

WET MOUNTAIN SANGHA Steering Committee Report November 21, 2009

Our potluck evening began with good food and conversation shared by members David, Tracy, Merrilee, Darryl, and Jan.

The business of the evening began with a report received from Linda that there is \$1148 in our bank account which lead us into discussion regarding our financial responsibilities and wishes. Our income and expenses have been fairly level throughout 2008. Our primary expenditures: our commitment to Center for Inner Peace of \$100/month for the use of the building for our scheduled Wednesday and Saturday meditations

and

thank you gifts for our visiting teachers, Sarah Bender, Sensei and Joan Sutherland, Roshi, which augments dana received when they are present.

Additional expenses are coming forward at this time.

Beginning in October Center for Inner Peace changed their advertisement in the Pueblo Chieftain Religion Page (appears each Saturday) to include Wet Mountain Sangha meditation days, times and web page address. Steering Committee voted to increase our payment to CIP by \$25 in order to cover part of the cost of this outreach effort. If any of our members are moved to contribute a few dollars toward this fund each month perhaps our share of this cost could be more equitable. David will talk to Neema about changing some of the content of the ad to make it more accurate and clear.

Other possible expenditures which were brought up were:

1. It is our wish to replace the plastic table we use for our altar with a more suitable table. Darryl and Letecia were asked to begin the search for this item on the secondary market and if necessary, David volunteers to refinish their choice.
2. We also mentioned initiating a scholarship fund to assist our member to attend retreats in which they might deepen their practice and invigorate our sangha.

Previously we have spoken about our need for introductory information to be given to newcomers. A copy of the Welcome Packet which is used by Springs Mountain Sangha was passed around and comments were favorable.

WMS could adapt this packet for our use by creating a flyer that features our activities, dates, times, contacts, etc. David and Darryl will work on this project and also, Darryl will become familiar with the necessities of keeping our web-site up-to-date and will share this task with David.

As we reviewed our recent all-day-retreat, we restated our need for leader training. We were pleased to hear from David that he is ready to return as Meditation Instructor and we scheduled Leader Training to be held once a month for the next 3 months at Tracy's –address and directions will be sent later.

Sunday, Dec 14, 10:00am

Sunday, Jan. 11, 10:00am (tentative)

Sunday, Feb 8, 10:00am (tentative)

Topics we will cover include Open Source Forms, bell practice, altar presentation, hall set-up, sutra practice, and other details of our practice. All are invited to come and discover details about our practice with no predetermined intention to become a leader through attendance at these sessions.

And coming up soon:

Book study lead by Merrilee beginning in Dec. We'll be reading *Buddhism Without Beliefs* by Stephen Batchelor. We'll meet on the 4th Saturday at 10 a.m. til noon after the regular Saturday sit at the Center for Inner Peace. The first date is December 27 and the group will meet for 3 months. Merrilee will do an e-mail for Kate to send out to the Sangha.

Christmas Eve Sitting will be at David's home.

New Year's Eve Sitting will be at CIP as usual.

Followed on New Year's Day with an ALL SANGHA POTLUCK at the Community Room at Darryl's Mobile Home Park; 11am –2pm?

We have tentatively scheduled our ALL-DAY-MEDITATIONS FOR 2009 as follows:

Saturday, February 14

Saturday, May 9

Saturday, August 8

Saturday, November 14

On our wish list: Sponsor a weekend retreat (perhaps in August?).
 Invite Joan to present a one-day-retreat in Pueblo for Friends of Open Source.