

# Springs Mountain Sangha

A Zen Buddhist Community

Springs Mountain Sangha

Colorado Springs

voice mail: (719) 684-0210

www.smszen.org

# The Dharma Rag

Volume 11, Issue 9

~ October 2008 ~

Í Í Í Æ Ñ Ó Ó Ó

## Coming Up for Springs Mountain Sangha

### **—In October**

**One-Day Retreat with Sarah Bender, Sensei**—Saturday, October 4. See page 8.

**All-Sangha Meeting and Dinner**—Sunday, October 5. Page 4.

**Buddhist Film Series**—Starting Thursday, October 16. Page 8.

**Work in the Room with Sarah Bender, Sensei**—Saturday, October 18. Page 8.

**Study Group**—Sundays, October 19 through November 16. Page 8.

Í Í Í Æ Ñ Ó Ó Ó

Springs Mountain Sangha's Monthly Newsletter: *The Dharma Rag*

Editor: Leece Overmann. Published every month, mostly.

We encourage submissions of articles related to Buddhism and the Way, event announcements, letters to the editor, reviews, poems, recipes, and other sharings from all readers! Send them by e-mail to [SMSDharmaRag@hotmail.com](mailto:SMSDharmaRag@hotmail.com), or, submit them by snail-mail to P.O. Box 25277, Colorado Springs, CO 80936-5277. The deadline for the next month's publication is the third Friday of each month; submissions may be lightly edited by a loving hand. Please visit our Web site at [www.smszen.org](http://www.smszen.org)!

Inside This Issue		Page	Inside This Issue		Page
3	Dharma Talk	- 2 -	ZenSmile Cartoon	- 6 -	
	Joan Sutherland, Roshi	- 2 -	3 Sangha Business	- 7 -	
	Sarah Bender, Sensei	- 3 -	3 Events and Activities	- 8 -	
3	Special News & Updates	- 4 -	SMS Weekly Schedule	- 8 -	
	All-Sangha Meeting, October 5	- 4 -	Other Local Groups	- 9 -	
3	Voices	- 5 -	Out-of-State Events	- 9 -	
	Prayer for the Dalai Lama	- 5 -	3 At-a-Glance Calendar	- 10 -	

I I I D N O O O

## Dharma Talk

### **An Unabashed Plea**

Joan Sutherland

It doesn't seem like an exaggeration to say that the upcoming election is the most important in our voting lives. What we choose is about urgent issues like the war in Iraq and economic collapse that demand immediate action, and it's also about urgent, longer term issues—like the future of life on Earth in light of global warming and whether we will continue to be a nation which condones torture—that are calling upon our deepest selves for response. In a world as interconnected as ours is, and because this country has so much influence on all the others, every single person walking this earth will in some way be affected by what we decide. And every other being as well—every creature that leaps, runs, flies, or crawls, as Hakuin said, and all the plants and rocks and bodies of water, too—will be affected by the decision we make this autumn, and by how we keep the pressure on our governing class from then on.

Sometimes I am nauseated by the reduction of this profound moral challenge to mud-slinging politics (with apologies to mud). Is it possible that our collective anxiety for the future and grief about the recent past is so great that many of us can't bear them and are this desperate for distraction? Let us, please, all of us, do something else: let us respond with the caring and the courage of our ancestors at their best. Let us respond with our own best. Ordinarily I would say get involved, give money, vote, etc. in a generic way, but this doesn't feel like ordinarily. So I will say that I believe we have in Mr. Obama a candidate of uncommon decency, remarkable intelligence, and deep-rooted equanimity. It feels as though we as a nation are being given another chance; let's take it. If you already agree with me, please do what you can to support the Obama campaign, and remember that people will start casting absentee ballots any minute, so the time to act is now. If you see it differently, I ask you to take another look, and I wouldn't ask that lightly.



Walk precincts for the creatures who leap. Register young people and the disenfranchised for the creatures who run. Give money for those who fly, and cast your ballot for all who crawl.

