

## DEAR READER

I am so pleased to write you as the new managing editor and publisher of *Mandala*.

Welcome to this very special issue: "Intimate Reflections on the Early Days of FPMT."

*Mandala* will tell the story of FPMT in four issues over the course of the year. This first issue, neither a corporate history nor a chronological timeline, is rather a felt history comprised mainly of first-hand accounts and reflections. It provides an emotional and philosophical backdrop for our journey from FPMT's beginnings among Western students to the international network it is today.

Our next issue, due out in July, will explore the work and life of FPMT's global community of centers, projects and services. The October-December issue will tell the story of FPMT Education. And in the January-March 2010 issue we will look to the future of the organization and the vast visions of Lama Yeshe, Lama Zopa Rinpoche and other established and up-and-coming FPMT lamas.

I owe at least a few lifetimes worth of gratitude to Nick Ribush from Lama Yeshe Wisdom Archive for his help with this issue. I truly marvel at the commitment of the staff of LYWA in preserving the precious teachings of

FPMT lamas. I don't think those people ever sleep!

Adele Hulse, who is finishing the biography of Lama Yeshe, *Big Love*, is responsible for kindly providing much of the content you'll find in this cover feature. She's been diligently telling Lama Yeshe's story in the "Beginnings" section of *Mandala* for six years. You'll notice some of the personal stories have been published in *Mandala* before. We wanted to bring together the best reflections into this one special issue so we hope you forgive reading some of this for the second time.

*Mandala* is very sorry to say goodbye to Sara Blumenthal who started as assistant editor in January 2006 and has served as publisher since late 2007. Sara is leaving to focus on her family but will continue on *Mandala's* Editorial Board. Sara thanks "the incredible community of *Mandala* readers" and says, "It was an honor to engage with the Dharma through my service to you."

You'll find some new standard sections in this issue inviting your participation. I hope to hear from you!

Thank you so much for reading. Please take your time and enjoy.

With love,  
Carina Rumrill

## ABOUT MANDALA



Lama Thubten Yeshe



Lama Zopa Rinpoche

*Mandala* is the official publication of the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition (FPMT), an international charitable organization founded more than thirty years ago by two Tibetan Buddhist masters, Lama Thubten Yeshe (1935-1984) and Lama Thubten Zopa Rinpoche. FPMT is now a vibrant international community, with a network of over 150 affiliate centers, projects and services, and members in more than thirty countries.

### Editorial Policy

Recurring topics include: Buddhist philosophy; Buddhism and Science; Buddhist mind training (Lo-jong); Death and Dying; Youth Issues; Essential Education; Ordination and the Sangha; Buddhism and Modern Life; FPMT Projects Worldwide; The Wisdom of Emptiness, Compassion and Bodhichitta; Lama Yeshe and his teachings; Lama Zopa Rinpoche and his teachings; His Holiness the Dalai Lama and his teachings, among many other topics.

Writers, photographers, and artists, both amateur and professional, are encouraged to submit material for consideration. *Mandala* currently does not pay for publishable content; we credit all photos and other work as requested.

*Mandala*, in addition to the *Mandala* eZine, is published quarterly and is available via Foundation Membership.

### Basic Membership \$US30

Benefits include:

- A year's FREE subscription to *Mandala* and the *Mandala* eZine
- 5% discount on all purchases in the Foundation Store

To learn about higher membership levels and benefits, contact us or visit [www.fpmt.org/membership](http://www.fpmt.org/membership)

Foundation Membership supports the educational programming, charitable projects and global services of FPMT.

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