

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 4

~ APRIL 2008 ~

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Coming Up for Springs Mountain Sangha

—In April

Work in the Room with Sarah Bender, Sensei—Thursday, April 3, and Friday, April 4. Please see page 11 for details.

Koan Seminar with Sarah Bender, Sensei—Sunday, April 6 and 27. Page 11.

All-Day Retreat with Sarah Bender, Sensei—Saturday, April 19. Page 11.

—In May

Buddha's Birthday and Reception for David Weinstein, Roshi—Sunday, May 4.

All-Day Retreat with Sarah Bender, Sensei in Pueblo—Saturday, May 10.

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

Editor: Lee 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! Please send them by e-mail to SMSdharma@hotmai.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!

| <u>Inside This Issue</u> | <u>Page</u> | <u>Inside This Issue</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| ❖ Dharma Talk | - 2 - | ZenSmirk Cartoon | - 7 - |
| Joan Sutherland, Roshi | - 2 - | ❖ Wet Mountain Sangha | - 7 - |
| Sarah Bender, Sensei | - 3 - | ❖ Sangha Business | - 8 - |
| ❖ Special News & Updates | - 3 - | All-Sangha Meeting | - 8 - |
| Refuge Ceremony—Santa Fe | - 3 - | Steering Committee | - 9 - |
| April Retreat—Santa Fe | - 4 - | ❖ Et Ceteras | - 10 - |
| June Retreat—Colorado Springs | - 4 - | ❖ Classifieds | - 10 - |
| ❖ Voices | - 4 - | ❖ Events and Activities | - 11 - |
| Inka Shomei | - 4 - | SMS Weekly Schedule | - 11 - |
| 360° | - 5 - | Other Local Groups | - 12 - |
| Pictures of David's Ceremony | - 5 - | Out-of-State Events | - 12 - |
| Small Poem | - 6 - | ❖ At-a-Glance Calendar | - 13 - |

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DHARMA TALK

From a Vernal Equinox Talk at Cerro Gordo

Joan Sutherland

Happy spring to you all. A week or so ago I was walking around my neighborhood, which is full mostly of deciduous trees and so is pretty spare this time of year. It felt as though there were something slightly different in the landscape I couldn't quite put my finger on. Then I noticed that there were small swellings along the branches of the trees and bushes—not even buds, just bumps really. I was astonished at how much of a difference something so subtle could make in how the landscape felt—how much fuller things suddenly seemed. It made me think of how spring lies latent inside late winter; it's just under the surface, just under the horizon right now. It's held somehow in the branches and the earth but will burst forth any second.

That's so much that's like the way our ancestors saw awakening—not as a prize that each individual captures for herself or an arbitrary bestowal from some mysterious source, but as something inherent in every moment that we can liberate. We don't *get* enlightened or *have* realization; we become part of the intimacy that is waiting in the field of each situation we enter. When we become intimate, we are *in* intimacy; it isn't in us.

This morning I was awakened for the first time in months by a small bird chirping near my window, and I was immediately flooded with memories of all the summer mornings I'd awakened to birds here in Santa Fe. They sing and call and swoop exuberantly around, the air is still cool and clear before the heat of the day sets in, and it's impossible to stay indoors. The little chirping of that equinoctial bird was like a luminous tab in the moment of my waking up; if I pulled the tab—or more accurately noticed that the tab was being pulled—then suddenly I was intimate, suddenly there was freedom in everything. The bird brought a freedom to the moment of my waking that included my memories of summer and the growing strength



of the early morning light and my neighbor honking for his kids.



Every moment has a luminous tab like that, but sometimes it's not as obvious or compelling as a bird's call, and we have to supply it ourselves. That's why we have koans. They're portable luminous tabs that can be pulled in any moment, no matter how difficult. Someone told me recently about being in an argument with someone and finding herself overwhelmed by the desire to say the unsayable thing, the thing there's no going back from, because she 'needed to know' what would happen if she did. There are lots of sensible and conscientious interventions you can make with yourself in such a moment, and then there's the luminous tab of the koan, which is something like 'Who needs to know?' That's not sensible; it's loopy. But it meets the vividness of the charged situation with its own vividness, and it can tilt the field just

enough to make an unexpected way forward visible.

As Neruda says in his poem called *Spring*, "All this was done by a simple bird / from a green branch."