And remember the words of Polish poet Adam Zagajewski:

Above all though, I detect the exceptionally patient and persistent work of goodness, which could not be completely extinguished, even in this rather cruel century. Goodness does exist, not just evil [and] stupidity.... Evil has more energy and can act with the speed of lightning like a blitzkrieg. Whereas goodness likes to dawdle in a most peculiar fashion. This fatal disproportion leads to irreparable losses in many cases.... But goodness returns, calm, unhurried, like those phlegmatic, elegantly dressed, pipe smoking gentlemen detectives in old fashioned mysteries, who appear upon the scene of the crime the day after it has been committed. It comes back slowly as if it alone had no access to modern modes of transportation, no train, car, plane, rocket, or even bicycle at its disposal. It returns though, deliberately as a pilgrim, inevitably as the dawn.... Goodness treats us as though we were immortal.

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

Ryokan wrote,

Where beauty is, then there is ugliness;  
 where right is, there is also wrong.  
 Knowledge and ignorance are interdependent;  
 delusion and enlightenment condition each other.  
 Since olden times it has been so.  
 How could it be otherwise now?  
 Wanting to get rid of one and grab the other  
 is merely realizing a scene of stupidity.  
 Even if you speak of the wonder in it all,  
 how do you deal with each thing changing?

(From *Essential Zen* by Kazuaki Tanahashi and David Schneider)

### **“How do you deal with each thing changing?”**

In this season of penetrating uncertainty, in which a morning of fragrant air holds golden-leaved blue sky wonder and also holds news of financial collapses, political dealings and the daily death toll, the words of this challenge are “the sound of the temple bell.” I am aware that how I deal with each thing changing is not my business alone. Here, there is the opportunity to offer a response. Things are changing, and some of the changes leave me feeling very iffy in my gut. I could spend a day running around to try to settle that iffy feeling of the gut by whatever means come to hand. Maybe I will do some of that, but I can also, at each moment, touch in lightly with what is for me and make an offering.

If, when I am delighted, I share that delight, I have an opportunity to spread it.

When my body responds to a tense situation by tightening and taking a nervous, protective stance, I can trust in my body and take a moment to let it return to its natural state. As Eugen Gendlin says, “Once your body is allowed to be itself, uncramped, it has the wisdom to deal with your problems.”

So, what do I notice? Am I needing some encouragement? I can offer encouragement to someone. Am I scared about ending up poor? I can notice that, take a minute



to list a few things for which I am grateful, and see what I could give today. Am I angry about wrongdoing by my government? I can take a minute to willingly accept the difficulty of being alive, and send my wishes for all of us for relief from the pain of this anger. Then I can pick one action that might help turn things in a more positive direction.

These are just responses that come up for me. My point is that fortunately, we are alive. Fortunately, we have a path. Our path of awakening is to look, right now, at what is and to respond to the sounds of the world with just that response we can offer right now. That is enough.

**Sarah Bender**

Í Í Í Ñ Ñ Ñ Ó Ó Í Í Í Ñ Ñ Ñ Ó Ó

Special News & Updates

# All-Sangha Meeting

**The fall All-Sangha Meeting will be held**

**Sunday, October 5, 4:30–7:30 PM**

**At the Woman’s Club**

Springs Mountain Sangha will hold its annual All-Sangha Meeting for 2008. Dinner will be provided at 6:00 PM.

Join the lively discussion of important Sangha matters:

- Review of the meeting process: consensus, dissent, active listening, council process, standing aside, and the mindfulness bell.
- Election of Steering Committee members for the upcoming year.
- Time for members to raise any concerns or comments related to our Sangha.
- Do we have an appropriate level of offerings (classes, retreats, ceremonies, socials, etc.) as a Sangha?
- Report from Sarah on her extended practice period.
- A Home of our Own: consideration of spending up to \$10,000 to rent a facility to call our own for a year.

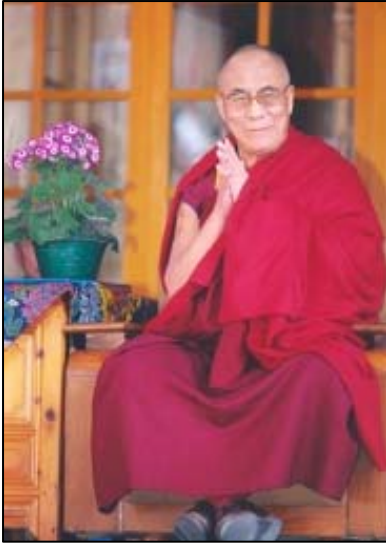
**PLEASE ATTEND IF YOU POSSIBLY CAN!**

Í Í Í Ñ Ñ Ñ Ó Ó Í Í Í Ñ Ñ Ñ Ó Ó

## Voices

### Prayer for the Long Life of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

OM SVASTI



To the assembly of most kind teachers, both present and past—the miraculous dance of the body, speech and mind of innumerable Buddhas manifesting in accordance with aspirants' spiritual capacities, the wish-granting jewel, the source of all virtue and goodness—to you, we offer our prayers with fervent devotion:

That Tenzin Gyatso, protector of the Land of Snows, live for a hundred eons.

