

Dharma Ocean Foundation Annual Report 2006

In 2006, the Dharma Ocean Foundation continued its mission of expanding and spreading the teachings of the practicing lineage and of Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche. The specific activities of Dharma Ocean Foundation include sponsorship of programs, seminars and educational activities where the Tibetan Nyingma, Kagyu and Shambhala traditions, particularly as taught by Trungpa Rinpoche, can be studied, taught and practiced. The Foundation also continued its efforts at providing related resources and study materials (print, audio, video, internet), creating a Retreat Center and Hermitage, and providing support for dialogue between Buddhism and other religious traditions. Approval of Dharma Ocean Foundation's status as a charitable organization (501c3) was confirmed on February 17, 2006 by the IRS, and was retroactive to March 1, 2005.

Dr. Reginald A. Ray and Mrs. Lee Ray are the founding Board Members and the main teachers with the Dharma Ocean Foundation. In 2006 the Board of Directors included David Abelson, Susan Brown Carlton, Julie Greene, Tharpa Lowry, Tami Simon, Shaun LaChute, Will Van Derveer and Al Blum. In early 2007, Beth Marvel and Andrea Welte joined the Board, while Tharpa Lowry and David Abelson resigned.

Crestone, Colorado continued to be the main site for Dharma Ocean programs in 2006, with some shorter programs offered in Boulder, Colorado, and other locations.

Dhyanasangha is the spiritual community at the heart of Dharma Ocean. Dhyanasangha members are householder yogis and yoginis, practitioners committed to working and studying with Dr. and Mrs. Ray in the practicing lineage of Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche. In 2006, membership dues contributions were increased by the efforts of the Board and Dana Circles (circles of generosity and giving), with 40% participating in financially supporting Dharma Ocean through recurring dues donations.

2006 Programs

In February, the 2006 Advanced Meditating with the Body was the first 'advanced' program offered to previous attendees of the popular Meditating with the Body programs. Participants gathered in Crestone to work with Reggie and Lee Ray in this program.

In 2006, Dharma Ocean offered Meditation Instructor Training for the first time. Emphasis was placed on genuineness of the meditation instructor and mentee relationship, and on the importance of the Trungpa Rinpoche's Shambhala teachings as the fourth yana-encouragement that as future teachers, practitioners must be thoroughly processed in the three yanas of the Buddhist path, but then step out of all identities for the benefit of sentient beings. Forty-two meditation instructors in training attended from March 1-5, 2006.

The Mahamudra Intensive was a five-day program with a group of forty-one people March 25 to April 2, 2006. New and long-term Vajrayana practitioners joined together in the advanced practices of Mahamudra and Dzogchen in the vast space of Crestone.

For the second year in a row, for four weeks in July/August 2006, the Vajrayana Training Intensive (VTI) introduced new practitioners to the Vajrayana path and deepened the connection of current Tantrikas to the practicing lineage of Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche. Seventy-seven people (33 returning and 34 for the first time) joined Lee and Reggie Ray for this program in Crestone, which included Vajrayana teachings, discussion groups, intensive practice periods, and feast practice.

The Winter Dathün took place for four weeks from December 16, 2006 to January 14, 2007 in Crestone. Dathün is an intensive meditation practice experience, including periods of silence and meals in the Japanese Oryoki style of ritualized eating. Dr. Ray's talks included an emphasis on our connection with the land and aboriginal soul as a basis of human spirituality. At the end of the program many people took the Refuge Vow or the Bodhisattva Vow. A total of 124 people participated in the dathün, with 51 attending the full program, and an additional 73 attending partial weeks. Dharma Ocean again took over the entire White Eagle Village hotel and conference center for this program and the coordinators (Jayson Gaddis, Emily Utz and John Winter) and kitchen staff (Scott Exline, Heather Wright, Zac Smith and Norman Elizondo) are to be commended for their efforts.

During 2006, three Dhyanasangha weekends took place: February in Boulder at Chautauqua, September in Boulder at Naropa University, and November in Boulder again at Chautauqua.

In 2006 the Meditating with the Body program was coordinated by Stacey Gonzalez. The program included three 4-day retreats in Crestone in April, June and September, and a home-study component with talks and bodywork exercises that spanned most of the year. There were sixty-nine participants of this program in 2006.

Retreat Center, Cabin of the Crazy One and Hermitage

In 2006, Dharma Ocean successfully began a Capital Campaign for land and building funds needed to build a retreat center, a retreat cabin and future retreat hermitage in Crestone, CO. About 17 acres of Mantiou Foundation land in Crestone was purchased and donated by two generous Sangha members for the Dharma Ocean Retreat Center, which will include a Shrine Room building and Residence Hall. Dharma Ocean raised \$2.9 million of \$5.88 million needed in capital campaign pledges towards the Dharma Ocean Retreat Center in 2006. Due to the high cost of holding programs at other venues, our goal is to have the Retreat Center completed in time for Winter Dathün of 2008.

Additionally, beginning in March 2006, an individual retreat cabin was built on the 17 acres through the inspired donations of other Sangha members. The cabin has undergone completion finishes throughout the year but has also already hosted several

solitary retreats in 2006.

