



Philadelphia Buddhist Association

NEWSLETTER

www.PhilaBuddhist.org

November, 2016

SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
		1	R	3	4	5			1	2	3		
P	7	8	R	10	11	S	P	5	6	R	8	9	S/F
L	14	15	R	17	18	19	L	12	13	R	15	16	17
P	21	22	23	24	25	26	P	19	20	D	22	23	24
P	28	29	R				P	26	27	R	29	30	31

JANUARY							FEBRUARY						
P	2	3	R	5	6	7				R	2	3	G
L	9	10	R	12	13	S	P	6	7	R	9	10	S
P	16	17	R	19	20	21	L	13	14	R	16	17	18
P	23	24	D	26	27	28	P	20	21	D	23	24	25
P	30	31					P	27	28				

- L** Buddhism Lecture and Discussion Series at Plymouth Meeting Friends 7:30 to 9:00 pm.
- P** Sitting meditation at Plymouth Meeting Friends 7:30 to 9:00 pm
- R** Sitting meditation at Radnor Friends 7:30 to 9:00 pm
- D** Open Discussion group about meditation and other Buddhist topics at Radnor Friends 7:30pm to 9:00 pm.
- S** Sutra Study at Radnor Friends 10am to 12pm. Sitting meditation from 9:30am to 9:50. See p. 4 for details.
- F** Sensi Ai Fusho Rapaport Day Retreat Plymouth Meeting Friends 9am to 4pm
- G** Pat George Day Retreat Plymouth Meeting Friends 9am to 4pm

BUDDHISM LECTURE AND DISCUSSION SERIES

Every 2nd Sunday, Plymouth Meeting, 7:30

- November 13 *The Practices of Arhats: Stories From the Dhammapada*
Juliana Lipschutz
- December 11 *The Life of the Buddha*
Zachary Brown
- January 8 *The Five Hindrances and Meditation Practice*
David Carpenter
- February 12 *Impermanence*
Robin Carr

The Wisdom in Nonsense
Day Retreat with Sensei Ai Fusho Rapaport
Saturday, December 10
9am to 4pm
Plymouth Meeting Friends

In this year's retreat, Sensi Ai offers retreat participants an opportunity to experience individual moments of wisdom, using an ancient Zen practice of meditating on nonsense. Meditators of all traditions and all levels, (especially complete novices) can benefit from this group meditation on Zen's classic illogical stories called "koans." Using the illogical parts of our mind, this can help open and transform our work, relationships, and spiritual practice. See page 3 for more details.

Faith Mind Sutra
Day Retreat with Pat George
Saturday, February 4th
9am to 4pm
Plymouth Meeting Friends

Pat George will focus on the Faith Mind Sutra, a beautiful poem of uncertain but early origin, generally attributed to the Chinese monk Seng Ts'an. This poem is the one that famously admonishes us to "avoid picking and choosing" and to have "no preferences." How do we avoid making choices in a human life that requires us to make many decisions every day? Even if we try to avoid preferences by doing nothing, that becomes a choice.

We'll examine this sutra and try to understand how we can live in a choiceless universe and still function in our everyday lives. See page 3 for more details.

Annual Dana Drive

PBA runs solely on contributions and by the kindness of those who give their time and skills to assist others. Your Dana not only help PBA's ongoing work to introduce others to the Buddha's Way in its many forms, but it helps to pay our rents and to maintain our facilities so that we can continue to offer weekly meditation practice at the Radnor Friends Meeting and Plymouth Friends Meeting, and monthly Sutra Study, Lecture & Discussion, and meditation discussion group, in addition to the retreats offered throughout the year.

For the past year, our sangha has been well supported by "Good friends" like you. Our participation rate has gone up. We are able to participate in humanitarian support to internationally well known groups like the Doctors Without Borders and the Buddhist Disaster Relief Tzu-Chi Foundation. We have met our financial needs. Nevertheless, without your continuing support we would have not been able to shine nor to reach people in need of a Sangha to practice with. Now more than ever are we in need of your assistance, so as the year comes to an end, please consider making a donation to help us keep our facilities running. All contributions are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to "Philadelphia Buddhist Association" and send to PO Box 11728, Philadelphia, PA 19101.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND ANY OF OUR PROGRAMS OR EVENTS AT NO CHARGE

Local Buddhist Centers and Groups

The following are some of the places in the Philadelphia region where regular Buddhist meditation practice is followed.