***Show on him your blessings so that his aspirations are fulfilled without hindrance.***

To the assembly of all meditational deities manifesting as countless mandalas and divinities—the magical clouds of immaculate, transcendent wisdom reaching to the farthest expanse of the space of ultimate reality—to you, we offer our prayers with fervent devotion: That Tenzin Gyatso, protector of the Land of Snows, live for a hundred eons.

***Show on him your blessings so that his aspirations are fulfilled without hindrance.***

To all the victorious Buddhas of the three times endowed with ten powers and who are even masters of the gods, and whose attributes of perfection are the source of all compassionate deeds benefiting the vast ocean-like realm of sentient beings, to you, we offer our prayers with fervent devotion: That Tenzin Gyatso, protector of the Land of Snows, live for a hundred eons.

***Show on him your blessings so that his aspirations are fulfilled without hindrance.***

To the assembly of sacred doctrine embodied in the Three Vehicles, supremely serene, a jewel-treasure of enlightenment, stainless, unchanging, eternally good, and the glory of all virtues, which actually liberates beings from the sufferings of the three worlds, to you, we offer our prayers with fervent devotion: That Tenzin Gyatso, protector of the Land of Snows, live for a hundred eons.

***Show on him your blessings so that his aspirations are fulfilled without hindrance.***

To all members of the enlightening, noble spiritual community, who never stray from the thoroughly liberating adamant city, who possess the wisdom eye that directly sees the profound truth and the highest valor to destroy all machinations of cyclic existence, to you, we offer our prayers with fervent devotion: That Tenzin Gyatso, protector of the Land of Snows, live for a hundred eons.

***Show on him your blessings so that his aspirations are fulfilled without hindrance.***

To the assembly of heroes and dakinis, heavenly beings of the three worlds, who appear in the highest paradises, in the sacred places, and in the cremation grounds, and who, through creative play in the hundred-fold experiences of bliss and emptiness, support practitioners in their meditation on the excellent path, to you, we offer our prayers with fervent devotion: That Tenzin Gyatso, protector of the Land of Snows, live for a hundred eons.

***Show on him your blessings so that his aspirations are fulfilled without hindrance.***

To the ocean of protectors endowed with eyes of transcendent wisdom—the powerful guardians and upholders of the teaching who wear inseparably on their matted locks the knot symbolizing their pledge to the Vajra Holder—to you, we offer our prayers with fervent devotion: That Tenzin Gyatso, protector of the Land of Snows, live for a hundred eons.

***Show on him your blessings so that his aspirations are fulfilled without hindrance.***

Thus to this congregation of excellent, undecieving refuge, we pray that by the power of this prayer expressed from a heart filled with fervent devotion and humility, may the body, speech and mind of the sole

of the Land of Snows, the supreme Ngawang Lobsang Tenzin Gyatso, be indestructible, unfluctuating, and unceasing; may he live immutable for a hundred eons, seated on a diamond throne, transcending decay and destruction.

You are the jewel-heart embodying all compassionate, beneficial deeds; O most courageous one, you carry upon your shoulders the burden of all the Buddhas of the infinite realms. May all your noble aspirations be fulfilled as intended.

By virtue of this may the heavenly doors of the fortunate era open eternally as a source of relief and respite for all beings; And may the auspicious signs reach the apex of existence and release, as the sacred teachings flourish through all times and in all realms.

May the nectar-stream of the blessings of the Lotus Holder always enter our hearts and nourish it with strength. May we please you with our offerings of dedicated practice, and may we reach beyond the shores of perfect, compassionate deeds.

Through the blessings of the wondrous Buddhas and Bodhisattvas, by the infallible truth of the laws of dependent origination, and by the purity of our fervent aspirations, may the aims of my prayer be fulfilled without hindrance.