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Dear Sangha,

As the world tilts into spring this month, I also feel a tilt into the extended practice period that your generosity makes possible for me. I thank you all for both your generosity and your confidence. Your decision to invest funds in the development of a teacher expresses confidence in the Path, most of all—confidence that giving your resident teacher time for meditation and study will benefit you, the Sangha, and others. As I firm up more specific plans for summer and fall, I'll keep you informed; meanwhile, I hope that the Sangha's investment in practice will raise a broader question for each of us: What do I invest, how do I invest in my own practice? It's a question I think we skirt too often. We say that all of one's life is practice, and this is true. We say that there is nothing to achieve, and this is true. It is also true that each day you make a million choices about how you spend your time, how you direct your attention. These millions of tiny investment decisions, conscious and unconscious, are also your practice and have real consequences, not only for your own state of mind but for the lives of all you touch.

The other powerful image that is keeping me company in this regard is that of cultivation. David Weinstein Roshi's teaching name is "Hidden Dragon Who Cultivates Clouds." Beautiful, isn't it? So I would hand you, too, this image and the question: What are you cultivating, and how? In a "culture" that seems obsessed with building and demolition, what can I offer by cultivating what I love?

Sarah Bender

March 23, 2008

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SPECIAL NEWS & UPDATES

Dear friends:

It gives me much happiness to tell you that we'll be having a Ceremony of Taking Refuge in the Bodhisattva Way at the end of our meditation retreat in July 2008. This is the ceremony referred to as taking the precepts or lay ordination, and

stories or via e-mail, and others that I didn't even know existed. People that have shared life with David throughout the years: fellow teachers, Sangha members from the various zendos, his wife, Sarasa, and their mother (from Japan), a couple who were in graduate school with David, and many others. Visiting with everyone as afternoon turned to evening, the sense of admiration and respect and love for David became increasingly palpable. It was vividly apparent just how deeply this common thread has been woven through us all, a thread that is vast and wide and so very alive. The talk David gave at the ceremony centered around his gratitude to all the people in his life. One can clearly see that there is an ocean of gratitude surrounding David, and all the waves flow right back to him.

It's been about nine years now that I've known David as my teacher and companion of the Way, and I am very fortunate that this is the case. I've learned many things from him and grown in ways that I would not have thought possible. This is not because of anything he taught me in particular, but rather his way of bouncing things right back into my lap over and over again, showing me that this very life I live is all that's needed, and it is enough. Yet through David, I have also developed a deep appreciation for Zen practice, fallen in love with koans, learned how to take myself less seriously, and have been shown how to see the light shining from people and things outside of my immediate sphere of existence.

And when I have the choice, I will drink sake at room temperature from a wooden box.

A story came to mind as I was considering what I'd write about, one that David shared with me some time ago. It was about one of his teachers holding up the teaching stick, saying you could slice into any portion of it and find there's a core of gold running throughout. It makes perfect sense that this story should surface when one thinks of David, and it has to do with his being genuine, authentic, and so utterly human. Wherever you should be spending time with him—listening to a dharma talk during sesshin, doing Work in the Room in person or on the phone, having Italian sodas at the airport, listening as he answers teachers' questions during his ceremony—what you will find is fully and completely David, through and through. And that is something rare and precious.

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360°

*Empty, infinite.
A blind man crawling
through darkness.
Luckily no one noticed.*

**Calligraphy and
poem by Andrew
for David.**



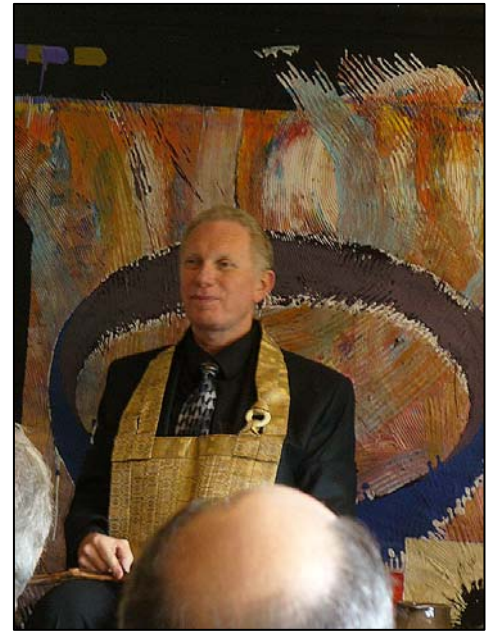
Sarah and David at the ceremony.
Photo by Bill Krumbein.