Pennsylvania

- * Buddhist Sangha of Bucks County
Yardley 215-431-0882
email: bsbc19067@yahoo.com
- * Clear Light Meditation Group
Devon 610-293-9133
- * Dungkar Ling (Tibetan)
Honeybrook 610-942-2512
- * Media Meditation Group
(Shambhala)
Media 610-566-2525
- * Peaceful City Sangha (Community
of Mindful Living)
Center City 215-852-4375
- * Pebble Hill Mindfulness Sangha
Doylestown 215-230-9899
- * Philadelphia Meditation Center
(Non-Sectarian)
Havertown 610-853-8200
- * Philadelphia Soka Gakkai
International-USA
Center City Philadelphia
215-569-2144
- * Rainbow LGBTQ Buddhist
Meditation Group
Center City Philadelphia
215-732-2220
- * Shambhala Center (Shambhala)
Center City Philadelphia
215-568-6070
- * Shikan (Stop & Observe) Zendo
Center City, Philadelphia, PA
Monthly One-Day Silent Retreat
Email: juliannalipschutz@gmail.com
- * Soji Zen Center
Lansdowne 917-856-5659
- * Springboard Meditation Sangha
W. Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, 19119
info@springboardmeditationsang-
ha.org
- * Tibetan Buddhist Center
of Philadelphia
954-956 N Marshal St
www.tibetanbuddhist.org
- * Willow Branch Sangha
West Chester 610-388-1257
- * Won Buddhism Temple
of Philadelphia
Glenside 215-884-8443
- * Zen Center of Philadelphia
West Philadelphia 215-472-2613

- * Zen Meditation Group of Greater
Philadelphia (Center City)
215-381-0398

New Jersey

- * Buddhist Sangha
of Southern New Jersey
Cherry Hill 609-953-9215
- * Pine Wind Zen Center
Shamong, NJ 609-268-9151
- * Seabrook Buddhist Temple
(Jodo Shin Shu Buddhism)
Seabrook 856-451-3422

Delaware

- * Delaware Valley Zen Center
Newark 302-981-6209

How to Contact PBA

- * Send an email to
info@PhilaBuddhist.org
- * Send USPS mail to
P.O. Box 11728
Philadelphia, PA 19101

Guide to Retreat Centers

The following is a listing of some Buddhist centers in the Eastern United States that offer a program of retreats throughout the year. These centers offer a place where scheduled Buddhist teaching from various traditions is given. In addition, many local centers offer day and weekend retreats.

- * Bhavana Society Near Washington, DC & PA border
Rt.1, Box 218-3 High View, WV (304)-856-3241
<http://www.bhavasociety.org>
- * Insight Meditation Society
1230 Pleasant Street, Barre, MA, 01005 (978)-355-4378
<http://www.Dharma.org>
- * Mt. Equity Zendo
280 Mt. Equity Road, Pennsdale, PA, 17756
(717)-546-2784, <http://www.mtequity.org>
- * Zen Mountain Monastery
P.O. Box 197, Mt. Tremper, NY, 12457 (845) 688-2228
<http://www.mro.org>
- * Milarepa Center
P.O. Box 51, Barnet, VT 05821 (802) 633-4136
<http://www.milarepacenter.org>

PBA does not charge for any of its activities (other than residence fees at residential retreats). We do incur expenses for rent, newsletters, website, and various other items. If you have found

participation in our activities valuable, please consider sending PBA a tax-deductible contribution. Make checks payable to PBA and send to P.O. Box 11728, Philadelphia, PA 19101.

The Philadelphia Buddhist Association (PBA) is a non-profit corporation registered in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It has provided programs since 1986 to the public for making known the principles and practices of the Buddhist way. PBA represents no

one Buddhist tradition and promotes dialogue with all faiths. All programs are without charge and are financed only by freely given donations. Donations are tax-deductible.

Day Retreat with Sensei Al Fusuo Rapaport

Unlike traditional individual koan practice, there are no “right” answers, just our deep unique responses and their sharing. Sensei Al Rapaport has developed “group koan” sessions as skillful play. He also teaches his students through traditional individual koan work. He emphasizes that no prior experience is needed for to enjoy and succeed in this workshop.

PBA will supply cushions with mats, chairs, tea, coffee and snacks. Bring your own cushion/mat if you prefer, and please bring a brown bag lunch.

There is no charge for the workshop and PBA makes no profit, but we strongly suggest a free-will offering of \$25 for the teacher. He will be traveling here from Florida to teach us at his own expense. Dana is the Pali word for Generosity.

Sensei Al has trained in variations of Hal and Sidra Stone’s Voice Dialogue, the basis of Zen Dialogue, and has practiced and taught the technique for almost 20 years .He began Zen practice in 1975 with Kozan Kimura Roshi, and also studied with Sasaki Roshi before moving to Zen Center of Los Angeles in 1977. At ZCLA he studied with Maezumi Roshi, Bernie Roshi and Genpo Roshi, and received Dharma Transmission from Shuzen Sensei in 2008.