*English translation by Dr. Thupten Jinpa Langri*

*Contributed by Wendy Shinn*

*Editor's note: I saw the Dalai Lama on television recently, and just watching his image brought me a sense of peace and calm; I can only imagine what it must be like to see him in person. As we struggle with ideas of how our own nation should conduct itself in the larger world, it is instructive to watch a national and spiritual leader engage other nations with Buddhist principles.*



Í Í Í ÐÑÓÓÓ

**ZenSmile**

**By Ed Quesada**

Sit like your hair is on fire!

ZenSmile: *The Dharma Rag* cartoon. Please send in your ideas, jokes, funnies!

Í Í Í ÐÑÓÓÓÍ Í Í ÐÑÓÓÓ

## Sangha Business

### **Steering Committee Activity**

The Steering Committee met Sunday, September 14, 2008. Present were Clay, Frank, Robert, Elizabeth, Andrew, Pete, William, Joanne, Liz, Lee, and Sarah.

We first did our check-in, which involved twisting and shouting to some invigorating music. It was wonderful and inspiring to let go in this manner! Next, we talked about how we are “holding the container” at the moment. Each person mentioned how she or he felt about how we are individually or collectively holding the container that is the Sangha.

**Mission Statement.** Sarah raised the question of a mission statement. Frank wondered what we would do with one; Pete noted the process of talking about our mission—what people expect from us, and what that has to do with Zen—is the real value of a mission statement. Clay recommended we take up the question as an agenda item at the next Steering Committee meeting; Sarah also suggested some light discussion on the topic at the upcoming all-Sangha meeting.

**Babysitting on Monday Nights.** Clay’s oldest daughter is willing to provide babysitting at Shove Chapel on Monday nights; Clay envisions a fee of \$4.00 an hour for two to three children, with four or more children entailing an increased fee. He would like to regularize childcare with a commitment to pay the babysitter, regardless of how many children are there. We had consensus on this wonderful initiative and thanked Clay and his daughter. Clay has since sent out a notice to the Sangha about this.

**September Retreat Update.** Frank, who is the retreat coordinator, recapped the retreat planning and current status. We discussed this at length, and Clay thanked Frank for all his efforts.

**Treasurer’s Report.** Robert provided the Treasurer’s report; he provided the balance and highlighted three designated funds, the Ecologia benefit for the China earthquake victims, the Sarah Fund, and the memorial fund for Mitch Goldbaum. After discussion, we had consensus on using the memorial funds for a scholarship in Mitch’s name, something we felt would best honor Mitch. This will be called The True Heart Scholarship Fund in Honor of Mitchell Goldbaum. Clay also thanked Sarah for coordinating the Ecologia benefit.

Liz asked a question about the Sangha’s philosophy of giving. Robert said we had decided to have transparency in our budget and expenses and *against* having membership fees; people are encouraged to give what they can. He also noted that at the moment the Sangha is not meeting its goals for undesignated gifts. Clay said we could come up with an average recommended amount for people to give, but there is a wide range of variability. Clay also noted that the All-Sangha Meeting would be a good opportunity to explain our income stream. Robert said that obtaining a facility would require people to make a commitment on how much they would donate for the year. Clay said we would need more discussion on this subject later.

**Fall Schedule.** Sarah talked about the “stuff” around the elections and how we might deal with that stuff through the precepts; she said that would be her topic for the upcoming Dharma Talk. We also talked briefly about a “practice period” of daily meditation in conjunction with the September retreat. We also discussed the upcoming one-day retreats, Monday night schedule, and the impact of the potential change to Sarah’s schedule at the Air Force Academy. Other notable items included a post-retreat discussion at Sarah’s house (Thursday, October 2) and a Buddhist film series at the Warner Center (starts Thursday, October 16, at 7:30 PM).

**Next Steering Committee Meeting.** The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for October 12, from 3 to 5 PM, at the Women’s Club.

## Events & Activities

Ī Ī Ī ḌÑŌŌŌ

### DETAILS OF SMS EVENTS

- <sup>a</sup> **One-Day Retreat with Sarah Bender, Sensei.** Saturday, October 4, from 10 AM to 4 PM. A plain sit at the Women's Club. There will be no sutra service or lunch, but Sarah will offer Work in the Room. For more information, please contact Pete at [pordway@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:pordway@coloradocollege.edu).
- <sup>a</sup> **All-Sangha Meeting and Dinner.** Sunday, October 5, from 4:30 to 7:30 PM. Dinner will be provided at 6:00 PM. Please see page 4 for more information.
- <sup>a</sup> **Buddhist Film Series.** Starts Thursday, October 16, 7:30 PM, at the Warner Center. For more information, please contact Sarah at [sembender@gmail.com](mailto:sembender@gmail.com).
- <sup>a</sup> **Work in the Room with Sarah Bender, Sensei.** Saturday, October 18, during the Saturday morning sit at Shove Chapel. Other times are available by appointment. For more information or an appointment, please contact Sarah at [sembender@gmail.com](mailto:sembender@gmail.com).
- <sup>a</sup> **Study Group.** Sundays, October 19 through November 16, from 3 to 5 PM at Sarah's house, Sarah's schedule permitting (an update will be provided via e-mail).

Ī Ī Ī ḌÑŌŌŌ

### UPCOMING SMS RETREATS

- <sup>a</sup> **December 3–7** (Green Mountain Falls), with David Weinstein, Roshi.

### 2009 RETREAT SCHEDULE

April 13–19 and September 21–27

Ī Ī Ī ḌÑŌŌŌ

**DHARMA TALKS** given by SMS teachers are available on CD for \$10 each. To obtain a list of available talks and to order, please contact Andrew at [remlapa@gmail.com](mailto:remlapa@gmail.com).

Ī Ī Ī ḌÑŌŌŌ

## SMS Weekly Schedule

We meet at Shove Chapel, 1010 North Nevada on the campus of Colorado College

### Monday Evenings: 6:10–7:30 PM

- <sup>a</sup> First Monday of the month: Two 25-minute periods of meditation with opening chants, walking meditation between the meditation periods, and closing sharing and announcements.
- <sup>a</sup> Second Monday: One 25-minute meditation period followed by tea and cookies.
- <sup>a</sup> Third Monday: Two 25-minute periods of meditation with opening chants and closing sharing and announcements.
- <sup>a</sup> Fourth Monday: One 25-minute meditation period followed by a talk and discussion.
- <sup>a</sup> Fifth Monday: Two 25-minute periods of meditation with opening chants and closing sharing and announcements.

### Wednesday Mornings: 6:00–7:00 AM

### Saturday Mornings

Summer hours (May–Sept.): 6:00–8:00 AM

Winter hours (Sept.–May): 6:30–8:30 AM

- <sup>a</sup> First Saturday: Work in the Room with Sarah.
- <sup>a</sup> Second Saturday: Four-period sit.
- <sup>a</sup> Third Saturday: Sutra service during the third period (7:00 AM summer; 7:30 AM winter).
- <sup>a</sup> Fourth Saturday: Four-period sit.
- <sup>a</sup> Fifth Saturday: Way-seeking mind talk during the third period.

After the meditation, many of us walk to a nearby coffee shop for breakfast.

### Sundays

We often have Steering Committee meetings, discussion groups, workshops, or socials.

***Newcomers are extremely welcome!  
Please come fifteen minutes early if you would like an orientation.***

*Please check our Web site  
for changes and additions.*

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

## Other Local Groups

### Wet Mountain Sangha—Pueblo 2008 Fall Schedule

- **Wednesdays:** Meditation 6:00 PM to 7:15 PM. Please join us as you wish for the traditional 25/10/25 minutes of sitting/walking/sitting meditation. As usual, there will be sharing and announcements and tea afterwards!
- **Saturdays:** Morning meditation second and fourth Saturdays of each month, 8:00 – 10:00 AM, with four periods of alternating sitting and walking; no chants or announcements.

**We meet at the Center for Inner Peace,  
740 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Pueblo, CO 81003**  
**Check out our Web site for more info:**  
<http://wetmountainsangha.org>.

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

- **Thubten Shedrup Ling (TSL)**  
[tslcolorado@yahoogroups.com](mailto:tslcolorado@yahoogroups.com)
- **Rocky Mountain Insight**  
[www.rockymountaininsight.org](http://www.rockymountaininsight.org)

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

**Dances of Universal Peace** will be held October 10 (and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month through May), 7:00–9:00 PM at Unity Church of the Rockies, 1945 Mesa Road. Join our new leader, Bob Screws, for an evening of devotional or Sufi Dances drawn from many cultures and religions. He leads simple songs and circle dances for people of good heart and all ages. Please call Ann Grant Martin for more information at 719-575-0152.

