



News from the IWM Board - 5/26/22

Reopening Update

Watch for updates on our [website](#) and in our email blasts as our COVID protocols or hybrid plans may change. For now, each offering will list if it's in-person, Zoom, or hybrid. For in-person offerings, please take note that the locations vary; some offerings will be held at IWM in Eastworks (Suite 242) and some at the Florence Civic Center or elsewhere. At this time, our COVID protocols require proof of vaccination and N95/KN95 masks. To read more about our COVID protocols and the Florence Civic Center set up, [please click here](#).

Sangha Member on our First In-Person Dharma Talk

"I was so grateful that causes and conditions allowed me to attend the first in-person sit through InsightWMA since the pandemic arrived on our shores and the center went remote - an historic event indeed! With impermanence really 'up close and personal' these past few years, I've noticed a deeper appreciation of ardency, and a longing to connect with Dharma friends. I really enjoyed arriving early and helping set-up; so nice to reconnect with others! And Mark Nunberg's talk re: The Three Poisons left me with a lot to reflect upon!"

Smith Students' Podcast

Hal Fales (practice leader and board member) and Michael Grady (teacher) participated in two Smith students' -- Clara and Fen -- Buddhist philosophy class project (a podcast) and received a lovely note of thanks from Professor Jay Garfield.

Dear generous Dharma friends: I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for the enormous generosity and kindness you extended to my students and by extension to me, inviting them into your communities, talking with them, and helping them to a deeper understanding of Buddhist philosophy, practice, and the relation between philosophy and practice. They have produced lovely

articles and podcasts, and you can read the articles and [listen to the podcasts at this site](#). (Category: Insight Western Mass: Vipassana for the 21st Century)

Circle of Care

Hello everyone, hope you are well. The Afghan family we are supporting is very well, we are grateful to report! They have secured new employment positions, enrolled in public school and have hosted a wonderful dinner in gratitude for the Circle's efforts! We continue to obtain donations for the refugee program and encourage any furniture or household items to be given if possible and can arrange for a pick up. If you would like to be a part of providing ongoing support to the family or have items for pick up, please email general@insightwma.org. Grateful for all the support! With Metta, Lauren

Sangha Stewards - Deep Bow

Gratitude to sangha members who served during March, April, or May in the following ways:

- Green Metta: Betsy H, Rick H, Diana R, Andrea Z
- Zoom Hosts/In-Person Greeters: Catalina A, Suzanne A, Lucy B, Holly B, Hal F, Ruth F, Lauren I, Cathy R, JM S, trellis s
- Hybrid Hosting in May: Adam C. (thanks to Adam for also setting up and providing the necessary equipment)

Stewarding Our Sangha

Seeking Summer Zoom Hosts and In-Person Greeters

We have a number of openings for hosting and greeting in June. Each month a list of volunteer hosting opportunities is sent out, and if you're on the list of recipients, you simply sign up to host (in-person or via Zoom) as your schedule permits. Sangha member Cathy Repetti is taking a turn at coordinating Zoom and in-person hosts/greeters. To learn more or to volunteer, please email volunteer@insightwma.org.

Below, we are pleased to include Jean Esther's [*"Lifting and Being Lifted: Reflection on Dharma Transmission."*](#) If you'd like to share Dharma reflections in a future newsletter, or have comments, questions, or ideas you'd like to share with the Board, please contact us: leadership@insightwma.org.

With much care and metta,
trellis, Lucy, Hal, Lauren, Holly, and Bernadine

