



Shaftsbury Hollow Retreat
OF SELF-REALIZATION FELLOWSHIP



“Every person needs a retreat, a dynamo of silence where he may go for the exclusive purpose of being recharged by the Infinite.” -Paramahansa Yogananda

2023 Newsletter and Fundraising Appeal



Dear Friends of Shaftsbury Hollow Retreat, greetings and warm wishes to you all. It has been a few years since we last reached out to our regional SRF family, and we hope you and your loved ones have been well. We are thankful for all the ways SRF has kept us connected and inspired throughout the pandemic, and we missed having devotees come on retreat at Guruji’s beautiful Vermont sanctuary.

Reopening for Retreats

We are happy to be officially reopened for retreats! We warmly invite your SRF Circle, Group, or Center to come and host your own self-conducted retreat for up to fourteen devotees. If you would like to plan a small group retreat, or join our email list for retreat announcements, please email us at shaftsburyhollowretreat@gmail.com and we would be glad to assist you.

Fundraising Appeal - \$20,000 needed for Building Repairs

This summer, we hope to replace the third-floor windows and install new siding along the dormers. This long overdue project will help us to keep the building weather-ready for retreats for many years to come. SRF has given us approval to hire a contractor once we raise the necessary funds to cover the projected cost of \$20,000. Your support for this project would be most appreciated.

Matching Offer

We are excited to announce that one of our generous members has offered to match up to \$5,000 in donations that we receive from this fundraising appeal!

To make a tax-deductible donation, please mail your check to the address below, payable to Self-Realization Fellowship Church, and write “Shaftsbury Hollow Retreat” on the memo line.

Shaftsbury Hollow Retreat
631 Tinkham Road
North Bennington, Vermont 05257



Refinished room on 2nd floor ready for guests



Third-floor windows and dormers need replacement



In 2022, we were able to hire a contractor to install new windows, insulation, and siding for the first and second floors of the back of the building. Volunteers, with the help of our caretaker, have made many improvements to the grounds and the interior of the building, including the library, chapel, and bedrooms.



Memorial Plaque in Honor of Anne Forbes



We are looking forward to dedicating a memorial plaque this year in honor of Anne Forbes, the founder of Shaftsbury Hollow Retreat. Anne lovingly dedicated thirty-five years of her life in service to SRF at Shaftsbury, hosting numerous monastic-led and small group retreats. She also started the Shaftsbury Meditation Circle, which continues to hold services to this day. The plaque will be installed on a large rock near the pond and meditation benches, where her spirit will smile on devotees who sit to enjoy the view and commune with God.



We thank you for your support, prayers, and divine friendship. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful summer!

In divine friendship,
 Shaftsbury Hollow Retreat
www.shaftsburyretreat-srf.org



“Divine Abundance follows the law of service and generosity. Give and then receive. Give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you.”

– Paramahansa Yogananda

Donations we receive in response to this appeal will be deposited into our local Shaftsbury Retreat bank account to be used for the projects mentioned above, and may also be used to cover any other maintenance expenses associated with the Retreat, or other SRF-approved purposes.

Recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, Self-Realization Fellowship is a public charity under federal law and a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation under the Revenue Taxation Code of the State of California.