



## Sangha Sharing

### Retreatants Share Writings and Photos

*We invited sangha members to share their personal experiences from the recent winter retreat at Serenity Ridge. Here are four offerings.*



Photograph of Serenity Ridge by Jitka Polanská

Who ever could have imagined me like this, prostrating before sacred images, holding my hands in the gesture of a prayer?

And yet, now I know that I had been always looking for this, just for this. Since ever, there was something inside looking at me through this stream of consciousness,

something feeling imprisoned. Now, I am on the way to liberate this sacred, silent presence.

These are my teachers, this is my home, this is the source which had always been

calling me.

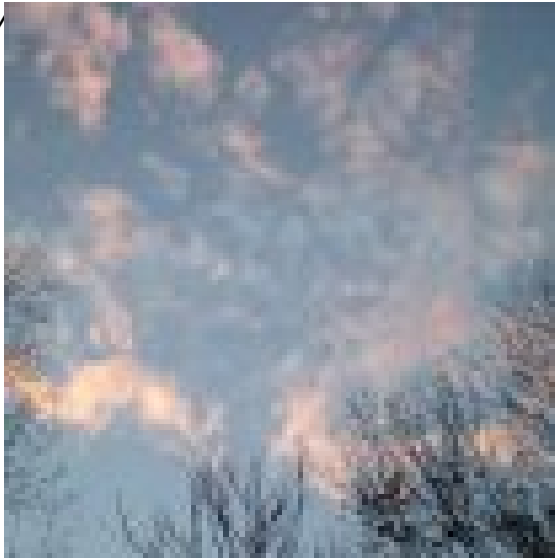
Now I know. And so I prostrate and bow to the one who brought me back.

— *Jitka Polanská*



Solid as a rock  
and wind blows  
through every cell  
of my body

*Virginia night sky*



The night is so calm  
with a sky pitch black  
and a thousand of sizzling stars  
The end & beginning of  
every single possibility

— *Poems and photographs by Floor van Orsouw*

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What ~not~ to say ... so precious! Rinpoche as usual addressed all of my potentially silly concerns without me ever having to ask out loud — making for an even stronger commitment to

the Teachings and Practice. Between the Teaching itself, Rinpoche's sweet words of encouragement, and the related texts available, I now know better what to ~do~ with the new experiential glasses I find myself with. In addition to all of this is the precious Sangha; connecting in a way that is indescribable, like family, only closer. I look forward to the transcript of this Winter's Retreat as well as the Root Texts and especially the day when registration for the next Winter Retreat is open.

— Gerry Heikes

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### **A Leap of Trust**

*By Scott Clearwater, Jan. 19, 2011*



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qVDSWEyLdKw>