

**Outdoor  
Camp Fun!**

**ARCHERY, SWIMMING  
POOL, CANOEING,  
ALPINE TOWER,  
HIKING, AND  
CLIMBING WALL!**



**JOIN US IN THE  
BEAUTIFUL SAN  
JACINTO MTS!**



**PADDLE AROUND IN  
THE CAMP LAKE**



**WE'VE BEEN AWAY TOO  
LONG! JOIN US MEMORIAL  
DAY 2022!**

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# CALIFORNIA MEN'S GATHERING

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## SPRING 2022

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### Join us Memorial Day Weekend! Welcome Home!

We miss you! We miss connecting with new men! Let's get together to see old friends and meet new ones! We invite you to

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*"It's wonderful to see men laugh, hug, relax, heal and grow - contribute and really come into their own."*

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spend this year's Memorial Day weekend in a beautiful mountain woodland retreat in the San Jacinto mountains near Palm Springs! The CMG Planning Committee is excited, and we're sure you will be too! Bring your hiking boots and sleeping bag as well as your swimsuits, flip flops and towel and join us for fun and relaxation:

California Men's Gathering Spring 2022  
San Jacinto Mts. (near Idyllwild, CA, Riverside County)  
Friday, May 27 - Monday, May 30, 2022

## Who We Are

Men come together from California and beyond to make their lives bigger, escape from their daily routines, open their hearts and minds, relax, play, and connect with a diverse community of men. The CMG Spring Gathering is an opportunity to feel "Welcome Home!" in a great program of spiritual, physical, and creative arts & crafts activities as well as a selection of fun evening social events. Each man is encouraged to create his weekend as he chooses, so the weekend can be about what you want, simply enjoying life, laughing with new guys, exploring yourself, and having a great time! As part of creating a safe space for everyone, all Gatherings are drug- and alcohol-free.

The Spring Gathering weekend includes all 8 meals, accommodations, workshops, and evening social events. A wide variety of traditional outdoor activities such as swimming, hiking, canoeing, Alpine tower, climbing wall, and archery are also included. A deep-experience Ropes Course will be available for a small fee and sign-up. With our spiritual, artistic, and social workshops, we're sure you'll find something to keep you active, returning home rested and reinvigorated. The CMG Spring Gathering is the perfect weekend getaway to rediscover yourself and even to find those hidden strengths you didn't know you had!

## COVID Measures

Up-to-date and documented vaccination (complete vaccination plus booster, documented) will be required in advance of everyone registering at the time of registration. In addition, a negative COVID test done either 5/27/22 or 5/26/22 must be presented on arrival. Masks may be required in meetings at camp depending on the guidelines in force that weekend. The number of sleepers in each bunkhouse has been reduced by half.

## CMG Spring 2022 welcomes you to the San Jacinto Mountains



In May 2022, the CMG Spring Gathering will again take place in the San Jacinto Mountains south of Palm Springs. The camp features a conference center, dining hall, and five comfortable temperature-controlled dorms with bunk beds, as well as a nature center, archery range, Alpine tower, ecology center, lake, and horse shelter.

## What I Need to Know

### 1. **MEET NEW MEN**

The men who attend CMG Gatherings (and our hundreds of local events) are a diverse group of varying ages, beliefs, religious traditions, and spiritual practices. We have differently-abled men and men from all cultural and ethnic backgrounds. While those attending Gatherings are mostly gay and bisexual, all men 18 years or older are welcome, including men who are straight, transmen, genderqueer, intersex, or gender-fluid.

### 2. **DISCOVER A SERENE PLACE**

The camp features a conference center, dining hall, comfortable temperature-controlled dorms with bunk beds, and inside bathroom facilities, as well as a nature center, archery range, Alpine tower, ecology center, canoeing lake, swimming pool, and horse shelter.



### 3. **SLEEPING — — REDUCED DENSITY IN THE BUNKHOUSES**

Basic, somewhat rustic dorm-style accommodations (twin and/or bunk beds) are included with your registration fee. No bedding is provided; we all bring our own. This time, only half the beds in each room will be occupied. We are reducing the density by half to allow more



space in each cabin. Bunk rooms are multiple-person. The capacity of the camp using both upper and lower bunkbeds is 198, but we're reducing our maximum to 90. There are inside bathroom facilities in every bunkhouse. Except for those who

### **ACTIVITIES, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS**

We invite you to prepare and present a 90-minute workshop. The sign-ups to host a workshop will be done at camp. We invite you look at some of the activities that CMG men have offered in the past. We will also host 5 assemblies of everyone at camp during the weekend. There will be a variety of activities to choose from, and you can also relax by the lake or pool, take a nature walk, or just sit around talking with old and new friends! Possible workshop offerings include:

#### **Arts & Crafts:**

**Body Painting - Calligraphy - Comedy Improv - Loincloths, Costumes and Masks - Making and Using Dream Catcher - Modeling Clay - Tie-Dye - Watercolor**

#### **Spiritual Workshops:**

**Body Image - Community Assemblies - Drumming Circle - Healing Through the Written Word - Heart Circles - Hypnosis - Meditation - Techniques for Dealing with Depression - Twelve-step Meetings**

