

# The Great Westgern Vehicle (Mahaparacakkayana)



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## Teacher Training Program:

Dear friends of the GWV for 3 years we have been engaged in conducting a Charismatic Meditation [Teacher Training Program](#). We recently graduated two highly skilled contemplatives, who we have also been empowered to teach meditation under the auspices of the GWV. We have thus succeeded in interpreting and transmitting the Buddha's ecstatic message to two individuals who have not only studied the suttas but they have engaged in the Buddha's ecstatic methodology with sufficient vigor as to manifest meditative absorption (jhana, samadhi) and various other charismatic phenomena. They have also reaped the benefit in a noticeable reduction of the hindrances and fetters. The two teachers are [Michael Hawkins](#) and [D. Ernest Wachter](#).

## The Teaching Faculty of the GWV:

### Michael Hawkins

has been a contemplative since 1991. He began to explore the altered states of consciousness of the meditative absorption states beginning in 1995 and he has maintained a daily meditation practice that has born the fruits



(phala) of the contemplative life since the summer of 2003. Through this rigorous ethical and contemplative life he has become saturation in the bliss, joy and ecstasy of

meditative absorption (jhana, samadhi) which has eradicated the first 3 fetters: Narcissism & clan identification (sakkaya-ditthi), skepticism and doubt (vicikiccha), clinging to rules, rights and rituals (silabbata-paramasa), he is thus a Sotapanna and will therefore return only seven more times to material existence. Having worked in various "hardhat and lunch pail" factories across the western U.S. from 1982 to 1991, he completed a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Colorado in 1995. From 1991 through 1997 he worked in the music industry, ending as Western U.S. Marketing Representative for Capricorn Records. He then became a professional Archetypal Astrologer, dreamworker and Tarot reader, having completed certification as a Jungian Archetypal Therapist in 1995. He enjoys fiction writing, cooking, [blogging](#) and spending time in local coffee shops. He is happily married and lives in Boulder, CO, USA.

D. Ernest Wachter is an engaged Buddhist, who has been a contemplative since 1987 and he has maintained a daily meditation practice that has born the fruits (phala) of the contemplative life since early 2006. Through this rigorous ethical and contemplative life



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(sakkaya-ditthi), skepticism and doubt (vicikiccha), clinging to rules, rights and rituals (silabbata-paramasa), he is thus a Sotapanna and will therefore return only seven more time to material existence. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, a Master of Pastoral Studies with a focus in Eco-Spirituality, and a Master of Science in Library Science. He has a strong passion for the apophatic meditation tradition of Christian mysticism and the teachings of the historical Jesus. Ernest is also an accomplished musician and scholar of early Christian literature and Christian mysticism, and a Board Member of the Great Western Vehicle. Ernest's work involves the teaching of meditation and counseling based upon the Enneagram and ancient forms of divination as a tool for spiritual direction, such as Tarot, the I Ching, and the Manjushri Oracle. He lives in Altoona, PA, USA, where he leads an ecumenical ministry called The Ministry of DEW, which seeks to promote both engaged social activism as well as a charismatic and contemplative spirituality.

## **Events**

### **Retreats:**

This year with the help of Michael Hawkins, D. Ernest Wachter, and others the GWV successfully conducted 3 meditation retreats. The first retreat was May 23-June 1, 2006, which was a 10-day GWV Charismatic Meditation Teacher Training Retreat. It was held in Gold Hill near Boulder, CO. The second retreat was October 8 to 15, 2006 a Fall GWV Charismatic Meditation Teacher Training Retreat. It was held in Culpepper, Virginia. The third GWV Charismatic Meditation Teacher Training Retreat was also this fall. It was held October 16 to 27, 2006 in Altoona, Pennsylvania.

### **Academic Lectures:**

On July 16, 2006 Jeffrey S. Brooks, of the GWV gave a lecture, "The Witch-hunt" at the Center for Studies on New Religions (CESNUR). It was a Conference on International Perspectives in Religion,

Globalization, and Conflict. It was held at San Diego State University, San Diego, California. The paper detailed the Oppression of the Charismatic Contemplative in Contemporary U.S. American Culture.

## **Services**

### **Charismatic Archive:**

Through the Great Western Vehicle [Archive](#) on Gnosis we continue to offer a large archive of literature that details the charismatic experience via the GWV's website. In this archive we attempt to demystify the charismatic experience by providing lucid descriptions of the experience of Jhana, Samadhi, Kundalini, Kriyas, Ecstatic Meditation, and Ecstatic Buddhism.

