



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

Introduction

Dharma Zephyr is a community of Buddhist Vipassana (Insight) Meditation sitting groups in Northern Nevada. Our first meditation group was organized in the late 1980s near Carson City. Other groups organized in adjacent communities as the need arose. We now have several sitting groups meeting in Northern Nevada communities including Reno, Carson City, and Minden/Gardnerville. Some groups meet in person; however, due to the continuation of Covid some sitting groups still meet virtually by Zoom and some have hybrid meetings.

Dharma Zephyr Sanghas was incorporated under the Nonprofit Corporation Law of the State of Nevada in September 2006. In 2012 we changed our name to Dharma Zephyr Insight Meditation Community, and in 2016 we became exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Mission Statement

Dharma Zephyr Insight Meditation Community, following the Theravadan Vipassana tradition, offers the Buddha's teachings on wisdom, ethical behavior, and

mindfulness to the Northern Nevada community. Activities include sitting meditation, reading groups, classes, and retreats.

Guiding Sangha

Dharma Zephyr has a board of directors, known as the Guiding Sangha. There are currently nine members on the Guiding Sangha, though it may have up to 11 members. The Guiding Sangha has four regular meetings a year and special meetings as required, which can be by email or other electronic media. 2022 Guiding Sangha members are:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| • Chas Macquarie
President | • Kathy Schwerin | • Harry Ednie |
| • Susan Juetten
Secretary | • Christy Tews | • Colleen Lyons |
| • Denise Barclay
Treasurer | • Susan Antipa | • Anita Feuker |

Many bows to those serving on the Guiding Sangha. They provide a wide range of ideas and expertise that contributes to the smooth and skillful operation of the sangha. It is a form of dana that often goes unrecognized, yet it is essential to the well-being of the larger sangha. Consider joining us at a meeting to see if you would like to add your voice and skills to the sangha.

Membership & Sitting Groups

Even with the pandemic we still have eight sitting groups included under the Dharma Zephyr umbrella.

Four in Carson City:

- Dharma Zephyr Sangha
- Middle Way Sangha
- West Wind Sangha
- Westside Home Sangha

Three in Reno:

- Dharma Zephyr Sangha Reno
- Meditation with Mindful Movement
- Midtown Meditation

One in Douglas County:

- South Wind Sangha

While virtual meetings do not allow for physical contact, surprisingly, they do have some advantages, the main one being that anybody can attend any group without having to get in a car and drive to a meeting. This is especially a benefit when the weather is bad in the winter months.



Details about all the sitting groups are on our website. <https://dharmazephyr.org/>

Our mailing list includes over 600 people who are interested in our activities. Not all of these people open every email, but a fair number open notices about retreats and programs. We send a welcome note to all new people who sign up for emails.

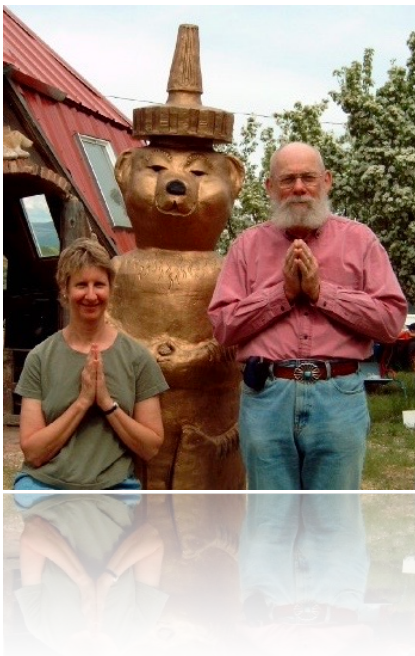
Financial Report

2022 Sangha income and expenses

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Donations and misc. income	624	Operating expenses	8,144
Residential retreat income	34,890	Residential retreat expenses	29,739
Non-residential dana	2,501	Non-residential expenses	873
Sitting Group dana	<u>4,068</u>	Donations	<u>218</u>
Total Income	42,083	Total Expenses	38,974
Net Income	3,109		

<u>Balance Sheet - Assets</u>		<u>Balance Sheet - Liabilities</u>	
Checking Account	6,865	Scholarship Fund set-aside	4,034
Savings (MM) Account	14,863		
Other Assets (PayPal)	<u>5,852</u>		
Total Assets	27,580	Total Liabilities	4,034

Please see the financial statements for full financial details.



In 2022 income and expenses were significantly higher than in 2021. This is because our biggest income and expense items are our residential retreats and we were able to hold most retreats in-person, whereas in 2021 they were a mix of in-person and virtual. The virtual retreats have a small amount of income and very low expenses. The figures above show a net income of \$3,109 but the flow of income and expenses for retreats extends from one calendar year to the next and it is important to remember that the income or



loss at the end of the calendar year is a snapshot of the financial picture on a particular day - December 31. This snapshot shows our residential retreats made a net income of \$5,151 and our non-residential retreats had a net income of \$1,628. This covered much of our operating expenses.

Our money market savings account went down slightly to \$14,863 and our PayPal balance increased slightly to \$5,852. The

idea of the savings account is to have an account that is earmarked for savings that may be used in the future for potential big (or even medium) ticket items that are outside our normal financial operations. These might include: increased outreach to the community; a major overhaul of the website; an unexpected loss on a retreat; hiring part-time help; or an annual budget shortfall. As noted above, our annual net income or loss is partly a matter of timing since certain retreat costs are paid for in the year prior to the income being received in the following year. Once again, deep bows to our hard-working treasurer, Denise Barclay. Since we started offering residential retreats several years ago, we have a considerable (for a small, non-profit organization) amount of money passing through the books and it is important to account for this properly.

