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January 27, 1986

Dear Roshi,

I am writing this letter to inform you that I will not be attending the 10th Anniversary Sesshin or Ceremonies at Dai Bosatsu Zendo this summer. I plan to take my yearly vacation beginning June 25th and returning to Dai Bosatsu in mid July. I find your recent decision to expend 30-40 thousand dollars to celebrate the 10th Anniversary, nearly 20 thousand of which will go to gifts, an unnecessary extravagance. For the past five years I have taken care of the finances of Dai Bosatsu Zendo. It has been a difficult time as you know. Many nights I lost sleep over worrying about where the money would come from to pay the bills, I even differed my own stipend months at a time to make ends meet. All this without bothering you or the board. Furthermore, the fact that you declared this to the board without even speaking with or getting the approval of the Committee Chairman and Treasurer of Dai Bosatsu makes the action not only dishonest and improper but also illegal.

What perhaps bothers me the most about this action Roshi is the fact that you really consider me stupid. I may not be wise but I am not stupid and actions of this sort only destroy the "relationship" we are supposed to have. For a long time now I have known that the words honesty and personal integrity mean nothing to you, but for me they shine brightly in my heart as a guiding star and I will follow it until I die.

Sincerely,



Bugyo David Schnyer
Committee Chairman Dai Bosatsu Zendo

cc The Board of Directors The Zen Studies Society