

The Redwood Men's Center www.redwoodmen.org

Dear Brothers,

Welcome to our 27th Annual Men's Conference at the Mendocino Woodlands! This letter confirms your registration.

Our theme this year is **The Crucible of Change in a Time of Unknowing**.

Here is a list of items to bring with you, and directions to the Camp. You can find the same information on the RMC website — along with Hari Meyers' fascinating history of our first two decades together.

As always, we will witness each other, acknowledge each other, challenge each other and get to know each other in ways that seldom occur at other times. We will break bread together—lovingly created by Chef Oscar of the Phantom Cafe. We will laugh, cry, feel elated and uncomfortable, but leave refreshed and inspired from our effort. We invite you to bring the fullness of your being and leave fuller still!

Please remember to bring with you:

- **Objects for the Altars**—items that are important, sacred or evocative for you, to be placed on our **Community Altar**, to name and honor our darkness, our gratitude and our gifts. It will serve as the symbolic container for our weekend. Also, please bring items, photographs, letters that celebrate, honor or memorialize lost loved ones or items that may symbolize for you other kinds of significant losses—lost dreams or lost relationships, for example, to be placed on our **Grief Altar**

- **A journal and/or writing materials.**

- **Warm clothes.** Night time temperatures can dip below 40 degrees, while daytime highs may not exceed the low 60s. The campsite is deep in a redwood forest with little direct sun.

- **Sleeping bag**, linen or other bedding, including a pillow if desired.

- **Towel and toiletries**, including soap

- **Flashlight / lantern** (battery or propane powered) —no candles, no liquid gas lanterns or heaters

- Tennis shoes, hiking boots

- Sitting pad for wooden benches, beach chair

- Poems and stories

- Drums and musical instruments

- Ceremonial/ritual dress for community events

Personal Workshops: *If time allows*, there will be a two-hour slot on Sunday afternoon for individuals to offer teaching workshops in their specialties. So bring appropriate materials.

Sharing your personal passions and gifts: On Sunday evening there will be opportunities (about 3 minutes maximum each) to share your personal passions and provide insights into the "you" we may not have seen yet. If you know you want to present something please let us know who you are, perhaps a little of the nature of your topic or medium and anything we might do to facilitate your sharing. If you haven't decided, there will be opportunities at the conference to include yourself in the program. Participation is entirely voluntary. This isn't simply about what you're good at, but what you're excited about. It will be an opportunity to entertain and have fun. Bring whatever props, costumes, instruments or thoughts might help shine light on your intimate and passionate self. Share a side of yourself that we do not know. *Surprise us!* But please honor the three-minute time slot. Later on Sunday evening we may have time for "Rumi Samba" (drumming and poetry). Learn a couple of (very) short poems to share!

Logistics:

Check-in begins at 4:00 PM at **Woodlands Camp II** (see map link below) on **Friday, May 26th**. Please try to arrive and get settled between 4pm and 5:45pm. Dinner is at 6:00 and our first gathering starts at 7:30. It is Memorial Day Weekend, so you may run into traffic. If you need to arrive late, please let us know ahead of time. Likewise, if you need to leave early. (Leave a message for Conrad Larkin at 707-566-7570). The Conference will end at 12:00 Monday, before lunch.

Men receiving scholarships will be needed to help with setup and cleanup, so please try to arrive by 2:00.

There is always time to contribute to the scholarship fund! There will be no silent auction, but you are welcome to bring items to sell to raise money for future scholarships.

Lodging and meals:

Three nights of lodging and all meals from Friday dinner through Monday breakfast are included with your registration.

Lodging is in rustic cabins—four bunks per cabin. Those wishing to bring their own tent or simply sleep outdoors are welcome to do so. Bedding is a mattress on metal bed frames.

Showers and washrooms are located near the cabins.

Release of Liability:

Please fill out and bring the enclosed Consent form. ***It is necessary that all participants sign this form.*** Those of you accompanying a youth under 18 years of age will also need to provide a **consent for medical treatment** signed by the young man's parent or guardian.

This is an alcohol and drug-free event.

If you have any questions, please call Conrad Larkin at 707-566-7570 or Gordon Pugh at 707-823-1131.

We still have a few spaces available, and some scholarship funds for those who need financial assistance. Please spread the word to those who might benefit from this wonderful weekend event.