Budget for 2023

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Donations	500	Operating expenses	8,400
Residential retreat income	38,000	Residential retreat expenses	33,000
Non-residential dana	2,500	Non-residential expenses	900
Sitting Group dana	<u>4,000</u>	Donations	1,000
Total Income	45,000	Total Expenses	<u>43,300</u>
Net Income	1,700		

This budget is based on the assumption that residential retreats will continue to be in-person and non-residential retreats will be a mix of in-person and virtual.

The DZ Center

Thanks to the generosity of Vicki Melhuish and Mary Kay Wagner, who own the building that houses Sierra Foot & Ankle, we continue to have the use of the studio area for sitting groups and non-residential retreats. In lieu of a fixed rent we pay Vicki and Mary Kay *dana* as we can afford it. The space has been decorated with an altar and several nice pieces of Buddhist art. We have chairs, cushions, a bench or two and a Zoom setup for hybrid meetings.

Retreats and Scholarships

2022 continued to be a challenge for the retreat committee. Camp Galilee retreats included two Denise Barclay weekend retreats, a three day with Santikaro, and the welcome return of John Travis for five days in August. Daylongs started with the ever-popular Retreat from the Holidays in January, and continued with Vance Pryor in March (Zoom), Heather Sundberg in April (Zoom), Donald Rothberg in May (Hybrid), Anne Macquarie's Mountain Meadow retreat in August, and Shaila Catherine in October (Zoom). The annual celebration of the Buddha's enlightenment at the Enlightenment Tea was revived in early December. Twenty-eight people came together at the Center to share tea, bread, stories and community.

Despite the challenges, the Retreat Committee had a very successful 2022, meeting five times to plan retreats for 2023 and 2024. The dedicated committee members included Christy Tews, Karen Kvasnicka, Kathy Schwerin, Susan Priest, Susan Antipa, Tom Gray, Jasmine (Jazz) Gouveia, Deborah Stevenson, and Sarah Hunter. This group, along with Renate Massing and Susan Juetten, planned and managed a total of six non-residential and four residential retreats. However, some members are stepping down and the committee is looking for other community members to step up and help organize and manage retreats for 2023 and 2024.



Additional team members include: Shannon Hataway, DZ's web master, and Frank Ozaki, the graphic artist who creates our beautiful retreat flyers. Stephanie Coleman, DZ's MailChimp maven, took a break for part of the year, but is now back in charge of MailChimp. Susan Sara Priest filled in for her and is her new backup. Harry Ednie continues to be our sound

roadie. The Committee is grateful for the essential work they do!

Attendance

Total attendance for the non-residential retreats was about 155 (we cannot recall exact numbers from a couple of retreats). Total attendance for the residential retreats was 92. Total attendance for the year was about 247, down a bit from 2021.

Financials

The non-residential retreats had a net income of about \$1,628. The residential retreats generated a net income of about \$5,151.

Scholarships

In 2022 DZ awarded 2 scholarships for \$680.00 and took in \$465.00 in scholarship dana, so the scholarship account decreased slightly to \$4,034 at the end of 2022.

2023 and Beyond

For 2023, the Retreat Committee has six confirmed non-residential retreats featuring familiar teachers John Travis, Amita Schmidt, Vance Pryor, and Bhikkhuni Ayya Santacitta, along with our local team of Kathy Schwerin, Christy Tews, Anne Macquarie, Denise Barclay, Tom Gray and Angela Sullivan.

Planned residential retreats include Dori Langevin in March; Santikaro in August; and two with Denise Barclay in February and November. In November 2024, Leigh Brasington will return for a 10-day retreat at Camp Galilee.

Many bows to the Retreat Committee, who put in a great deal of work to recruit teachers, organize retreats and venues, and make the whole endeavor run smoothly.



Vision Action Committee

The Vision Action Committee, formed after the 2018 visioning meeting to come up with ideas to better connect our wider community, did not have an official meeting in 2022. However, DZ's goal to increase our outreach to include more diversity in age, gender, and ethnicity in the DZ Community, was moved forward through the efforts of Denise Barclay, our new Volunteer Coordinator, who posted more regularly on social media through the latter part of 2022. We hope that the social committee will resume planning occasional events in 2023.

Classes

Tom Gray and Harry Ednie again offered a six-week course on meditation and core Buddhist principles beginning April, 2022. The 90 minute sessions were presented online via Zoom.



Website & Other Outreach

We continue to update our website to show the latest information on sitting groups, retreats and classes. We reorganized the Resources section in 2020 and we continue to add more content. In 2021 we added a section for online community gratitude journaling. Retreatants appreciate the ability to register and pay for residential retreats online. Denise Barclay has been working with Shannon Hattaway, our webmaster, to improve the accessibility of the website and make it easier to find information on it.

Visit us at <http://dharmazephyr.org/> or through our Facebook page.

Plans for 2023

In late-2022 we made the major step of hiring Denise Barclay as an independent contractor to be our Volunteer Coordinator; though "hiring" may be an exaggeration, since she does much of the work on a volunteer basis. The Guiding Sangha felt that to make significant progress on some organizational and outreach projects we needed someone to coordinate the work. Denise stepped up to fill that role and will continue to do it through 2023.

We will continue our outreach to the public through our website and email alerts to let the public know about the wonderful meditation retreats, classes, and sitting opportunities that Dharma Zephyr provides.

We hope to resume social events to allow members from different sitting groups to get to know folks outside their regular circle of practitioners. We hope to have at least one movie night in 2023.

Finally, I want to once again express my heart-felt thanks to all those who have served a role in making Dharma Zephyr the vibrant, mindful community it has become. Despite the ongoing Covid situation, most of our sitting groups continued to meet and we managed to hold many retreats in person and others as a hybrid or remotely.

Well done all of you!



Chas Macquarie
Guiding Sangha
President