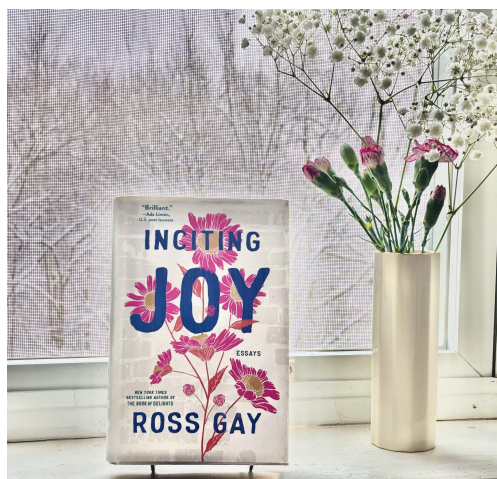


All Beings Zen Sangha Spiritual Directors Report for February 22, 2025
prepared by Rev. Inryū Poncé-Barger, Sensei
(Previous report was on November 9th, 2024)

Meditation and Recovery Healing Circle continues on Sunday evenings - trained for leading this are: Shinren Mark Stone, EiShin Mike Barreda, Betty Mooney and Inryū Ponce-Barger. EiShin and Shinren continue to lead the group with Inryū and soon Betty being able to fill in.

Dharma Book Club Has met twice since our last BOD meeting with good participation. We discussed "In Love with the World: A Monk's Journey Through the Bardos of Living and Dying" and revisited "American Sutra" Shoku Cristina Benevides is sheperding this with support of Inryū Sensei. **We would like to recruit an additional person or persons to co-sheperd this new affinity group. Upcoming study of Ross Gay's "Inciting Joy" on March 10 - online**



Zen Sewing - Currently 5 people are working on Rakusu. Two are ABZS members Norberto Gomez Jr. and Mohammad Koubeissi and two are students of Zenju Eartlyn Manuel who has asked Inryu to support their training. Rev. Lien Shutt has also asked that we support a local student of

hers as well. Currently, the class is meeting on Thursday mornings in the zendo.

New sangha members - We continue to enjoy new members attending in person since our last meeting. Shinren and Seiryu are first contacts with people reaching out about joining the practice. Seiryu has been very active as the primary greeter when people attend in person practice for the first time.

New-ish - ABZS Movie Nights - Seido and Inryu are working to have a monthly Dharma Movie Night offering. Recent months past films were Suzuki Roshi's talks on the Sandokai, Groundhog Day, Perfect Days. Coming up will be "Paterson". This is an ABZS family friendly activity which feels to be creating nice interactions and reflections about zen practice.

New-Sustaining Healthy Sanghas Course offered by the Shogaku Zen Institute is being attended by Rev. Inryū, Zen'etsu and Seiryū. This is a "pay what you can" 10 weeks course to help sangha members gain skills and learn about best practices. Three Sangha members are taking this class: Inryū, Zen'etsu and Seiryū.

Ongoing effort to document Dairyu's Sumi paintings and books. no work has been done on the Sumi paintings but ABZS librarian Sunyata Alex Lima continues to come in almost weekly to catalog the books into an "ibooks" digital list. A researcher has requested specific historical documents but we have not archived those yet. Inryū will follow up.

Soto Zen Buddhist Association Conference 2025 - Shoryū and Inryū are active on the planning committee for the September 2025 Branching Streams Conference outside of Chicago. ABZS should plan to send 3 people to represent the sangha.

2025 ABZS Calendar was completed and sent to donors and the extended Maha Sangha.

Activities & Retreats Past quarter

Zazenkai November 16, 2024. Urban

**Saturday November 23, 2024 3pm - Guest Speaker Rev. Jiko Nakade,
Daifukuji Soto Mission, Hawaii - online**

Monday Dec 2– Sunday Dec 8, 2024 Rohatsu Sesshin hybrid



**Wednesday December 11, 2024 Japanese Embassy offering on
“Kyoto’s Gateway Buddhist Temple” Practices and Art**

Attended by Spiritual Director Inryū Sensei and three practice leaders (Seido David Sarpal, Myoshin Carlos Moura and Seiryu Paula Chiplis) where we were able to reconnect with Frank Feltons (the curator for Japanese Art at the Smithsonian Asian Art Museum). We may be able to collaborate on a future exhibit.

Saturday December 14, 2024 11am Final Shuso Ceremony hybrid



Saturday December 21, 2024 Solstice Ceremony. hybrid

January 25th, 2025 - All Beings Zen Sangha at the Museum of the American Indian for the “Sublime Light” Exhibit



Saturday January 25, 2025 - ABZS Movie Night “Groundhog Day”

Monday January 28th, 2025 - ABZS Priests and members offered a Memorial Service for Sheila O'Brien. Many of her friends and family members were in attendance.



Dharma Tea's on Tuesdays since our last BOD meeting:

Esho Beth Milligan on "Zen Master Ekaku Haquin: Art for the People!"

Zen'etsu Clay Crowell on "Baikaryu Eisanka (Plum Blossom Style Hymns)".

Looking forward in 2025

Sunday February 23rd, 2025 10-4pm - Zazenkai (full day meditation retreat). 13 people have RSVPd to attend

Tuesday February 25th, 2025 - Dharma Tea on Tuesdays at 2 -2:45pm Tea led by Beata Stylianos on her "Experience of Meeting the Dalai Lama on a Roof in Cambridge, MA".
online only

Thursday February 27th, 2025 - Zen Sewing Class - 10am to noon - urban zendo

Friday February 28th, 2025 7pm - Dharma Movie Night at the Zendo -in person for the film 'Paterson'

Sunday March 23rd, 2025 8:30am-1:30pm - Half Day Zen Retreat and Vegetarian Lunch at Blue Ridge Farm VA

June 25-29, 2025 - ABZS visit to Green Gulch Farm/Green Dragon Temple (ABZS can send 10 members to this sangha week event). Sign up details have yet to be provided by SFZC. Cost per night per person is \$90.

September 15-18, 2025 - Suzuki Roshi Branching Streams Conference, [Loyola University's Retreat and Ecology Center, Woodstock, IL](#) (ABZS can send 3 members to this conference)

October 23-26, 2025 - Annual U.S. Soto Zen Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii (a number of ABZS members have expressed a desire to attend)

