



CALIFORNIA MEN'S
GATHERING

MALIBU 2015

Heart & Soul

CMG 82:

HEART & SOUL

California Men's Gatherings • Spring Gathering 2015
Memorial Day Weekend • Malibu, California

About this year's Spring Gathering Theme

Nourishing the spirit of brotherhood through creative arts activities.

Art isn't just Renoir and Baryshnikov. The notion of dreaming up ideas and expressing our inner feelings through the creative arts can be expanded to a larger concept of how we perceive life. In an abstract sense, life can be thought of as a canvas, a dance, a song, or a great story. And, playing in the creative arts frees the spirit to roam. How can your spirit connect with your brothers, like it might in a drum circle? How can making art renew a sense of beauty, harmony, and soul in your life? The creative arts can provide an atmosphere where you can push the edges of your boundaries and bring forth a sense of connection with your brothers.

Explore your sense of identity and feelings of belonging by working individually, one-on-one, and also by connecting within a group. Be more reflective. Be more alive to your senses. Be more in touch with the people in your life. Be more aware of your value. In essence, be happier.

As an example, the main image of our logo, the two faces, was hand-made by two participants at last year's Spring Gathering. One thing that can happen at this year's Spring Gathering is that you can discover, with a little guidance, you can create a work of art, a work of art that is embraced by your CMG brothers, so much as to make it our logo, our very *face*.

Of course there will be the usual fun, ceremonies, pool party, dances, workshops, hikes, horseback riding [if the camp offers it], the Silent Auction, Talent Show and more! And the price has stayed EXACTLY the same this year, thanks to our "Agua Angels" who helped us cover the cost of getting water to the camp due to the drought.

Sign up soon and join us for another fantastic Spring California Men's Gathering in 2015!

What is a Gathering?

Did you ever go to summer camp as a kid? If not, this is what you missed... if so, this is a chance to relive those great times, or make up for the parts that sucked – you're an adult, so you make your own decisions. A Gathering is the chance to unplug, and de-stress while reading a book by the pool, or to engage and grow in one of over 50 workshops and activities, dance the night away, or stretch those latent acting/artistic talents; all of which empower men to take chances and grow. You will make new friends, see old ones, and come back changed.

Who will be there?

If we are lucky – **you**, and maybe some of your great friends too. The weekend attracts upwards of three hundred men from around the world! All men, over 18, are welcome. There are all types, many gay or bi-sexual, as well as heterosexual and transgender; tall, short, big and small, older and younger. The one unifier – they all want to learn and grow, are respectful and sensitive to others boundaries, and their own, and seek to make connections with other men.

Where and When?

The CMG Spring Gathering 2015 will be held at the Shalom Institute in the beautiful Santa Monica Mountains of Malibu, on Memorial Day Weekend. Check-in Friday, May 22, 2015, after 4p.m. Dinner will be served promptly at 7:00 p.m. The Gathering ends at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, May 25. However, men who wish to help with setting up camp and taking it all down can arrive as early as 4pm Thursday, May 21 and stay until 10am Tuesday May 26, for NO extra fee!

Accommodations and Meals

The “Boys Circle” of cabins were completely rebuilt from the ground up last year. They did a really nice job on them and they’ll still be like “NEW”. Camp accommodations are either your greatest fantasy, or your worst nightmare – bunk beds, 15 other guys, and you. The lavatories with showers are in a separate cabin. Feeling rustic? There is space to pitch a tent, for that more real camping feel. For those less adventurous souls – there is a **semi-private room option**. Two twin beds, private bath/shower, just you and one other person [you can select your roommate [they should also choose you] or we’ll match up singles [and Brad Pitt is not attending]. *These sell out fast, so do not delay!*

Most areas of the Shalom Institute are wheelchair accessible. Three **kosher-style** meals a day will be provided: Friday dinner through Monday lunch [Thursday dinner through Tuesday breakfast for the worker bees]. Snacks will be available at other times. A vegetarian option is available at each meal.

What Really Happens?

Workshops, Talent Show, Pool Party, Community Gatherings, the Square Dance, time to relax enjoy nature and rest, or stay up all night at the fire “hanging out” on the beanbag, a refreshing and new adventure awaits you, the only thing missing – you.

With 300 plus guys, and over 50 workshop slots, there are lots of opportunities to present what you have thrown your **HEART & SOUL** into. Help others to discover another way of looking, doing, seeing and believing. Everyone is welcomed to submit a workshop idea. In addition to slotted workshops, you can always “convene” an impromptu group to discuss a topic of personal interest (for example: coming out, grief, aging) or pursue a project without being an “expert.” Just have a passion to share, learn and grow!

What Does It Cost?

The fee to attend CMG Spring Gathering 2015 is a flat fee. It was SO popular last year, we just had to keep it! It includes standard accommodations, meals, workshops, and all regular events. There is an additional fee for a semi-private room upgrade or going horseback riding (if available, the camp determines the cost and availability of this).

Registration Fee [same as last year!]	\$250
Financial Assistance Rate [Please see how to request below]	\$150
Semi-Private Room [per man, two maximum]	\$250
Horseback Riding	\$ TBD

Until your payment is made, you do not have a completed registration for the Gathering and NO SPACE is being held for you! Men who register later than you, but who pay before you, will be confirmed ahead of you and you could end up on the wait list.

