

# Great Sky Sesshin August 13-20, 2011

sponsored by  
Cedar Rapids Zen Center and Milwaukee Zen Center

**When:** Arrival - by 4:00 p.m., Saturday, August 13, 2011  
Departure - after 1:00 p.m. clean-up, Saturday, August 20, 2011

**Where:** Hokyoji Zen Practice Community, Eitzen, Minnesota.  
A beautiful rural setting of meadow, forest and rolling hills in southern Minnesota just west of the Mississippi River. Accommodations are very simple, ranging from dormitory - style bunk beds to the zendo floor to personal camping equipment. Participants should bring their own sleeping bags, towels and toiletries. There are showers and outdoor toilets available. The zendo is a lovely Japanese style structure.

**What:** A daily schedule of zazen, dharma talks, services, dokusan, meals with oryoki, tea breaks and work periods. (See attached full schedule.)

**Teachers:**  
Myoyu Andersen, Great Plains Zen Center  
Tonon O'Connor, Milwaukee Zen Center  
Zuiko Redding, Cedar Rapids Zen Center  
Rosan Yoshida, Missouri Zen Center

**Associate Teacher:**  
Dokai Georgesen, Resident Teacher, Hokyoji Zen Practice Community

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The purpose of this Soto Zen style sesshin is to draw together teachers and practitioners for seven days of deepening their understanding of the dharma under the extraordinary big sky of Hokyoji.

**Participation** is limited to 24 practitioners.

**Cost:** \$300 – bunk bed (with air mattress)  
\$265 – zendo or camping.

A registration form is attached and should be returned with payment in full to the Milwaukee Zen Center, 2825 N. Stowell Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211

**Deadline for Registration:** no later than July 23, 2010  
A full information packet will be provided after registration.

For questions or further information, please contact the Milwaukee Zen Center.  
E-Mail: [kokyo-an@earthlink.net](mailto:kokyo-an@earthlink.net) Phone: (414)963-0526 Fax: (414)963-0517

**Myoyu Andersen**, resident teacher of Great Plains Zen Center (GPZC) studied for over twenty years with Taizan Maezumi Roshi at the Zen Center of Los Angeles. In 1978, she was ordained as a Buddhist monk and in 1995 Maezumi Roshi gave her *shiho* (Dharma transmission), authorizing her to become a Zen teacher. Myoyu also teaches at several affiliate centers in Michigan and Chicago. She is also the mother of two children, and works as an occupational therapist with individuals who have developmental disabilities.

**Dokai Georgesen** began his study of Zen Buddhism at Minnesota Zen Center under the direction of Dainin Katagiri Roshi in 1974. Upon his return in 1982 from two years on pilgrimage studying Buddhism in India and Japan, he lived at Hokyoji until his ordination in 1984. In 1989, he received dharma transmission from Katagiri Roshi. Since then, he has returned to Japan several times to study under Ikko Narasaki Roshi, Tsugen Narasaki Roshi and Taizan Maezumi Roshi. He has also practiced at Plum Village in France under the direction of Thich Nhat Hanh. He returned to Hokyoji in June, 2003, and is now its resident teacher.

**Tonen O'Connor** is the resident priest at the Milwaukee Zen Center. She received ordination from Tozen Akiyama in 1994 and dharma transmission in 1999. She has trained in Japan at Shogoji, Hosshinji and Hokyoji. Since 1998, she has worked extensively with inmates within the Wisconsin correctional system, is active in interfaith programs, and is a past President of the Board of the Soto Zen Buddhist Association. Prior to entering the Zen world, Rev. O'Connor had a 40-year career in the professional theater and was managing director of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 1974-1995.

**Zuiko Redding** is the resident teacher at Cedar Rapids Zen Center. She practiced at Milwaukee Zen Center with Tozen Akiyama and at Minnesota Zen Center with Dainin Katagiri in the 1980s. In January, 1992, she received novice ordination in Japan from Tsugen Narasaki. She practiced under his direction at Zuijōji Senmon Sodo and its sub-temple Shogoji until her return to the U.S. in 1997. She received dharma transmission from Tsugen Narasaki in July, 1996. She also holds a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Before ordination, she taught demography and social research methods at the university level and was a researcher with the Wisconsin State Center for Health Statistics.

