



# Drikung Kyobpa Choling Tibetan Meditation and Retreat Center

A California 501 c (3) not-for-profit organization

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December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009

## Blessings and heartfelt wishes to everyone as we welcome the coming New *Iron Tiger* Year.

*The Tiger symbolizes such character traits as intelligence, alertness, bravery and generosity and they are known for meeting their goals once established. May all sentient beings reach the goal of everlasting peace and happiness.*

### Drikung Kyobpa Choling Tibetan Meditation and Retreat Center

1600 Sheridan Place  
Escondido, CA 92027  
Phone: 760-738-0089

Email: [info@drikungkc.org](mailto:info@drikungkc.org)  
[www.tibetanmeditationcenter.org](http://www.tibetanmeditationcenter.org)

Founded in 1996  
By Drupon Samten Rinpoche  
Under the guidance of the heads  
of our lineage,  
HH Drikung Kyabgon Chetsang  
and HH Drikung Kyabgon  
Chuntsang

Dedicated to both Western and  
Tibetan practitioners and to all  
who are interested in experiencing  
the teachings of wisdom,  
compassion and healing

To provide a space to come  
together for meditation and prayer

Provide education on Buddhist  
philosophy and meditation

Offering retreat space

Traditional ceremonial support for  
milestones in life: births, house  
blessings, marriages, illness,  
funeral

**Spiritual Director** – Drupon  
Samten Rinpoche

#### Officers

Beth Howie – President  
Ngakpa Wangdu – VP Education  
Elwood Higley -- Treasurer  
Nancy McDaniel – Secretary

#### Volunteers

Many thanks to our countless  
volunteers who make this possible

#### OM MANI PADME HUNG

May all beings have happiness  
and the causes of happiness and  
be free from suffering

Restoring and preserving an ancient culture for our modern times is not easy. We are honored that so many people have joined in to make this year a success for Drikung Kyobpa Choling (Tibetan meditation Center) in the continued development of the new temple and retreat facility in light of the challenging times. Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone and we keep you all in our meditations. With your generous support and the enthusiastic perseverance of the sangha members together, we have been able to make progress everyday towards accomplishing the overall goals. The great Yogi Milarepa said, “Those who meditate in the mountains and those who provide resources for the meditators will both attain enlightenment together because of the interdependence of auspicious connections.” The essence of interdependence is the power of dedication and sharing the merit. We are so grateful to everyone who has helped us and for your generosity and commitments in so many ways. We ask for your continued support in whatever way that you can. We are excited to share with you the amazing progress that has been accomplished this year, along with our current meditation schedule, upcoming events and programs.

**The construction project** has continued to be a major focus of our activities, and has moved along very well this year. When Drupon-la was in Long Beach, he told **His Holiness Dalai Lama about our building a temple and asked for His Holiness’s blessings.** His Holiness said, “Ya Ya” (Yes). We are very grateful to have His Holiness’s blessings and Their Holinesses Chetsang and Chuntsang’s continued blessings. The Tibetan Meditation Center gives us the opportunity to provide a place for Western and Tibetan practitioners and for all who are interested in experiencing the teachings of Buddha’s wisdom, compassion and healing. The gardens and views provide support for meditation, contemplation and quietude. The new center will allow for the expansion of group and individual meditation retreats. It will also provide a formal place for the local Tibetans to come together for meditations, prayer and celebration for Buddhist Holy days. We have had many blessings from our resident and visiting teachers who have infused the entire space with good energy, healing qualities, peace and wisdom to benefit everyone now and for generations ahead. You are welcome to call to schedule a visit.

### Major 2009 accomplishments for the Meditation Center building project

- All exterior work on both the retreat house and main temple complete
- Interior work completed includes beautiful tile flooring, wooden stairway, all countertops, electrical, mechanical and plumbing fixtures
- Main walkways and parking area completed along with new landscaping

### Planned for 2010

- Interior: shrine-room altar, flooring, painting, decorations, window covers
- Bodhi Tree meditation garden area
- Extended teaching schedule and new meditation retreat facility opening