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

*Qigong*

**With Ellie Coriell, LPC CACIII**  
Shove Chapel, Tuesday  
evenings, 5:30–6:30 PM.



Contact Ellie at 719-339-7415 or [ecoriell@msn.com](mailto:ecoriell@msn.com) for information.

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

## The Open Source

([www.ioansutherland.net](http://www.ioansutherland.net))

Joan Sutherland



- **Koan Salon.** Wednesdays, 3:00–5:00 PM, at the home of Ellie Sernet (directions provided upon registration). Sign up for the salon in eight-week sessions; the first session is Sept. 3 to Oct. 22; the second session is Oct. 29 to Dec. 17. The cost is on a sliding scale of \$80 to \$160 per series. Register with Pasha Hogan at [pashahogan@cybermesa.com](mailto:pashahogan@cybermesa.com).
- **Meditation, Dharma Talks, & Conversation.** Thursdays, 7:00–8:30 PM. Introduction to meditation is offered the first Thursday of each month at 6:45 PM. By donation. Cerro Gordo Temple, 1404 Cerro Gordo Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- **Shelter in Each Other.** Those who took part in this summer's refuge ceremony will meet quarterly to continue the conversation and camaraderie. The next meeting takes place on Tuesday, October 14, 6:30–8:30 PM at Mary Ann Bennett's yoga studio. RSVP to Pasha Hogan at [pashahogan@cybermesa.com](mailto:pashahogan@cybermesa.com).

### Joan's 2008 Retreat Schedule

- **October 24–26,** All Hallows Koan Retreat, Cerro Gordo Temple, Santa Fe, NM.
- **November 2,** Ceremony for the Beloved Dead One-Day Retreat, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Cost is \$50 and includes lunch. Ceremony 6:30–8:30 PM, by donation. Register with Pasha Hogan at [pashahogan@cybermesa.com](mailto:pashahogan@cybermesa.com).
- **November 14–16,** Bright Harvest Ancestors' Retreat, Guerneville, CA. Register with Megan Rundel at [rundel@well.com](mailto:rundel@well.com).
- **December 11–14,** Morning Star Meditation Retreat in honor of the Buddha's enlightenment. Sangre de Cristo Retreat Center, Santa Fe, NM.

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

**Register for Open Source events**  
by sending an e-mail to [retreats@joansutherland.net](mailto:retreats@joansutherland.net).

**Join the Open Source e-mail list**  
by sending an e-mail to [list@joansutherland.net](mailto:list@joansutherland.net).

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

## Pacific Zen Institute

([www.pacificzen.org](http://www.pacificzen.org))

- **PZI Sesshin,** Sonoma County, CA, October 11–18.

Í Í Í Ð Ñ Ó Ó Ó

<h1 style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">October</h1> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 20px;">2008</p>	<i>SUN</i>	<i>MON</i>	<i>TUE</i>	<i>WED</i>	<i>THU</i>	<i>FRI</i>	<i>SAT</i>	
				<b>1</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Breakfast-Wooglin's <span style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 2px;">One-Day Retreat</span>	
	<b>5</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 2px;">All-Sangha Meeting and Dinner</span> Woman's Club 4:30–7:30 PM	<b>6</b> Meditation, Two Periods Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's	
	<b>12</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 2px;">Steering Meeting</span> Woman's Club 3:00–5:00 PM	<b>13</b> Meditation & Social Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>16</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 2px;">Buddhist Film Series, Warner Center, 7:30 PM</span>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b> Meditation & Work in the Room with Sarah Bender Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's	
	<b>19</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 2px;">Study Group</span> Sarah's house 1:00–3:00 PM	<b>20</b> Meditation, Two Periods Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Breakfast-Wooglin's	
	<b>26</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 2px;">Study Group</span> Sarah's house 1:00–3:00 PM <span style="background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 2px;">Koan Retreat, Santa Fe, NM</span>	<b>27</b> Meditation, Talk, and Discussion Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<span style="background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 2px;">All Hallows Koan Retreat with Joan Sutherland, Roshi, Santa Fe, NM</span>		
							<b>31</b>	