**Rosan Yoshida**, founder and director of Missouri Zen Center, received dharma transmission from Dainin Katagiri Roshi in 1989 and from Tsugen Narasaki Roshi in 1993. He was certified by Soto Shu as an international teacher in 1994. He earned his Ph.D. from Columbia University and M.A. from Tokyo University. He is the author of "NO SELF - A Systematic Interpretation of Buddhism" and "Limitless Life: Dogen's World" as well as other books, articles and translations. He participated in the Parliament of the World's Religions and is promoting the Global Ethic. He is a primary founder and advisor of the Global System Ethic Association.

## Great Sky Sesshin Schedule

Sat. evening  
8/13/11

4:00 p.m. arrival  
5:30 - informal meal  
6:30 - oryoki instruction  
7:30 – orientation  
8:30 – zazen  
9:00 – end of day

Daily Schedule  
8/14 thru 8/19/11

4:30 a.m. – Wake up bell  
4:50 – jumpan (1)  
4:55 - jundo (2)  
5:00 - zazen  
5:40 - kinhin  
5:50 - zazen  
6:30 - service  
6:45 - breakfast  
7:30 – tea, break  
8:10 - zazen  
8:50 - kinhin  
9:00 –dharma talk  
9:50 – Q & A  
10:10 – kinhin  
10:20 – zazen  
11:00 – kinhin  
11:10 – zazen  
11:45 – service  
12:00 p.m.- lunch  
12:45 – break  
1:15 – work meeting  
1:25 – work period  
2:50 – clean up  
3:00 – tea, break  
4:20 – zazen  
5:00 – service  
5:15 – supper  
6:00 – break  
6:30 – zazen  
7:10 – kinhin  
7:20 – zazen  
8:00 – kinhin  
8:10 - zazen  
8:50 – end of day

Sat. morning  
8/20/11

4:30 a.m. - wake up  
4:50 - jumpan  
4:55 - jundo  
5:00- zazen  
5:40- kinhin  
5:50 - zazen  
6:30 - service  
6:45 - breakfast  
7:30 – tea, break  
8:10 –work period  
9:50 –change for zazen  
10:10 - zazen  
10:50 - break  
11:00 - memorial service (3)  
12:00 p.m. – lunch  
1:00 – final clean-up  
2:00 - departure

### Notes:

- (1) jumpan – striking of the wooden han to assemble for zazen
- (2) officiating priest circumambulates the zendo, everyone must be in place
- (3) memorial service at grave site of founder of Hokyoji, Katagiri Roshi

# Registration Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that there are several options for accommodations, and I choose:

\_\_\_ bunk bed with air mattress Cost: \$300

\_\_\_ zendo floor Cost: \$265

\_\_\_ camping in the meadow with my own tent and equipment (Note: campers will sleep in the zendo or workshop in the case of electrical storms.) Cost: \$265

I will bring: \_\_\_ zafu \_\_\_ zabuton (Will be supplied if you are not able to bring them.)

## Transportation:

\_\_\_ I will be driving. Please send directions.

\_\_\_ I will be flying into La Crosse, WI, and will need airport pickup

Expected times of arrival: \_\_\_\_\_ and departure: \_\_\_\_\_

## Meals and food:

\_\_\_ I will bring my own oryoki bowls. \_\_\_ I will need oryoki bowls.

\_\_\_ I have the following food allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

## Other:

Medical or physical conditions limiting my activity: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment in full** of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed. (Make check payable to Milwaukee Zen Center, and mail with registration form and signed indemnity form to:  
Milwaukee Zen Center, 2825 N. Stowell Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211)

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Full refund if canceling prior to July 23, 2011.  
After July 23, a \$100 cancellation fee will be levied.

**INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

**I agree to indemnify and hold Hokyoji Zen Practice Community harmless from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities, including attorneys' fees brought as a result of my attendance and use of space for a retreat at the Hokyoji Retreat Center, 2646 County Road 5, Eitzen, Minnesota, and to reimburse Hokyoji Zen Practice Community for any such incurred expenses.**

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dates of stay** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: PLEASE RETURN THIS SIGNED FORM WITH YOUR REGISTRATION FORM TO THE MILWAUKEE ZEN CENTER.**