### **Charismatic Counseling services:**

We also continue to use Yahoo Groups for our counseling services. These web-based dialog groups still form our most effective means of presenting [Fourth Wheel Buddhism](#), [Charismatic Meditation](#) and [Ecstatic Buddhism](#). The [Jhana Support Group](#), which is a dialog support group for charismatic



contemplatives within a Buddhist context. At this time there are 734 members, and the list has been in operation since Apr 9, 2003. [Kundaliniheat](#) is a dialog support group for the charismatic experience in a Yoga and Shamanic context. That list presently has 653 members, and was Founded: May 12, 1999. [Shiva Shakti](#) is a support group for the loved ones of people going through kundalini and the spiritual awakening. That list presently has 211 Members and was Founded: Jan 21, 2004.

### **Research**

#### **Pali & Buddhist Studies and Sutra Archives:**

To provide the best possible canonical support for the charismatic experience the GWV continues to provide the largest collection of early Buddhist Literature and the Pali Canon, both in the original Pali and in English translation. We also offer a Yahoo Group dialog where we discuss the [Discourses of the Buddha](#) and translation. That list has 217 Members, and was Founded: Apr 19, 2004.

#### **Case Histories:**

To further bolster the premises of the charismatic contemplative we have recently engaged in conducting our own scientific research on meditation and its phenomena, which is charismatic. In mid-July we started [Meditation Research](#), which is a Yahoo dialog group for the peer-level review of existing research on meditation and its phenomena. That list has 289 Members and was Founded: Jul 18, 2006.

October first we launched our next step in research by announcing a web-based [Questionnaire](#) for charismatic meditators. Since then we have collected over 90 completed questionnaires and [case histories](#).

#### **Future Goals:**

Aside from continuing our services we would like to expand our work and bring it

to a larger audience. However, we cannot do that without your continued help. The services of the GWV would be improved if we acquired some capital equipment, such as: a replacement for the old and nearly dead Toyota Van; a newer computer than the 5-year old, nearly dead one that Jhananda has revived from the dead numerous times; We could also expand our research by acquiring an EEG device for measuring brain activity of selected subjects to bolster our premise that charismatic meditation is a quantifiable subjective experience; a digital camera and a digital video camera would be useful to photo-document our research subjects; a cell-phone; and funds to cover traveling expenses.

#### **Research Instrumentation:**

Now that we are collecting charismatic [Questionnaires](#) and [case histories](#) the next obvious step is to select a group of subjects from those case histories and with their permission measure their brain activity during their meditations. We are reviewing EEG machines and have found that an instrument adequate for scientific research can be purchased for about \$5,000. To support that instrument we will be required to upgrade the computer to make it compatible with the EEG device. To adequately document these examinations we plan to provide a visual record of the examination and the interview. We will thus require a digital camera and a digital video camera. This additional equipment is likely to cost about \$2,000.

#### **Straight Vegetable Oil as a Fuel Source:**

To take the GWV, Charismatic Meditation, Fourth-wheel and Ecstatic Buddhism, as well as to examine our research subjects we will require a more reliable vehicle. For several years now we have been looking into the idea of purchasing a diesel vehicle and converting it to run on recycled vegetable oils, which are readily available from restaurants. The owners of restaurants pay to have their tallow disposed of. By giving their tallow to

us they save money. Thus with a properly equipped diesel vehicle we could propel the GWV's research and charismatic mission around the country for very little expense. A reasonably priced used diesel vehicle is likely to cost about \$5,000. Conversion to burn vegetable oil and associated support equipment is likely to cost about \$1,000



**Funding:**

The GWV is thus seeking \$20,000 in funding to expand our services and our research effort. To achieve that goal we depend upon the generosity of others who support the idea of charismatic meditation, Fourth-Wheel Buddhism and Ecstatic Buddhism.

**Funding the GWV**

Operational & Traveling expenses	\$7,000.00
Capital equipment	
Diesel vehicle	\$5,000.00
Conversion to burn vegetable oil	\$1,000.00
EEG machines	\$5,000.00
Computer	\$1,000.00
Digital camera	\$300.00
Digital video camera	\$700.00
 Total Funding	 \$20,000.00

**Please make a donation today:**

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If you value the service of the GWV, then please make a contribution today, so that those services can continue. Or, for further convenience we have started a PayPal account. All you need do is log onto PayPal and make your donation to the email address below:

[Jhanananda@greatwesternvehicle.org](mailto:Jhanananda@greatwesternvehicle.org)

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Kindest regards,

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