

PARTICIPATION AT HIDDEN VALLEY ZEN CENTER

MEMBERS may attend any event offered at the Center, including regular sittings and—on acceptance and approval of sesshin applications—sesshin. (*Non-members may attend one or two sesshin on the basis of receipt and approval of a sesshin application, but pay a higher fee for sesshin. After having attended a maximum of two sesshin within a given year, membership is required if one wishes to continue attending sesshin.*)

MEMBERS may also attend Sangha meetings and meetings of the Board of Directors, and vote in Sangha meetings.

FRIENDS OF THE CENTER may attend occasional sittings and sesshin. However, if a Friend of the Center is accepted to a sesshin, s/he pays the non-member price.

- ❖ MEMBERSHIP entails ongoing involvement in and regular financial support of the Center. Please see "Membership in Hidden Valley Zen Center: Privileges and Responsibilities" for a full list of the privileges and responsibilities of membership.
- ❖ FRIENDS OF THE CENTER (minimum \$100/year donation) are those who would like to have some connection with the Center and help support it in some way, but are not particularly interested in taking part in events at the Center except rarely—for example, for ceremonies or other special events or for an occasional sitting.

Additional (financial, work, or other) donations are gratefully received at any time, as our Center operates entirely on financial offerings. We are a not-for-profit religious corporation under 501(c)(3), and so your gifts are tax deductible.

Membership at Hidden Valley Zen Center

Privileges and Responsibilities

Privileges

- ❖ Sanzen [private interview] with Roshi on an ongoing basis
There are a number of 1-day, 2-day, 4-day, and 7-day sesshin per year here. In addition, there is sanzen during daily morning and evening sittings outside of sesshin.
- ❖ Teisho [Zen talk]
During sesshin and at other times when Roshi is available to give teisho, or Zen talks. (Teisho are traditionally considered expressions of the fruits of Zen.) These are open to members whenever they are offered, in or out of sesshin.
- ❖ Priority for sesshin
If there are more applicants than spaces available for a given sesshin, members are given priority over nonmembers, all other things being equal.
- ❖ Special member rates for sesshin attendance
Sesshin fees for members are lower than those for nonmembers.
- ❖ Discount on purchases of calligraphies.
Members receive a 10% discount on purchases of these original calligraphies, which come with a short commentary on the meaning of that calligraphy.
- ❖ Daily sitting opportunities with the group
Members are free to attend the regularly scheduled formal sittings, and also to come and sit informally in the zendo on their own at other times outside of sesshin. Non-members may come for a few weeks only, after which, if one wishes to continue sitting at HVZC, membership is a requirement.
- ❖ Voting privileges in Sangha meetings, and eligibility to attend all meetings of the group, including meetings of the Board of Directors
- ❖ Library privileges at the HVZC library
Hidden Valley Zen Center has a small library of books of interest to people practicing Zen (and a few others, as well). Members may check these books out to read at home if they wish.

Responsibilities

- ❖ To help support the Center financially...

Electricity, water, repair and maintenance are ongoing expenses, and it is through the generosity of the members that it becomes possible to maintain both the buildings and our possibility of practicing at the Center. We also provide partial support for our teacher. These are paid for by donations.

There is no set fee for membership. However, it is expected that each member will pledge and pay an amount of monthly or quarterly financial support that is in accordance with his or her life circumstances. Donations are welcomed and gratefully accepted at other times and on other occasions as well.

- ❖ And also, in accordance with one's life circumstances, to regularly help in other ways, such as joining in Sangha workdays or coming on your own to help maintain our Center buildings and grounds or to work on a particular project.

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HIDDEN VALLEY ZEN CENTER

Member Information and Pledge Form

Member Information:

First Name:

Last Name:

Address 1:

Address 2:

City:

State:

Zip:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Occupation:

Date of Birth:

Spouse's/Partner's Name:

20__ Membership Pledge:

I pledge a total of \$_____ for the year 20__ Please enclose the first payment of your pledge and check one of the boxes below. The suggested minimum annual pledge is \$660 (\$55 per month), but you may pledge more or less, depending on your circumstances.

- I am enclosing the full amount of my pledge.
- I am enclosing half of my pledge and will pay the remainder by June 1, 20__.
- I am enclosing one month of my pledge and will make additional contributions by the first day of each remaining month in 20__.

RETURN THIS PORTION TO:

Hidden Valley Zen Center
P.O. Box 1355
San Marcos, CA 92079-1355

KEEP THIS PART FOR YOUR RECORDS

Amount of 20__ Hidden Valley Zen Center membership pledge is: \$_____

- I have enclosed the full amount of my pledge.
- I have enclosed half of my pledge and will pay the remainder by June 1, 20__.
- I have enclosed one month of my pledge and will make additional contributions by the first day of each month in 20__.

Hidden Valley Zen Center P.O. Box 1355 San Marcos, CA 92079-1355
760-591-9893