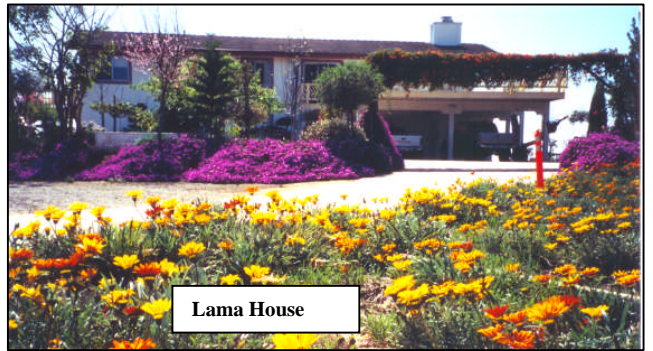


## Highlights from 2009

### New Meditation & Retreat Center Progress



Meditation Center & Retreat House



Lama House

**Below (left) Preparing to pour Entry Way walkway (right) Planting along the road**



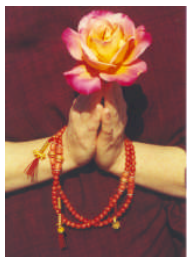
**We had a very special teacher, Lama Dawa visiting with us this year from Mongolia.  
Below (left) attending HHDL's teachings in Long Beach and (right) Drupon Leading Tara Retreat**



**MAY ALL BEING HAVE HAPPINESS AND THE CAUSES OF HAPPINESS**



## How you can help



### **Help us open our doors: Building Occupancy needs**

We are still short about \$25,000 to complete the building interiors that includes carpeting, window coverings and other interior details. If you are able to help to sponsor any part of this it would be so deeply appreciated. It is a rare and precious opportunity to experience building a temple and accumulating merit and wisdom to bring peace and happiness to oneself and others.

### **Become an ongoing supporter with your monthly, quarterly or annual pledge.**

Funds can be earmarked for supporting the monks and nuns, inviting teachers, the building project or ongoing operations. You can make a donation of behalf of a loved one and request prayers on their behalf or for an ongoing memory. You can make a pledge in anyway that you like.



### **Consider the Tibetan Meditation Center in your estate planning**

Help us with our endowment fund to keep the center running and maintained for the years ahead.

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Ongoing and special events, community outreach, special projects, sponsor an event in your home for any size group you would like. Help us with your marketing or other special skills.

### **Spend time in our new Retreat Facility or Join our Annual Fundraisers**

We are hoping that in 2010 we will have overnight retreat facilities available. Join us at our annual events, donate or help to solicit donations for upcoming Silent or Live Auctions. Contact us to find out more.



### **Dharma Items for Sale:**

We can do "lay-away" for

We have some beautiful hand-painted Tibetan thangkas (wall hangings), prayer-flags, a large variety of precious stone, wooden and seed malas (prayer beads), including some very special (and rare) prayer malas brought from the Himalayas, (new) hand made meditation cushions, Buddha statues, incense and other items. Visit us during the meditation programs or call for an appointment.



various gift needs!!!



### **2009 Fundraising and Financial Tracker**

#### **We are very pleased to announce through everyone's generous donations**

We raised \$24,000 (double from 2008 event) for the May 16<sup>th</sup> Tibetan Festival in Encinitas

#### **Outstanding needs and ongoing loan status**

\$25,000 to MOVE IN (and the complete interiors)

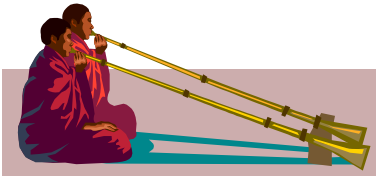
\$400,000 long term loan to complete the building construction

\$25,000 short term loan to fill the gap that was needed to complete the exteriors

**Tax Id available on request**

#### **Thank You for All Your Kind Support**

We would like to extend our **special thanks** to Lama Norbu, Lama Dawa, Sonam, Ngakpa Wangdu, Ani Dolkhar, Tsewang Dorjey, Robin & Matthew Gordon, Lesli Cohen, Dr. Rajan, Frances Regal, Phil Borack, Ron & Wendy Barry, Nancy McDaniel, Elwood Higley, Stuart Newby-Fraser, Jim Pendry, Ani Meharry, John Price, Eve Lorgen, Lourdes & Anne, Beatrex Quntanna, , MaryLou LoPreste, Richard & Jackie Earnest, Sissy Albrook, Barbara Inbody, Bauer Knight, Sondra Bushman, Patty & Gary Lenz, The Coons, Sharon Brown-Bacon, L. Hager, Linda Loreauno, David Knight, Michelle Warn, Kevin Robinson, Don & Lesley, Yenfen, Kathleen Mahoney, Mea Lama, Paul & Jean, Bill & Kelly, Mark & Damilla, Dr. Rutherford, Brian Collins, Kathy Guy, Lee Sorensen, Ullie Fink-Colombo, Steve Ring, Sue DeVall, Louis Davis, Vivian Blackstone, Ricardo, the local Tibetan community and our TMC Sangha.



