

## REBUILDING THE TASSAJARA BATH HOUSE—AN UPDATE

In the past twelve months we have developed the plans for the reconstruction of the Tassajara Bath House and have raised \$110,000 towards the total anticipated cost of \$175,000. If we raise the remaining \$65,000 by September 1, 1985, we will begin reconstruction this Fall and the Bath House will be ready for Summer, 1986.

The design for the new building is modest but beautiful, maintaining the simple and informal feeling that seems fitting for Tassajara. The floor plan remains basically the same. Long requested shower facilities for both men and women will be added. Deck areas are to be extended; plunges, tubs, and floors will be tiled to provide a durable finish. The new peaked roofs will allow more light and air into the dressing and bathing rooms. Plunges will have built-in seating for a more relaxing soak. The reservoir and hot water system will be insulated to improve the hot water supply, and temperature regulators will be installed for the plunges.

The reconstructed building will be open to the air and the mountains, creating an informal feeling. We have found an unglazed tile for the floors that is remarkably similar to the Tassajara granite. The tile in the plunges will also complement the soft granite colors. Port Orford Cedar will be used for the trusses spanning the front and back walls, and the walls themselves will be white stucco. Kerosene lamps will continue to provide lighting for the building.



*Architectural rendering of Bath House remodeling by Vicki Austin*

The Bath House design is by Mui Ho, who practices in Berkeley and teaches at the U.C.-Berkeley Department of Architecture. She is co-founder of the Organization for Women Architects and has done extensive work for the Chinatown Community Housing Corporation in San Francisco. Engineering is by Geoffrey Barrett, of Mill Valley, a long-time friend of Zen Center and Tassajara summer guest. Construction of the building will be directed by Gene de Smidt and Peter van der Sterre. All of these people have worked with a design committee of Zen Center members who have, themselves, spent many summers and winters at Tassajara.

A Bath House Building Fund Committee, chaired by William W. Sterling, has been established to help raise the \$65,000 still needed to begin the project. A fundraising letter to Tassajara guests and donors was sent out at the end of April, and a Bath benefit dinner and wine tasting is planned for Sunday, June 16th, at Greens restaurant. This year, again, we are offering the Tassajara Yukata (Bath Robe) designed by Mayumi Oda for sale by mail; proceeds go to the Bath House fund.

If you would like to help us finance the reconstruction of the Tassajara Bath House, you may send a tax-deductible contribution to the Tassajara Bath House Fund.