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Joan and David

Joyous gifts



David Weinstein, Roshi



Pictures from David's transmission ceremony by Andrew.

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Small Poem

I am
my reflection
in a puddle of rainwater.
Of a sudden
my silver watch
slips from my wrist
and splashes.
My reflection
is broken.

~ Lucinda



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ZENSMIRK By Steve Walker

Quotes from a Catholic Buddhist

ZenSmirk: the *dharma rag* cartoon—
please send in your ideas, jokes, funnies!

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WET MOUNTAIN SANGHA — PUEBLO

2008 EVENTS

- **Wednesdays:** Meditation 6:00 PM to 7:30 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.

Check out our Web site for more information: <http://wetmountainsangha.org>.

Wet Mountain Sangha, Pueblo, Colorado, Lady of Assumption, 900 E. Routt.
The Zendo is at the side entrance on Fairview.

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SANGHA BUSINESS

All-Sangha Meeting

Springs Mountain Sangha held an all-Sangha meeting on March 9, 2008 at the Woman's Club, a gathering of friends over a delicious dinner of Chinese food. Sixteen members were present. Clay opened the session by summarizing the many activities and accomplishments of the Sangha during the past year. He especially emphasized our amazing financial situation and commented, "People are really supporting us." He also noted the Steering Committee has ten members, a record.

Decision-Making Process. We reviewed the current consensus model, which allows for dissent as well as approval. A dissenting member is encouraged to state an opposing position and may choose to pass or "stand aside" (i.e., not stand in the way of the majority position) to allow a decision to move ahead. Ann shared her experience with group decision making, noting the importance, in both the consensus and council process, for the moderator or another member to mirror (i.e., restate in one's own words; also called active listening) what he or she has heard each person express; this allows each member to feel heard and respected.

After this discussion, Clay summarized our decision making process as follows: "We value the consensus process and would like to continue using it as our chief means of arriving at decisions. We will practice active listening at all Steering Committee and Sangha meetings. The restatement of what has been said (i.e., mirroring) may be done by others, in addition to the leader. We will use consensus and council methods when appropriate, and voting will be a last resort." We practiced the council method to afford all present the opportunity to express their views and gain experience with the process. Clay then asked if there were any reservations, and there were none. He then asked for consensus, and the matter passed unanimously.

Sarah Fund. Sarah left the room while we discussed her proposal for an extended practice period. Robert reviewed the process by which we decided to raise money for Sarah's extended practice period. Sarah prepared a proposal about how she would use the time and what her objectives would be. Before she left, Sarah had stated, "These goals are not set in stone; they are my aspirations." She wanted to ensure the Sangha shares her sense of what she will do with the time. After discussion, we agreed that we would not ask her to account for her time, but we would enjoy hearing about how it goes, as well as whatever she might choose to share with us. One suggestion was to have "An Evening with Sarah" for this purpose. The following resolution was then passed through consensus: "The Sangha approves Sarah's plans for a six-month extended practice period beginning July 1, 2008 and authorizes the treasurer to pay her an additional monthly stipend for the duration of this period." Also passed through consensus was the designation of any additional monies donated for the Sarah Fund beyond our goal; these funds will be placed in the Sarah Fund for Sarah to use as she sees fit.

Budget. Robert submitted the proposed budget for 2008, prepared by the Finance Committee, revised and approved by the Steering Committee, and presented to the Sangha for preliminary review and discussion during a community night in February 2008. Robert highlighted the changes from the 2007 budget. There were modest increases in anticipated revenue from retreats, undesignated contributions, and the sale of merchandise. We approved increased expenditures for teacher stipends, including the additional stipend for Sarah's extended practice period and an increase in Joan's quarterly stipend. The service and facility line items were reduced to reflect actual expenditures. Finally, a new line item was added for professional consulting services that we might need in the future. After discussion, the proposed budget for 2008 was approved by consensus.

501c3 Status. Responding to a question, Robert noted that our attorney has advised us that since we are listed as a Buddhist Church, we do not really need 501c3 status.

