

SANGHA NEWS LETTER

AUGUST

The New York Zendo Shobo-Ji will celebrate its THIRD ANNIVERSARY with a very special ceremony on September 15, 1971, at 6:00 p.m. At this time those students who have been with the Zendo for a considerable period of time with devotion and stability will be given their Dharma Name, which Soen Roshi and Tai-San will choose and write down artistically. All members are invited to attend.

Just before the Roshi's return to Japan, in order to establish a firm routine at the Dai-Bosatsu Zendo, we will have a five-day Zen Life in the mountains at the International Dai-Bosatsu Zendo in the Catskill Mountains. It is not exactly Sesshin as, in addition to Zazen, much work and joyous programs are included. It will start on Tuesday evening, September 7th, and will end at noon Sunday, September 12th. Because of the limited facilities, we can accept only fifteen students besides officers. Those who are interested in attending this gathering should send in their application to Chuck Carpenter at New York Zendo with their check for \$40.00 to cover costs.

Our Dharma Brother, Chuck Carpenter, who had been in Ryutakuji for more than a year, came back to New York on August 8th. Chuck will be in charge of the New York Zendo while the Roshi, Tai-San, and Hos-San are in California, and will then take charge of Dai-Bosatsu Zendo in the Catskills.

The Greek Orthodox Priest, Father Maxima, who is also a great Japanese artist, is now staying at Dai-Bosatsu Zendo in order to paint a few sacred paintings. His largest painting is of the Buddha and Bodhisattvas based upon several historical events and Zen koans. This unique painting will be dedicated to the establishment of the International Dai-Bosatsu Zendo.

Each weekend from eight to twelve students have been invited to visit the Dai-Bosatsu Zendo, beginning with officers and senior students, and taking as many as possible in accordance with their seniority in the Zendo. Tai-San is hoping that in the future every student will have had the opportunity to stay at this beautiful, spiritual Center for the training of future Bodhisattvas.

The new robes are now available and the new brochures should be ready in the very near future.

During the months of August and September THERE WILL BE NO WEEKEND SESSHIN AT THE NEW YORK ZENDO SHOBO-JI. The next of these weekend Sesshins will be on Saturday and Sunday, October 16th and 17th.

On August 26th there will be a selection of new Preparatory Students from the Thursday Public Meeting Waiting List and on August 27th there will be an ACCEPTANCE CEREMONY for the present Preparatory Students who qualify to become Regular Students.

"May we extend this mind over all beings so that we and the world together may attain maturity in Buddha's Wisdom."

Gassho,

Secretaries