Transportation:

Car pooling is strongly recommended:

- 1) For those of you on the Redwoodmen Yahoo group, please make arrangements there;
- 2) Or call Conrad Larkin at 707-566-7570 to find other men coming from your area. Directions are below and a map is on the next page.
- 3) Contact Greg Guss (dguss@comcast.net) before 5/17 to coordinate carpools from Davis, Redding, Sacramento, Nevada City, etc.

Location:

Mendocino Woodlands State Park, 39350 Little Lake Road, Mendocino, CA 95460. 707-937- 5755. Cyrus Kroninger, Park Manager, Mendocino Woodlands Camp Association. Email: Facilities@MendocinoWoodlands.org.

Camp II phone: 707-937-9958 or 707-937-2928.

Camp II is at the end of the road (past Camp I and Camp III)

RED FLAGS will be posted on the road to follow.

The parking lot for Camp II is small, so park your vehicles in the dirt parking spot near Camp III after checking in.

Directions:

From Santa Rosa and the Bay Area:

Take Highway 101 North to Cloverdale. Turn left onto Highway 128 and stay on it until it merges with Highway 1 at the coast. Follow Highway 1 north to Mendocino. At the traffic light, turn right onto Little Lake Road and follow it out about 5-1/2 miles to the end of the pavement. Bear right (you'll see a sign for the Woodlands) and follow this gravel road out approximately another 3 miles to arrive at the camp. OR Take Highway 101 North to Highway 20 in Willits. Turn left (west) and follow 20 until it dead ends at Highway 1. Turn left on Highway 1 south until you get to Mendocino. At the traffic light, turn left onto Little Lake Road and follow it out about 5-1/2 miles to the end of the pavement. Bear right (you'll see a sign for the Woodlands) and follow this gravel road out approximately another 3 miles to arrive at the camp.

From Eureka area:

Take Highway 101 south to either Highway 1 or Highway 20. When you get to Fort Bragg, follow Highway 1 south to Mendocino. At the traffic light, turn left onto Little Lake Road and follow it out about 5-1/2 miles to the end of the pavement. Bear right (you'll see a sign for the Woodlands) and follow this gravel road out approximately another 3 miles to arrive at the camp.

From Clearlake and Williams area:

Take Highway 20 west to Highway 101. Go north on 101 to Willits, then left (west) on Highway 20 until it dead ends at Highway 1. Turn left on Highway 1 south until you get to Mendocino. At the traffic light, turn left onto Little Lake Road and follow it out about 5-1/2 miles to the end of the pavement. Bear right (you'll see a sign for the Woodlands) and follow this gravel road out approximately another 3 miles to arrive at the camp.

From Sacramento area:

Take I-5 north to Williams, then go west on Highway 20 to Highway 101. Go north on 101 to Willits, then left (west) on Highway 20 until it dead ends at Highway 1. Turn left on Highway 1 south until you get to Mendocino. At the traffic light, turn left onto Little Lake Road and follow it out about 5-1/2 miles to the end of the pavement. Bear right (you'll see a sign for the Woodlands) and follow this gravel road out approximately another 3 miles to arrive at the camp.

Go to this link for a map and additional information about the Camp:

<http://mendocinowoodlands.org/contact-us/maps-directions/>

Please read and initial each paragraph and sign at the bottom.

**Redwood Men's Center 27th Annual Men's Conference
May 26 through May 29, 2017
Agreement, Waiver and Release of Liability**

I understand that the Redwood Men's Center Conference includes activities, exercises and ceremonies that may be of a hazardous nature and may include physical and/or psychologically stressful activity; and that accidents could occur during such activities, therefore I hereby assume liability for any and all risks of injury or death and I release and hold harmless the Redwood Men's Center, who, through negligence, carelessness or any other acts of omission might otherwise be liable to me.

Initials: _____

I further agree to indemnify and to hold the Redwood Men's Center, its officers, employees and agents, free and harmless from any loss, liability, damage, cost or expense which may be incurred as a result of any injury and/or property damage that I may sustain while participating in said activities. This agreement is also binding on my heirs and assigns.

Initials: _____

I have carefully read this document and fully understand its contents and I sign it of my own free will.

Date: _____

Print name: _____

Signature: _____

Telephone: _____