
| 10:50 am – 11:10 am | Devotional Service |
| 11:20 am – 12:30 pm | Lunch/Clean-up |
| 12:40 pm – 1:10 pm | Lecture |
| 1:20 pm – 2:20 pm | Book Study/Chinese |

Sundays

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| 9:30 am – 10:45 am | Meditation Group |
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First Sunday of each month

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| 9:00 am – 9:30 am | Beginners instruction in meditation |
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To receive the Bodhi Bulletin by email,
contact bodhimonastery@gmail.com
and give your full name*, email address*,
mailing address, and preferred phone numbers

*Required information. Other information is helpful but not necessary.

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Please contact us for more information on any of our programs: 973 940 0473 or contactus@bodhimonastery.net