By the donation of another sangha member, we were able to pay a down payment to purchase 68 acres of mostly conservation easement protected lands for the future Dharma Ocean Hermitage, which is to be a complex of solitary retreat cabins on the last available Manitou lands in Crestone. The program for the hermitage includes several handicap accessible retreat cabins as well as more remote cabins in the rugged terrain. We continue to be very grateful to the Manitou Foundation in Crestone.

Dharma Ocean Staff

In January 2006 it became apparent to the Board that dedicated administrative support was needed for Dharma Ocean programs and administration. The first two paid positions were created: a Registrar (filled by Tiffany Stombaugh), and an Executive Director (filled by Tharpa Lowry). Tiffany Stombaugh and Tharpa Lowry served in their positions for the duration of 2006.

Volunteers and Donors

Dharma Ocean depended significantly on the inspiration and effort of numerous volunteers and donors who made the organization and programs possible during 2006.

In all cases, volunteers played a crucial role in running Dharma Ocean Foundation programs, serving as coordinators, cooks, kasung and attendants—assisting staff and facilitating every other imaginable function. Dharma Ocean is and remains indebted to the volunteers from our community. They are truly the most important contributors we have to the work of increasing the teachings of Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche. In 2006, the Volunteer Coordinators were Laurel Mackey Miller and Andrea Welte.

In 2006, Volunteer Program Coordinators included Amy Stahl, Kerry Schrider, Tharpa Lowry and Micah Hoffman (VTI); Julie Greene and Andrew Barber (Meditation Instructor Training); Dale Buckstaff and Yu Chu Lin (Mahamudra), and the Winter Dathün coordinators and cooks, listed above. Many people contributed their efforts as Meditation Instructors, Media Team, website support, kitchen staff, study group leaders, and Dana Circle leaders.

The Board of Dharma Ocean is a working board of volunteers. Within this, the organization depended significantly on the expertise and efforts of Julie Greene as both Treasurer and Secretary of Dharma Ocean in 2006.

We are also tremendously grateful to our many donors and monthly dues contributing members. The vast majority of our donors are members of the community and serve as volunteers as well. Our community depends on the circle of generosity which is continuing to multiply, inviting more and more people to hear the teachings and in turn support that process for others.

Statement of Financial Activities 2006

REVENUE

Donations	
General Donations	120,832
Restricted Donations	209,069
Land Donation	128,736
DO House Donation	580,000
Total Donations	1,038,637
Program Revenue (net of scholarships)	590,823
Other Income	13,739
TOTAL REVENUE	1,643,199

EXPENSES

Programs	
Occupancy	310,285
Supplies	48,067
Program Staff/Teaching Fees	204,160
Other Expenses	28,485
Direct Program Expenses	590,997
General and Administrative	
Salaries/Benefits	65,471
Office/Admin	36,684
Business Expenses	24,439
Fundraising	6,358
Grant to Tibetan Nuns	5,000
Total General & Admin	137,952
TOTAL EXPENSES	728,949
NET INCOME	914,250

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Retreat Center Land	128,736
Retreat Center	56,111
Dharma Ocean House	689,002
Cabin of the Crazy One	49,992
Equipment/Practice Materials	12,188
Total Capital Expenditures	936,029

ADDITION TO WORKING CAPITAL

LOANS from Officers/Directors	71,896
CHANGE IN WORKING CAPITAL	50,117

Looking Forward into 2007 / 2008

Upcoming Programs

Dharma Ocean is again offering a full slate of programs in 2007, including the two month-long programs, The Vajrayana Training Intensive and the Winter Dathün. The full list of programs for 2007 is as follows:

Two programs in Vancouver, BC, Canada: Enlightened Body, Sacred Earth
Sutrayana Training Program (taught by Susan Carlton, Julie Greene and Al Blum)
Advanced Meditating with the Body
Meditating with the Body
Mahamudra Intensive
Vajrayogini Abhisheka
Vajrayana Training Intensive
Winter Dathün
2 Dhyanasangha Weekends and 2 Vajrasangha Weekends
2-4 Crestone Open Days - free practice days for the Crestone Community

2007 Operating Budget Summary

The following 2007 Operating Budget was approved by the Board of Directors on March 24, 2007. This is an Operating Budget and does not include donations or expenses for the Retreat Center and Hermitage Land. Also program revenue and expenses does not include lodging/meals; those funds are basically passed through directly from participants to the host location, the White Eagle Village. DOF is working to raise the \$32,132 in addition donations needed to meet our budgetary deficit.

Revenue		
Donations	78,500	Excluding Retreat Center
Overall Program Income	445,306	Excluding Lodging/Meals
Total Revenue	523,806	
Expenses		
Direct Program Expenses	218,745	Excluding Lodging/Meals
Salaries and Benefits	204,392	
Office/Administrative	55,401	
Business Expenses	29,900	
Grant to Tibetan Nun Project	5,000	
Total Expenses	513,438	
Excess Revenue	10,368	
Asset Spending (operating funds)	22,500	Excluding Retreat Center
Repayment of Loans	20,000	
Change in Working Capital	(32,132)	