Other Matters. Steve Walker brought us the concerns of a person who does not feel comfortable or included at the Monday night sits. Sarah suggested implementing a greeter position and noted that we all need to put forth more effort to become acquainted with new people and help them feel included. We also discussed the question of whether we should change our Monday night schedule to include two sits each time. If the Steering Committee reaches consensus on this issue, it will be brought to the Sangha on the next community night. Finally, Donella wondered whether it would be appropriate to send out notice to the Sangha that the Iraq war is soon to reach five years' duration with close to 4,000 deaths. She also noted the local Peace and Justice group would hold a candlelight service. This discussion led to the question of what our policy is regarding the use of our list-server for publicizing events such as this one. These issues will be discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting.

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Steering Committee Activity

The SMS Steering Committee met March 16, 2008; in attendance were Clay, Victor, Pete, Steve, and Robert.

Meeting Debriefs. We talked about the all-Sangha meeting and agreed the clarification of our consensus process was valuable. The council method helped bring people into the discussion who are not heard from as often. Regarding turnout for the meeting, Clay thought we might have hoped for more, but about half of our active group attended, about the same number that attended in November. As the meeting was well publicized, no one who wanted to participate should have felt excluded. We also debriefed the February retreat and March plain sit. Those who attended felt that both events went well. Participation by members of the Wet Mountain Sangha in the February retreat was lauded.

Greeter Position. Our sense was that there has been more attention to new people by our regulars since this issue was raised. Since no one has offered to be the official greeter, we all need to see it as our responsibility. We decided to put this item on the agenda for further discussion at another meeting.



Web Site. Responding to the recent discussion about finding another server, we discussed whether it would be better to find another server or a consultant to look at our Web site and advise us how to improve it. We thought the latter course would be the best for now. We will see if we can find someone with technical experience in Web site administration to advise us; Victor will look into this, and we will ask Frank if he can help us find such a person.

All-Day Retreat, April 19. We considered whether to offer a full retreat or a plain sit and decided by consensus on a full retreat, including breakfast and lunch. Sarah has agreed to offer Work in the Room. Clay will send out a request for a coordinator; Robert will serve as registrar and Steve as breakfast cook. We will not charge a fee but will invite donations.

Buddha's Birthday, May 4. We agreed to go ahead with the Buddha's Birthday celebration as discussed at our last meeting. Steve offered to coordinate. Clay will be in charge of producing a flower bower. We anticipate it will last one and a half to two hours, and it will be followed by a reception for David Weinstein, Roshi, in honor of his receipt of transmission from John Tarrant, Roshi. David will be in Colorado Springs for a half-day retreat at the Air Force Academy on May 3 and will be invited to tell the Buddha's story as part of the birthday celebration.

Finances. Robert reported a current balance and questioned whether we needed to have that much in our checking account. He will convene the Finance Committee prior to the next Steering Committee meeting to discuss recommendations to be brought to the Steering Committee.

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~ Et Ceteras...

...And Classifieds ~

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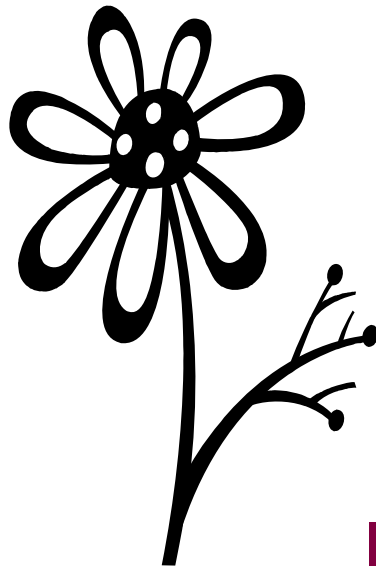


Daisies in the Dark

I gaze at the entrance to the labyrinth; sunlit daisies drop from my fingers into the long dark; my muscle knots... those great protectors of vulnerability... loosen, and I move into the labyrinth. I am Alice, a wondering child, born of a white serpent and Mary of Magdala.

~ Lucinda

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Happy birthday, Buddha!

The Buddha was born in 563 BC, so this year he is 2,571 years young.

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Attend Sangha Committee Meetings!