Reach Your CMG Brothers

This year the Planning Committee is inviting interested men to secure a business card size ad in the pages of the program book, for the low underwriting cost of \$25.00. Not only will you be helping to ensure we have a stellar program book this year, but you are putting you, and your business in front of 300 plus men who treasure this keepsake, and hold on to them for years to come. Simply check the appropriate box on Registration. 1/2 and Full Page [1/2 a sheet of paper vertically] as well as color ads are available for higher prices. Send your ad copy to ad@thecmg.org or post to it for questions about this.

Financial Assistance

It is our intention that every man who wants to attend be able to do so. We have lowered the price to the very lowest it can be. This is what it costs to produce the bare bones Gathering.

Limited financial aid is available from donations to the Financial Assistance Fund. You only need to request assistance to be eligible; you don't need to explain your circumstances. We fill requests in the order they are received as long as we have funds. Men receiving financial aid are required to volunteer to assist the planners make the Gathering happen throughout the entire weekend but EVERYONE is requested to volunteer to assist the planners make the Gathering happen throughout the weekend so it is hardly different. Make arrangements BEFORE submitting your registration by emailing Registrar@thecmg.org

Financial Aid Donations

We welcome donations to our Financial Assistance Fund. Contributions to this fund are greatly appreciated, and are tax-deductible as a charitable donation.

Donations can be made by using the Donation Button on the CMG website, or by adding a desired amount to your registration total.

Sponsorship Donations

This year, we're focused on making the Gathering affordable for as many men as we can. We've kept the price the SAME on everything. You can donate \$250 to let a man come for FREE [to be deductible for you, we have to pick him, otherwise it is a gift and not deductible] or you can donate \$100 to help a man attend at the Financial Aid rate, or any donation, down to even a dollar helps. In exchange, YOU get a deduction when you file your taxes and we all have a wider variety of guys at camp to meet and learn from and get to know over the weekend.

That said, you want to sponsor something? Sent a note to Spring@thecmg.org and tell us what that is. If we can make it work, WE WILL! Donations can be made by using the [Donation Button](#) on the CMG website, or by adding the \$\$ to your registration. Be sure and let us know WHAT you're sponsoring if you use the [DONATE](#) button! The committee will work with you on recognition in the program booklet if you so desire.

DON'T DELAY...

HEART & SOUL WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU

**KNOW IT AND THERE ARE ONLY SO MANY OF
THOSE SEMI-PRIVATE ROOMS!**

To REGISTRATION:

THE FIRST PAGE YOU GO TO WILL HELP YOU GET SIGNED IN TO CMG'S ONLINE REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM. YOU ALREADY KNOW YOUR EMAIL, SO [IF YOU KNOW YOUR PASSWORD](#), YOU CAN JUST CLICK ON THROUGH AND SIGN IN. IF NOT, THE SYSTEM WILL SEND YOU [A LINK TO GET YOU IN](#) AND YOU CAN SET A NEW PASSWORD. MEN WHO ARE NOT IN THE SYSTEM [BRAND NEW TO CMG, DON'T GET EMAIL FROM CMG ABOUT EVENTS OR GATHERINGS] CAN [CREATE AN ACCOUNT](#).

Refund Policy

If a refund is requested on or before April 30, 2015, full refund will be made, minus a \$50 processing fee. Refunds for Room Upgrades will be refunded if we don't have to pay the camp for them, meaning, if you let us know prior to Thursday, May 21st, 2015.

If a refund is requested after April 30, 2015, it will only be granted if another paying person can take the space from the waiting list, minus a \$50 processing fee.

You can TRANSFER your registration to anyone YOU find to attend instead of you at NO CHARGE. Just have them register but not pay and you send us an email telling us who to transfer your registration to. The dollars move and your registration is cancelled. How much they pay you is up to you.

Refunds will be made as soon as practical after they are requested. Refunds will be returned in the manner of payment, PayPal to PayPal, checks via checks.

Email Registrar@thecmg.org as you know you will NOT be able to attend the weekend! We also have a "Send a Man to Camp" program where we try and give late cancellations to a man who simply cannot afford to pay anything. You get credit for a tax-deductible donation when we can do this. You've "sent a man to camp!"

Financial Aid Donations [we really can't talk about this enough]

We welcome donations to our Financial Assistance Fund. Contributions to this fund are greatly appreciated, and are tax-deductible as a charitable donation.

Three Ways to Pay for your Registration

1. Pay online with a credit card during the process of registering online -- OR --
2. You can go to PayPal.com and send payment to PayPal@thecmg.org. You can pay by credit card, by transferring funds from your PayPal account to CMG's PP account or by transferring funds from your checking/savings account to CMG's PP account -- OR --
3. Pay by personal check; make your check payable to "CMG". Be sure the name of the attendee(s) appears somewhere on the check! Mail checks to "CMG 82, 1069 Treat Ave, San Francisco, CA 94110

Want To Be More Involved? Volunteer

You want to be a part of making this weekend a stellar success for everyone? Want a chance to get in early, find the perfect bunk, and make a few friends before the hoards descend? You can do either of these things by arriving early, between 4pm Thursday and 4pm Friday. All we ask is that you help with set up. This is a GREAT way to start your weekend if you are new and if you've been before, we don't have to tell you how quickly the fun begins! For volunteering questions, send an email to volunteer@thecmg.org

You have read this far, you obviously are interested, so go on, click on and [register](#), we will sell out, and if you wait you may miss out...

Questions?

Questions regarding the **registration process** can be directed to registrar@thecmg.org

Non-registration questions can be directed to Question@thecmg.org



CALIFORNIA MEN'S
GATHERING

MALIBU 2015

Heart & Soul