## Current teaching and meditation schedule

<http://tibetanmeditationcenter.org/>

Bi-Weekly meditations, teachings and practice in Escondido. **7:00PM every other Saturday evening** led by Drupon Rinpoche, our resident lamas and senior students. Look for our emails or check the website for the current and upcoming programs or to sign-up to be on the email list. You can also contact us by email at: [info@drikungkc.org](mailto:info@drikungkc.org)

or Phone: 760-738-0089

Address: 1601 Sheridan Place, Escondido CA 92027

**Please note: We are still under construction. Arrangements to visit outside the regularly scheduled times are by appointment only. Thank you.**

## 2010 Special Events

**Losar** Tibetan New Year celebration traditionally includes meditations, prayers and celebration.

When we are getting closer, we will update you about this important day and the

**Spring Fundraiser.** Look for more details on upcoming mailings and website.

**Tentative Losar date: Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup> 10am – Noon followed by a potluck lunch.**



**Drupon Samten Rinpoche** is the spiritual director and teacher at **DKC Tibetan Meditation Center** in



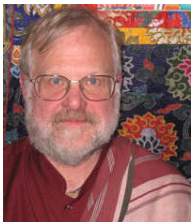
Escondido. He was born in the Himalayan Mountains of Ladakh. At the age of six, he entered the Tibetan Buddhist Monastery, Lama Yuru. He studied with many accomplished teachers, learning Buddhist philosophy, ceremony, butter sculpture, painting, music, lama dance, healing and astrology.

When he was 22 years old, he became a student of a great meditation retreat master, the Venerable Khyunga Rinpoche. Under the retreat master's guidance, Drupon completed the traditional Three Year Meditation Retreat and the Six Yogas of Naropa. At that same time, His Holiness Drikung Kyabgon, Khenchen Rinpoche and other 13 students completed the three year retreat in Lama Yuru under the guidance of the Venerable Khyunga Rinpoche. Drupon Samten says "It was the most amazing experience to spend many years with His Holiness in retreat". After completing his retreat, Drupon was fully qualified and authorized

to teach meditation to others. In 1987, His Holiness Drikung Kyabgon sent him to the United States to teach the Dharma.

This year Drupon-la has worked endlessly on the new meditation center and retreat facility with very little travel until after the new center is completed. He continues to lead meditations, retreats and give teachings at locally in the San Diego area. He is also available for special home blessings and teachings for groups, as well as individuals. We are so blessed to have Drupon Rinpoche here with us to share his vast experience and knowledge. We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to make his acquaintance and to receive his guidance for your individual practice and spiritual needs. Please contact Ani Chodron for any at home programs: [info@drikungkc.org](mailto:info@drikungkc.org) to set up an appointment.

**Ngakpa Wangdu (Dr. Michael Essex)** has been a student of HH Drikung Kyabgon Chetsang, Khenchen Rinpoche and



Drupon Rinpoche since they first met in 1987 in Washington DC. Ngakpa-la received many teachings, initiations and oral transmissions from many great masters. He teaches our ongoing classes on Buddhist philosophy for both beginners and advanced practitioners and how to integrate these practices and philosophy into our daily lives. He teaches with PowerPoint with pictures and Tibetan and English that makes it easier to understand the teachings and practice. Everyone is welcome to attend these very important and informative foundational classes. It is a great time to ask questions, study in a group together and to deepen our understanding. Ngakpa-la has studied the

Tibetan language for many years and is our primary translator translating Tibetan into English. We are very thankful for the work he has done on our daily prayer books and other sacred texts and practices. He also teaches basic Tibetan vocabulary for important Dharma words and phrases.