Sensei Al leads the Open Mind Zen Center in Melbourne, Florida. For more information, you are welcome to contact Sensei Al at (321) 427-3511 or OpenMindZen@aol.com, or visit www.openmindzen.com.

Day Retreat with Pat George

Pat George has over thirty years training in Zen Buddhism. She was given permission to teach by Barry Magid in 2004, and opened the Zen Center of Philadelphia in January, 2005. Pat studied at Zen Mountain Monastery in Mt. Tremper, New York, with John Daido Looi for many years as a lay practitioner and for six years as a resident and monastic in training.

Since then she has studied with Barry Magid in the Ordinary Mind School founded by Charlotte Joko Beck. On November 14th, 2009, Pat received full transmission in the Ordinary Mind School from Barry Magid.

The Ordinary Mind Zen School intends to manifest and support practice of the Awakened Way, as expressed in the teaching of Charlotte Joko Beck. The School is composed of Charlotte Joko Beck, her Dharma Successors, and teachers and successors they, as individuals, have formally authorized. There is no affiliation with other Zen groups or religious denominations; however, membership in this School does not preclude individual affiliation with other groups. Within the School there is no hierarchy of Dharma Successors.

Pat was educated at the University of Delaware, Brown University, and New York University.

A single mother for many years, Pat has mostly worked as a teacher, writer and editor.

Waking up

Like everybody else, I wake up,
get up, use the bathroom, get dressed,
eat breakfast, leave the house –

“The ordinary is the extraordinary” (ancient Ch’an Buddhist teaching),

Sleep is good,
Waking up is best,
To see the world

Ed Callahan



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email: info@philabuddhist.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sutra Study with PBA

Saturday, November 12, 2016:

MN 28 PTS: M i 184: Maha-hatthipadopama Sutta: The Great Elephant Footprint Simile [**"The Four Great Elements & Dependent Arising of the Five Aggregates"**], translated from the Pali by Thanissaro Bhikkhu © 2003
Led by Pierce Salguero

Saturday, December 10, 2016:

SN IV: Atthakavagga [**"The Chapter on the Goal"**] from the Sutta Nipata [The Group of Discourse], translated from Pali by Luis O Gomez in The Norton Anthology of World Religions: Buddhism edited by Donald S. Lopez Jr., 2015
Led by Marcus Bingeheimer

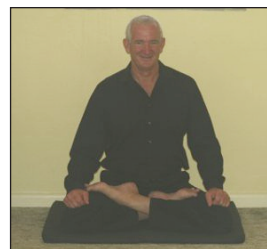
Saturday, January 14, 2017:

MN 22 PTS: M i 130, Alagaddupama Sutta: The Water-Snake Simile [**"A Discourse about Clinging on Views"**] translated from the Pali by Thanissaro Bhikkhu © 2004
Led by Zachary Brown

Saturday, February 11, 2017:

MN 82 PTS: M ii 54, Ratthapala Sutta: About Ratthapala [**To the Householder Ratthapala Who Sought Permission from Parents to Go Forth Homeless**] translated from the Pali by Thanissaro Bhikkhu © 2006
Led by Robin Carr

Day Retreat with Sensi Al Fusho Rapaport

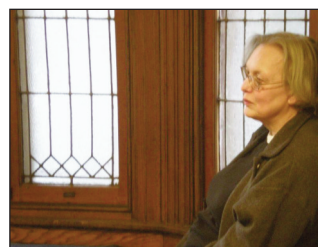


Saturday, October 10th
9:00am - 4:00pm

Plymouth Meeting Friends, 2150 Butler Pike,
Plymouth Meeting, PA

See directions and map at www.philabuddhist.org
Snacks and tea will be served. Please bring a bag lunch.
We suggest voluntary dana of \$25 (according to your means) for the teacher. No one will be turned away.

Day Retreat with Pat George



Saturday, February 4th
9:00am - 4:00pm

Plymouth Meeting Friends, 2150 Butler Pike,
Plymouth Meeting, PA

See directions and map at www.philabuddhist.org
Snacks and tea will be served. Please bring a bag lunch.
We suggest voluntary dana of \$25 (according to your means) for the teacher. No one will be turned away.

Where We Meet

Plymouth Meeting Friends

Every Sunday at 7:30 PM
second Sunday: lecture and discussion series
2150 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting PA 19462
(SW Corner of Germantown and Butler Pikes,
just outside Philadelphia)
Wheelchair and handicap access

Radnor Friends

Every Wednesday at 7:30 PM
second Saturday: Sutra study 10AM to 12:00 AM
610 Conestoga Road, Villanova, PA 19087
(Sproul Rd (route 320) and Conestoga Road)
Limited handicap access