You are always invited—and warmly welcome—to attend Sangha committee meetings. Details on the where and when are listed in the At-a-Glance Calendar section. If you cannot attend and would like a committee member to ask your question, here are the names and e-mail addresses of your friendly Steering Committee members:

- Clay, Steering Committee Chair: claytaylor5@comcast.net
Frank, Associate Chair: frank.actis@flukenetworks.com
Robert, Sangha Treasurer and Chair, Finance Committee: kingrh@comcast.net
Elizabeth, Secretary: kingem@comcast.net
Andrew, Head of Practice: remlapa@gmail.com
Pete: pordway@coloradocollege.edu
Victor: vic2rh@gmail.com
Leee, Dharma Rag Editor: leee_overmann@hotmail.com
Steve Walker: spw1950@aol.com
Sarah, Sensei: sembender@gmail.com

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Events and Activities

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Details of SMS Events

APRIL 2008

- **Work in the Room with Sarah Bender, Sensei.** Thursday, April 3, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, and Friday, April 4, 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM at Sarah's house. Please contact her at sembender@gmail.com for information and appointments.
- **Koan Seminar with Sarah Bender, Sensei.** Sunday, April 6 and Sunday, April 27, Sarah's house, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM. For information, please contact Sarah at sembender@gmail.com.
- **All-Day Retreat with Sarah Bender, Sensei.** Saturday, April 19. Woman's Club, 5:30 AM – 4:30 PM. Cost: dana. To register, please contact Robert at kingrh@comcast.net. Also, please let Clay know if you can coordinate food for the event; contact him at claytaylor5@comcast.net.

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UPCOMING SMS RETREATS

With Sarah Bender, Sensei

April 19 (Colorado Springs)
May 10 (Pueblo)

With Joan Sutherland, Roshi

June 16–22 (Benet Pines)
September 22–28 (Benet Pines)

With David Weinstein, Roshi

December 3–7 (Green Mountain Falls)

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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.

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SMS Weekly Schedule

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

Monday Evenings

6:10 PM to 7:30 PM

- ★ **First Monday of the month:** 30-minute Sutra service, walking meditation, one 25-minute period of meditation
- ★ **Second Monday:** One 25-minute meditation period, walking meditation, followed by a social gathering
- ★ **Third Monday:** One 25-minute meditation period, walking meditation, followed by a Dharma talk or reading
- ★ **Fourth Monday:** Two 25-minute meditation periods with a walking meditation in between
- ★ **Fifth Monday:** Two 25-minute meditation periods with a walking meditation in between, or one 25-minute meditation period, walking meditation, and the second meditation period will be replaced by a community member sharing a personal Zen practice experience: "Way-Seeking Mind." If you'd like to take a turn, please contact Sarah Bender to schedule.

Wednesday Mornings

6:00 AM to 7:00 AM

Saturday Mornings

6:30 AM to 8:30 AM

- ★ Winter hours (Sept.-May): 6:30 AM to 8:30 AM
- ★ Summer hours (May-Sept.): 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM
- ★ After the meditation, many of us walk to a nearby coffee shop for breakfast.

Sunday

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

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

Please check our Web site for changes and additions!

On Monday evenings, meditation is very much enlivened by your thoughts and writings. Please consider offering your practice in this way!

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Other Local Groups Thubten Shedrup Ling (TSL)

- tslcolorado@yahoogroups.com

Rocky Mountain Insight

- www.rockymountaininsight.org

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



The next *Introduction to Qigong* class will be held Sunday, April 6, from 1:00 to 3:30 PM at Shove Chapel. There is no charge to attend, and donations are gratefully accepted.

Please call Ellie at 719-339-7415 for more information.

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Ken McLeod's talk on the Heart Sutra is available at the following link:
<http://movetowisdom.com/articlesandlinks.html>.
Scroll down to *Heart Sutra Talk*.

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The Open Source

(www.joansutherland.net)



- **Koan Salon.** Wednesdays, 3:00–5:00 PM, The Friends Meeting House, 630 Canyon Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico. For information, call 505-989-3915.
- **Meditation, Dharma Talks, & Conversation.** Thursdays, 7:00–8:30 PM, Cerro Gordo Temple, 1404 Cerro Gordo Road, Santa Fe, MN.

2008 Retreat Schedule

- **June 16–22**, Meditation Retreat, Springs Mountain Sangha, Colorado Springs, CO.
- **July 11–13**, Koan Weekend, Carl Cherry Center for the Arts, Carmel, CA.
- **July 20–26**, Meditation Retreat, Santa Fe, NM.
- **September 22–28**, Meditation Retreat, Springs Mountain Sangha, Colorado Springs, CO.
- **October 24–26**, Koan Retreat, Cerro Gordo Temple, Santa Fe, NM.

