



Ven. Bhante Patthago

I was born Steven John Jr and is originally from New England just south of the Boston area. I can recall from a very early age feeling the undercurrent of unsatisfactoriness that seemed to be inherent in my experience.

After some years I found I had a thirst for truth and would feel most alive when engaged in spiritual contemplation and conversations about the nature of life and existence.

Shortly after high school I started working in the Nursery industry and found I had a love for growing trees and being outdoors. I continued to do so for many (25) years all the while feeling this continuity of unsatisfactoriness or lack of a inner happiness and joy that I somehow knew was what all beings were looking for.

In 1999 I moved from the Boston area to Portland Oregon. One day while inquiring about Buddhist Meditation at a local temple I met a Thai Forest monk who informed me of his evening meditation class. Shortly after was the experience of clearly knowing I had found what I was looking for.

I continued to practice as a lay person with my teacher Ajhan CittaPunno Maha Thero ,also known locally as Ajhan FaThai for many years until finally receiving full ordination in Thailand.

My special interest as a monk is in the early teachings of the Buddha and early Buddhist Meditation as taught by the Buddha before the emergence of all the different schools and traditions we now have today including Theravada.

I am currently a resident monk at a small hermitage in Oregon where I continue to practice and teach meditation in both Oregon and Washington.