November	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
							<b>1</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Breakfast-Wooglin's <b>A Plain Sit</b>
	<b>2</b> Study Group Sarah's house 1:00–3:00 PM	<b>3</b> Meditation, Two Periods Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Meditation & Work in the Room with Sarah Bender Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's
	<b>9</b> Steering Meeting Sarah's house 3:00–5:00 PM Study Group Sarah's house 1:00–3:00 PM	<b>10</b> Meditation & Social Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Breakfast-Wooglin's Bright Harvest Ancestors' Retreat, with Joan Sutherland, Roshi, Guerneville, CA
	<b>16</b> Study Group Sarah's house 1:00–3:00 PM Harvest Retreat, Guerneville, CA	<b>17</b> Meditation, Two Periods Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's
	<b>23 / 30</b>	<b>24</b> Meditation, Talk, and Discussion Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's

2008

<h1 style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">December</h1> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 20px;">2008</p>	<i>SUN</i>	<i>MON</i>	<i>TUE</i>	<i>WED</i>	<i>THU</i>	<i>FRI</i>	<i>SAT</i>	
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Meditation &amp; Work in the Room with Sarah Bender</b> Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Breakfast-Wooglin's	
	<b>Rohatsu Retreat with David Weinstein, Roshi</b> Green Mountain Falls, CO							
	<b>7</b> <div style="background-color: #90EE90; border: 1px solid green; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; margin-top: 5px;"> <b>Rohatsu Retreat</b> </div>	<b>8</b> Meditation, Two Periods Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's	
	<b>14</b> <div style="background-color: #90EE90; border: 1px solid green; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; margin-top: 5px;"> <b>Steering Meeting</b>                      Woman's Club                      3:00–5:00 PM                 </div>	<b>15</b> Meditation & Social Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's	
	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Meditation, Two Periods Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Meditation, Four Periods Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's	
	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Meditation, Talk, and Discussion Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM				

## Donate to Springs Mountain Sangha

Springs Mountain Sangha engages in three weekly sittings, study groups, retreats, residencies for our holding teachers, *The Dharma Rag*, a Web site ([www.SMSZen.org](http://www.SMSZen.org)), and other communication media. Contributions from members and friends are the Sangha's sole financial resource. Your contributions are tax deductible in as much as Springs Mountain Sangha fits the definition of a church for charitable giving purposes. Please share the Dharma assets!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (other) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ (required for e-distribution)

Contribution Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made out to Springs Mountain Sangha c/o Robert King, Treasurer.

Springs Mountain Sangha is a member of The Open Source, in both the Soto and Rinzai traditions.

To learn more, visit our Web site—[www.smszen.org](http://www.smszen.org)—or contact us at [Info@SMSZen.org](mailto:Info@SMSZen.org) (Wendy, our Webmaster) or [SMSDharmaRag@hotmail.com](mailto:SMSDharmaRag@hotmail.com) (your editor). You can also join the Sangha and newsletter list-servers by sending a request to Wendy.

Please add your e-mail address to receive publication notices for our newsletter.

## Great Reasons to Support Your Sangha

There are many great reasons to donate to Springs Mountain Sangha, and hopefully one will suit your fancy. Remember, this is *your* Sangha.

- **Donate to support Joan's work.** If you'd like to make a donation to thank Joan Sutherland, Roshi for her Dharma and to support her work, you can send it to her at P.O. Box 2368, Santa Fe, NM 87504. Or, send a donation to SMS with a note that it is for Joan.
- **Donate toward a facility.** While we benefit enormously from the warmhearted generosity of Colorado College, renting or owning our own facility would allow us to use our energies more fully. Retreats and other events would no longer require moving all the cushions, ritual supplies, food, et cetera. A facility is a long-term project; please help get it started.
- **Donate to support our operating costs.** Keeping the Sangha in business involves recurrent costs for teacher support, communications, gifts, ritual supplies, food for retreats and other events, study groups, and service activity—all the items needed for a nonprofit organization.
- **Donate to support our service activity.** The Service Committee budget supports our service work and makes possible Bodhisattva work in the larger community; send your donation to SMS with the notation "Service Committee."
- **The True Heart Scholarship Fund in Honor of Mitchell Goldbaum.** If you wish to make a gift in Mitch's memory, Mitch's sister, Joanne, has requested that gifts be made to Springs Mountain Sangha. You can just write "in memory of Mitchell Goldbaum" on the check. These funds are used for retreat scholarships.

**Thank you so very much!**



Springs Mountain Sangha [www.smszen.org](http://www.smszen.org)