



A Warm Message from our Executive Director

Dear Sangha,

Peace has settled over Gomde California this New Year's Day. The trees around the Buddha Hall just barely sway in the grey light, deer pick their way quietly through the meadow around the Wisdom Garden, and seventeen practitioners one-pointedly chant down in the heated shrine room. We have just sealed our annual Vajrasattva retreat boundary with Lama Gerry, and we are all deeply delighted to be here.



I want to share with you the palpable harmony and excitement that is pervading Gomde California these days. We are investing new energy into every dimension of this retreat land, from the tangible level of infrastructure to the subtle aspects of practice and puja. The new Dharmachakra Translation Committee house has been installed, and it is beautiful. Soon we will open the doors to support our longstanding translation projects, house visiting translators, and run translation-training programs.



We have cleared land in the campgrounds to make room for permanent restrooms and showers, with the intention to complete the project by the end of this summer. We are clearing twelve new campsites, six of which will have fresh tent platforms. Altogether the land is being tended to with energy and care.



We have forged deeper connections with our Bay Area community of monks and nuns from Ka-Nying Shedrub Ling Monastery, and our sangha members meet each month to practice together in the Bay. You can learn more about the Northern California Dharma Practice Group [here](#).

In February (16-18), we will host a [Losar Retreat](#) to celebrate the Tibetan New Year. [Lama John Makransky](#) will take us into a deeper relationship with our innate love in March (9-11) and [Lama Bruce Newman](#) will guide us in Medicine Buddha practice in April (13-15). Meanwhile, Lama Kunzang, will lead several shamatha retreats throughout the year.

This summer we are slated to host [Dzigar Kongtrul Rinpoche](#), Phakchok Rinpoche, Chokyi Nyima Rinpoche and Khandro Rinpoche. Our resident teacher, Lama Tsultrim, will teach the outer Tara sadhana, The Essence of the Two Accumulations, as part of the of the second half of the Buddhist Studies Summer Program. We have asked Lama to teach this with the hope that any students of the Tara's Triple Excellence online program who wish to deepen their relationship with this profound practice may come and spend a month studying and training at Gomde this summer. In mid-August, we will celebrate our 20th Anniversary.

It takes a dedicated, harmonious, and altogether loving community to create an authentic place of study and practice. This is what Gomde has become, and this is what you are a part of.



I want to invite all of you to spend time at Gomde California this year. Tend to our gardens, lend a hand during our workweek, and sit with us in our shrine room. Gomde has been given to all of us; it is for us, it is a seat of our lineage. The degree that we contribute and care for Gomde is a reflection of the degree to which we care for our lineage and our teachers.

I make the aspiration that every blessing and every perceived obstacle of the coming year will lead us into deeper refuge in the Dharma, into vaster intentions for the happiness of beings, and into deeper devotion for the wisdom and power of our precious lineage.

Please support us, so that we may continue to provide the conditions for all of our community members to authentically practice the Dharma.

Warmly,

Jack deTar
Executive Director
Gomde California

Winter/Spring Schedule

Annual Losar Retreat

Lama Gerry Prindiville and Claude Herail
February 16-16

Finding Immediate Access to Innate Capacities of Love, Compassion, and Wisdom

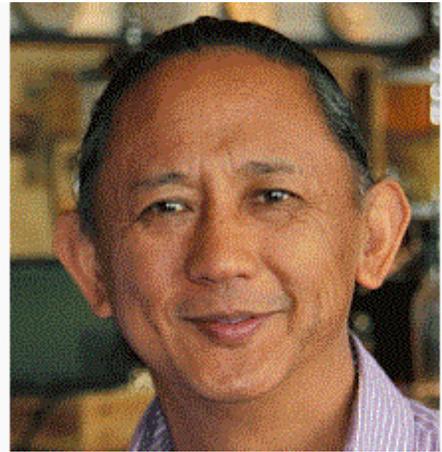
John Makransky, PhD.
March 9-11

Medicine Buddha: Door to Boundless Healing

Lama Bruce Newman
April 13-15

Lamrim Yeshe Ningpo: A Gradual Path on the Heart of Wisdom

Dzigar Kongtrul Rinpoche
June 15-17



Dzigar Kongtrul Rinpoche will teach root text for Gomde California's core practices, the profound teaching of Padmasambhava offers detailed instruction on the entire Buddhist path, including the preliminary practices, the generation stage and completion stage practices, and the practice of Dzogchen. Heavy with pith instructions, the Lamrim Yeshe Nyingpo can only be taught by an authentic master.

For registration and information visit gomdeusa.org

STAY CONNECTED:

