



ROCHESTER ZEN CENTER
A BUDDHIST COMMUNITY

December 3, 2016

Dear Sangha,

Annual Cleaning of the Temple

On Wednesday, December 28, with staff back from the holiday break, we'll begin our preparations for the New Year, starting with our annual Cleaning of the Temple at Arnold Park. We start with a short chanting service at 9:45 am and finish with pizza at 12:30 pm. Give us a call if you'd like to take part!

One month later, Saturday, January 28, is the Chinese New Year, and we have Temple Cleaning at Chapin Mill scheduled then. We'll begin at 9 am and finish at 12:30 pm.

New Year's Celebrations

Our New Year's Eve ceremonies, with zazen, repentance, noise-making circumambulation, candle lighting, bell ringing, resolution reading, and refreshments, go from 8 pm on December 31 to a little after midnight. If you plan to come from out of town for the celebrations and would like to stay at the Center, please let the receptionist know by December 28.

Sangha Entertainment Night

This year, the Sangha Entertainment Night will be on Saturday, February 4. An easily entertained audience awaits your act! To sign up, contact Cecily Fuhr (cecilyfuhr@gmail.com).

February 2-day Sesshin

Wayman Kubicka will lead a two-day sesshin that will begin Friday evening, February 24, and end after noon on Sunday, February 26. For those ready to test the waters of sesshin, we offer two two-day sesshins each year, one in mid-winter and another early in the fall. The deadline for applications is Thursday, February 16.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The fall meeting of the Center's Board of Trustees was held on October 22-23. Draft minutes of the meeting will soon be available in the "Communications > Meetings & Finances" section of the Center's website at www.rzc.org/communications/meeting-minutes. At the meeting, the Trustees heard reports from the chairs of various Center committees, such as the Finance Committee and the Committee on Facilities and Sustainable Operations, and reviewed the Center's current financial position. At the end of the third quarter, the Center's total operating income was as expected in view of the 2016 budget and past-year, third-quarter financial results. However, operating expenses were somewhat lower than expected. In planning for next year, the Board adopted a 2017 operating budget of \$438,100 for Arnold Park and Chapin Mill combined, which represents a 13 percent decrease from the 2016 expense budget; details of the 2017 budget will be included with the meeting minutes.

From the Financial Office

Many thanks to all those Sangha members who have continued to contribute generously to the Center this year. If you have not yet sent in your contribution for the fourth quarter of 2016, it would help if you send it as soon as you're able to.

Special Dates for 2017

Sangha Entertainment Night: Saturday, February 4

Chapin Mill Work Retreat: June 27 – Saturday, July 1

Amala-sensei will lead the Summer sesshin: July 29 – August 5

Sangha Picnic: Saturday, August 19

Founder's Day: Sunday, August 20

2017 Sesshin Dates

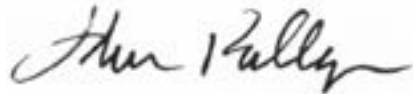
Below are sesshin dates through December 2017; all are held at Chapin Mill, and all are led by Roshi unless otherwise indicated.

January 7-14	7-day	deadline: December 15
February 24-26	2-day (Wayman Kubicka)	deadline: February 16
April 8-15	7-day	deadline: March 16
June 10-17	7-day	deadline: May 18
July 29-August 5	7-day (Amala-sensei)	deadline: July 6
September 8-10	2-day (Eryl Kubicka)	deadline: August 31
Sept 30-October 7	7-day	deadline: September 7
November 4-11	7-day	deadline: October 12
December 5-9	4-day	deadline: November 16

Please bear in mind that if you miss the deadline you may apply late for any sesshin. We always accept qualified applicants if there's room. Also, if you need to book a flight early and want to make sure beforehand that you'll be accepted to sesshin, you may ask for an early decision, and we will accommodate you if we can.

These dates are also listed in the Sesshin section of the Center's website.

In the Dharma,



John Pulleyn
For the Center