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Register for *Open Source* events by sending an e-mail to retreats@joansutherland.net.

Join *The Open Source* e-mail list by sending an e-mail to list@joansutherland.net.

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Pacific Zen Institute

(www.pacificzen.org)

- **PZI Sesshin**, Sonoma County, California
April 5–12 June 7–14
October 11–18

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| April 2008 | <i>SUN</i> | <i>MON</i> | <i>TUE</i> | <i>WED</i> | <i>THU</i> | <i>FRI</i> | <i>SAT</i> | |
|---|---|---|--|--|------------|---|---|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | | | Work in the Room with Sarah Bender, Sensei Sarah's house 6:30–8:30 PM | Work in the Room with Sarah Bender, Sensei Sarah's house 9:30 AM–1:30 PM | Meditation Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's |
| | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| | Koan Seminar Sarah's House 3:00–5:00 PM | Meditation & Sutra Service Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM | | Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM | | | Meditation Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's | |
| | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | |
| | Steering Meeting Woman's Club 3:00–5:00 PM | Meditation & Community Night Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM | | Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM | | | Meditation Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Breakfast-Wooglin's All-Day Retreat Woman's Club 5:30 AM–4:30 PM | |
| | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | |
| | | Meditation & Dharma Talk Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM | | Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM | | | Meditation Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's | |
| | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| Koan Seminar Sarah's House 3:00–5:00 PM | Meditation Two Periods & Precepts Recitation Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM | | Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM | | | | | |

| <h1 style="font-size: 100px; color: green; writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">May</h1> <p style="font-size: 40px; color: green; 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> | |
|---|--|--|------------|--|------------|------------|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's |
| | 4 BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY and reception for David Weinstein, Roshi | 5 Meditation & Sutra Service Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM | 6 | 7 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM | 8 | 9 | 10 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Breakfast-Wooglin's | All-Day Retreat Pueblo |
| | 11 Steering Meeting Woman's Club 3:00–5:00 PM | 12 Meditation & Community Night Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM | 13 | 14 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM | 15 | 16 | 17 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:30–8:30 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's | |
| | 18 | 19 Meditation & Dharma Talk Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM | 20 | 21 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM | 22 | 23 | 24 Summer Hours Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–8:00 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's | |
| | 25 | 26 Meditation Two Periods & Precepts Recitation Shove Chapel 6:15–7:30 PM | 27 | 28 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–7:00 AM | 29 | 30 | 31 Summer Hours Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00–8:00 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's | |

| June 2008 | <i>SUN</i> | <i>MON</i> | <i>TUE</i> | <i>WED</i> | <i>THU</i> | <i>FRI</i> | <i>SAT</i> |
|--|---|---|------------|--|------------|------------|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Summer Hours Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00-8:00 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's |
| | 8 Steering Committee Retreat Woman's Club 9:00 AM-3:30 PM | 9 Meditation & Sutra Service Shove Chapel 6:15-7:30 PM | 10 | 11 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00-7:00 AM | 12 | 13 | 14 Summer Hours Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00-8:00 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's |
| | 15 Steering Meeting Woman's Club 3:00-5:00 PM | 16 Meditation & Community Night Shove Chapel 6:15-7:30 PM | 17 | 18 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00-7:00 AM | 19 | 20 | 21 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00-8:00 AM Breakfast-Wooglin's |
| | Residential Retreat with Joan Sutherland, Roshi Benet Pines, Colorado Springs | | | | | | |
| | 22 <div style="border: 1px solid #008000; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> Retreat with Joan Sutherland, Roshi </div> | 23 Meditation & Dharma Talk Shove Chapel 6:15-7:30 PM | 24 | 25 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00-7:00 AM | 26 | 27 | 28 Meditation Shove Chapel 6:00-8:00 AM Followed by breakfast @ Wooglin's |
| | 29 | 30 Meditation Two Periods & Precepts Recitation Shove Chapel 6:15-7:30 PM | | | | | |

Dana for 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, 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. We have also applied for 501c3 status. Let's 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, or contact us at SMSdharmarag@hotmail.com (your friendly editor).

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

Five Great Reasons to Support Your Sangha

Here are five great reasons to donate to Springs Mountain Sangha. 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 PO Box 2368, Santa Fe, NM 87504. Or, send a donation to SMS with a note that it is for Joan.
- **The Sarah Fund. Our goal has been met!**
- **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."

Thank you so much!