

# 2008 Yin Shun Foundation Summer Dharma Retreat

## English Program Speakers

### MONASTIC TEACHERS

**Venerable Thich Tri Hoang** is a Vietnamese-born monk who is currently the abbot at Temple Vietnam in Boston, MA. Prior to this he was the abbot at Hai An Pagoda in Connecticut. He has studied under many Buddhist masters including Thich Tri Thu, Thich Huyen Vi, and Thich Nhat Hanh. Ven. Tri Hoang became a novice Buddhist monk in Vietnam at the age of 14 and was ordained at 24. He has also studied Buddhism and philosophy in India, Holland, France and China, and received a Doctorate in Eastern Philosophy from Leiden University in Holland. He has led Buddhist meditation retreats in Holland, France, and England for many years. Venerable Tri Hoang speaks five languages including English, Chinese, and Vietnamese.

**Venerable Chang Tzu** is a Taiwanese monk born in Taipei, Taiwan. He graduated in 1995 from the Department of Atmospheric Science at the National Central University in Taiwan with a major in meteorology and went on to receive his masters degree in 1997 from the Institute of Space Science. Ven. Chang Tzu was ordained by Ven. Hou-Guan in 2000. He then studied advanced Buddhism at Fu Yan Institute until 2002 and studied specialized Buddhist programs at the graduate school until 2005. He was a lecturer at Fu Yan Institute through 2006. He is currently researching Buddhism relevant to early Mahayana doctrine. Ven. Chang Tzu speaks and writes English.

**Venerable Subhuti** was born in India and migrated to East Africa where his parents set up a manufacturing business, but due to political upheavals they had to leave the country. He came into contact with Buddhism while studying Physics at London University, passing the Mathematics for Scientists exam. He then established a successful business in partnership with his brother. Wanting to become a monk he went to India and on to northeast Thailand for novice ordination. Two years later he received higher ordination in Sri Lanka and stayed in the forest monastery for six years. He hopes to return one day to teach in India and Sri Lanka.

**Venerable (Bill) Aruno** was originally ordained as a Chinese Mahayana monk in 1997. He has more recently practiced in the Theravada Thai tradition for six years, using the Vipassana system, starting with Gayanupassana-Satipatthana — mindfulness of sitting rupa, walking rupa and all minor postures, that then develops into the four foundations of mindfulness. This method was taught by the late Ajahn Naeb for 40 years in Thailand. Ven. Bill has also translated books by Ajahn Naeb into Chinese, such as *The 15 Principles of Vipassana*, *The Sure Way of Practice*, *Shut Down the Way to "The Hell"*, and *Conversations Guiding Vipassana Retreats with Monks & with Lay-people*. Ven. Bill currently resides at Bodhi Monastery.

### LAY TEACHERS

**Michael Roehm** has been the facilitator of the Sutta Study Group at the Washington Buddhist Vihara for over 12 years. His Buddhist affiliations and activities have focused on both the Theravada and (Korean and Soto) Zen traditions. A former monastic in Sri Lanka and Korea, where he was a student of Zen Master Kusan Sunim, he was also a founding member of the Washington Buddhist Vihara and Bhavana Society, and a cofounder of Lotus Lantern International Buddhist Center (Seoul, Korea) and the Buddhist Fellowship of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, VA. He has given talks and taught Buddhist courses in Korea and the US, and is a lay student in the Mountain and Rivers Order of Zen Mountain Monastery. He lives in Washington, DC, where he is Senior International Student Adviser in International Student and Scholar Services at American University. An inveterate day hiker, he can be found on the Appalachian Trail and related trails many Sundays of the year.

**Yu-Jung L. Avis, Ph.D.**, became a Buddhist in 1991 when she was a graduate student at Rutgers University. She regularly attended Ven. Jen-Chun's Saturday Dharma talks and religious programs for a majority of the last 16 years. She joined the Yin Shun Foundation in 1998 and served as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees in 2004 and 2005. She was the English interpreter for the weekly program of Dharma talks at Bodhi Monastery for several years while she studied Pali with Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi. She is a co-translator of Ven. Yinshun's autobiographical work, *A Sixty-Year Spiritual Voyage on the Ocean of Dharma*. She is an Associate Professor of Finance at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York.

**Scott Hurley, Ph.D.** earned his masters degree in East Asian Studies at the University of Arizona in 2001. His dissertation research focused on the thought of the scholar-monk Ven. Yinshun. In the course of his education as a graduate student, he spent one year in the Mandarin Training Center at Taiwan Normal University in Taipei, Taiwan. He also traveled in China on a research grant studying the spread and development of Mañjusri worship. Currently Scott is working at Shattuck-St. Mary's School in Faribault, Minnesota teaching Mandarin and Chinese history. He has recently taken a position as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Presently, his primary research interests include late nineteenth to mid-twentieth century Chinese Buddhism, contemporary Taiwanese religion, new religious movements as forms of social and political protest/activism, and animal rights/welfare issues. He continues to study Ven. Yinshun's work. He is currently examining the teachings and practices of a contemporary Taiwanese Buddhist movement known as the Tzu Chi Foundation founded by Master Zhengyan.