#### **Social/Cultural:**

**Poetry Readings - Dating for Single Gay Men - The History of the CMG - Circle of Life**

#### **Sports & Recreation:**

**Alpine Tower/Climbing Wall - Archery - Canoeing - Foot Massage - Group Massage - Hiking - Massage Exchange - Morning Yoga - Pool Aerobics - Pool Party - Square Dancing - Stretching - Swimming**

#### **Evening Social Events:**

**"Assassins" - Cards - Board Games - Evening Dance - Moonlight Stargazing - Movie Nights - Puppy Piles - Rainbow Sound Bath - Talent/No-Talent Show// Cabaret**

sign up with special needs at registration, you choose your own bunks on a first-come, first-served basis. A number of accessible rooms are also available for men who require accommodations due to mobility issues. Indicate when registering if you need special accommodation. Tent camping and RV camping are also possible on a limited basis. Please mention this at registration.

**Room Upgrades** A limited number of semi-private rooms housing two each will be made available for an additional fee at registration. These rooms have their own doors, but not private bathrooms.



#### 4. **PLAY & RELAX**

You are free to create the weekend you desire and need. You can participate in as many or as few of the activities as you choose!

#### 5. **NUDITY**

Some of the workshops available are naked. In public areas and the swimming pool, clothing is required.

#### 6. **SEX**

We are sex-positive at the CMG and we provide an intimacy area at the camp. To respect everyone's boundaries, we ask that if it seems like sex is about to happen, please take it to the designated intimacy area or in private accommodations.

#### 7. **EXTRA CASH**

All accommodations and meals from Friday dinner, May 27 through Monday breakfast, May 30, are included. All regular activities are also included: swimming, hiking, canoeing, Alpine tower, and archery. You might want to bring cash for the Ropes Course.



#### 8. **CELL PHONE & INTERNET SERVICE**

Electronic devices are welcome. Please keep it private. Excuse yourself politely to make/take calls, etc. Public usage may be appropriate (e.g., taking notes, setting up reminders). Workshop leaders and/or Planners will elaborate on usage boundaries prior to the start of the session. Electronics usage may be challenged. Please use it as a teachable moment for both.

#### 9. **DINE**

The camp chef is excited to prepare the upgraded menu for the weekend. For example, some of the planned breakfast dishes include stuffed bell peppers and waffle bar; dinner dishes include rosemary-citrus roasted chicken, white fish *en papillote*. Definitely not the camp food from your childhood!

## 10. **BE A BUDDY AND VOLUNTEERISM**

Be a Buddy! A buddy is a man who has been to a CMG Gathering and is willing to share his thoughts and experiences with a first-timer, or anyone wanting an extra connection. If you would like a buddy, or to be a buddy, check the buddy option when you register. Buddy training will be available, so don't think you have to know everything in advance to be a buddy! There will also be many other ways to volunteer during the weekend. We'll need help to greet men at meals and events, as well as to set up and break down rooms. Everyone chips in, and that's what makes it work!



## 11. **TO SPORT OR NOT TO SPORT**

Even if you're not all that into sports, you will DEFINITELY have fun at the Spring Gathering! We have a varied array of spiritual, cultural, and artistic workshops that you can participate in. Or you can simply spend an afternoon at the lake, take a walk with a new friend, or lounge at poolside as you watch the sun go down. It's up to you!

## 12. **ARRIVE**

The camp for the Spring Gathering is located in the beautiful San Jacinto Mountains near Palm Springs. Ridesharing is strongly encouraged, especially since parking is limited at the camp. Choose your Rideshare preference when registering. Driving directions will be provided to registered men prior to the Gathering. For those flying in, use Palm Springs International Airport (PSP).



## 13. **START & FINISH**

Check-in begins Friday, May 27, at 4pm. Unless you have been specifically assigned to early volunteer work, please do NOT arrive before 4pm Friday. Only designated set-up personnel will be allowed to arrive early. The Gathering will end on Memorial Day Monday, May 30 at 11am.

“What’s great about CMG is that it allows for opportunities for people to grow as individuals and do things that they wouldn’t do elsewhere.”

“There’s a feeling of happy accidents...; it’s a safe space to explore and risk and try new things that I would never try in another space.”

“In the six years of CMG Gatherings that I have attended, I have made lifelong friends, both young and old, and I cherish the kindness and wisdom of everyone that I now call family. Each time I attend a Gathering, I rediscover wonderful new things about myself and about the men in CMG.”



A soothing sunset in the San Jacinto Mountains

14. **PACK WELL**

Around three weeks before the Gathering, you will receive an email with detailed information about the Gathering including a program guide of activities, address of and directions to the camp, and a recommended list of what to bring (and not to bring).

“I love being here.”

15. **SMOKE**

Smoking permitted in designated areas only.



16. **ACCESSIBILITY / DIETARY NEEDS**

Most areas of the camp are wheelchair accessible, and all main events are held in accessible areas. Vegetarian & Vegan meals can be prepared by camp staff.

