

Sanghata

Supporters of the Pacific Hermitage

May 2014

2014 Annual Pah Bah Celebration

Great blessings! Both Luang Por Pasanno, Abbot of Abhayagiri Monastery and Ajahn Amaro, Abbot of Amaravati Monastery will join us for the 2014 Fall Alms-Giving ceremony weekend. There will be a meditation and teaching retreat on Saturday, October 18th and a meal and Pah Bah ceremony on Sunday, October 19th. These events will be held at the White Salmon Grange. We will follow up with specifics later in the year when more details have been determined. We hope you can join us for this wonderful opportunity.



Protecting the Quiet and Seclusion of the Hermitage

In our last letter, November 2013, we shared that one of the long term visions for the Hermitage is to purchase adjacent properties as a buffer against noise and potential development.

Since that time, one of the most important buffer properties became available and we were able to purchase it on April 5th. The land is a 5-acre wooded parcel immediately adjoining the Pacific Hermitage to the west. This property has visual access to the Hermitage property and is an important buffer to noise from Snowden Road. In the future, it will allow for the siting of a few more meditation huts.



We are very grateful to the previous owner of the property, Richard Halpern, for giving us the opportunity to buy this land. It is very crucial for preserving the peaceful nature of this beautiful place dedicated to meditation and practice.

Sanghata had accumulated surplus donations of \$107,000 as a reserve for purchasing bordering property if it became available. These funds were used for the down payment and certain expenses related to the purchase. The remaining debt associated with this property is \$143,407 and is to be paid off in 5 years.

In the words of Ajahn Sudanto, *"This is a significant milestone in the long term establishment of the Hermitage. May the sangha of today and future generations flourish in the Gorge, following in the footsteps of the Buddha."*

Monetary Donations

The monks have few material requirements – just food, basic clothing, shelter and medicine. Your donations are the primary means of providing these requisites and maintaining the Hermitage property.

A foundation of regular monthly giving is especially helpful. It helps us plan our yearly activities and, in this case, know how much we can put toward monthly payments on the property loan.

Perhaps even more so now, financial support from the Northwest community is very important to paying off the loan. Support from outside the Northwest is less likely than in previous years due to other monastery expansion projects in the west and political turmoil in Thailand.

If you would like to set up regular donations, please see “Bill Pay” services at www.sanghata.net . All of your contribution goes toward providing for the monks and the Hermitage. Please feel free to contact a Sanghata member for more detailed information.

It is with deep gratitude that we thank all the supporters of the Pacific Hermitage.

We Appreciate the Opportunity to be In Service to the Monastics

It is our great good fortune to have the Monks of the Pacific Hermitage living in our community, showing us by example



how to walk the noble eight fold path: right view, right intention, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness and right concentration. We encourage everyone to visit www.pacifichermitage.org for opportunities to enrich your practice.

Please contact us if you have any questions:

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