

Reserve Your Place Now – Elder Retreat June 22-24, 2012 – Camp Westwind Lincoln City, OR

Early Bird Reduced Fee Registration Until April 15th

OCCUPY PARADISE: ARE YOU IN?

“Dancing with the paradox of a world on the brink of ruin or... renaissance!”



Gathering Site - Enthralling Estuary on the Pacific

Photo by Bill Origer, Albany, OR with permission



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www.randallkochstudio.com

“There is an almost sensual longing for communion with others who have a larger vision. The immense fulfillment of the friendships between those engaged in furthering the evolution of consciousness has a quality almost impossible to describe.” - Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

When: June 22-24, 2012, Camp Westwind, Lincoln City, Oregon

A United Nations Biosphere Reserve & Cascade Head Scenic Research Area

What: Open Gathering of Elder Men – Special invitation to men across the US and abroad. Hosted by Mankind Project NW Elders <http://elders.mkp.org/>

Where: Rustic Camp Westwind, <http://www.westwind.org/> Lincoln City, Oregon. More images at <http://www.westwind.org/accommodations/stay-request>

Attractions: Nearby Lincoln City & Newport: Family attractions and housing: <http://www.el.com/to/lincolncity/> <http://www.thecityofnewport.net/> Adjoining Sitka Art & Ecology Center <http://www.sitkacenter.org/>

Option: Bring your family. Consider a coast vacation with them before or after the men’s elder gathering.

Jed Diamond, Ph.D., is Founder and Director of **MenAlive** and a licensed psychotherapist for over 40 years. He is the author of ten books including the international best-selling *Male Menopause* and *Surviving Male Menopause*. Jed joined his first men's group in 1970. In 1994, wanting to stretch and challenge himself, Jed was initiated by the Mankind Project becoming a "New Warrior." See *below for more on Jed!*

Come Expecting: Inspiration! World-class speaker, Jed Diamond will be our Keynote, like no other.



Photo from Jed Diamond with permission.

Also Expect: Summer Solstice Ceremony, a magical time of renewal, inspired quiet and deep fireside conversation, breakout sessions and free time. Informal spontaneous porch and beach gatherings around estuary flora and fauna, the spoken word, aging gracefully, music, vets issues . . . facilitate and/or ask for the sessions that are important to you.

Transformation! We see a new role for Elders, beyond the frequent lot of older men, crabby and complaining about the world going to hell in a hand basket. True Elders can see through what is happening around them to the beauty and abundance that is also present. West Wind provides a perfect setting in which to underline this – to take in this reality deeply and then take it home.

Re-Creation! A magical time of renewal, including Summer Solstice Celebration with beach bonfire, inspired quiet and deep conversations in the midst of beauty, poetry, music, breakout sessions, etc.

Co-Creation! This is the Northwest Center's **12th annual** summer elder retreat. All rich and meaningful events and this one will be very special. You are invited to come play and grow together.

Bring: Your drum, other musical instruments, stories, poetry, kites, binoculars, your voice, your wisdom, sense of awe.

How to Get There: By plane or train to Portland, OR PDX then by bus or car pooling 90 miles to Lincoln City, OR. Michael Dunn gphum56@earthlink.net will be coordinating before and after hosted housing in Portland and some car pooling to and from Camp. Given the tides and barge transit, **plan to arrive in Lincoln City by 1:30pm on Friday, June 22nd.**

No Man Left Behind. The investment, \$185 (covers two nights lodging, meals, boat crossing, plus any donation you care to make. Some partial scholarships available. \$170 before **April 15th** and be entered into a drawing for an assemblage of repurposed flotsam and jetsam by Spirit Image Catcher Artist Charles Maclean.

Who Can Attend: Open to elders initiated or not. **Question:** MKP Elders, which of your closest elder men friends would you most like to be with at Camp Westwind? Forward this email, and then call them to deepen your relationship.

Note: Your inner and outer experience begins when you cross the Salmon River estuary by barge and leave civilization behind and flow into the 529 acre isolated retreat.

Virtual Tour of Camp Westwind:

https://picasaweb.google.com/philanthropynow/WestwindInviteTour02?authkey=Gv1sRgCPXn0f_I9Docg#slideshow/5724111263695244866



Photo by Stafford Squier with permission



Photo by Charles Maclean with permission

Special Walk & Discover Sessions: “All you wanted to know about estuary ecstasy and ecology”

The Promise: Elders celebrating and connecting with nature's wildness and each other

Register Now: To Register or be put on the Gathering Listserv for updates) (Your privacy matters to us. You may opt out at any time) email mkpelderrenewal@gmail.com and you will be emailed registration/waiver forms. Go to: <http://elders.mkp.org>

Camp Physical Realities

Men, know that Camp Westwind is a rustic, rugged, basic camp with bunk beds, walk to indoor toilets and shower rooms. Assistance available to transport you and your luggage from the parking lot to your bunk room. We will have a physician on site and the camp provides basic first aid supplies. Lincoln City hospital is 30 minutes away by ambulance. See “Virtual Tour URL” for images of accommodations, amenities and terrain. If you have questions or special needs send them to William See mkpelderrenewal@gmail.com before booking your flight.

❖ Words, image and music of “**Occupy**” at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8SY5aZbbJqE>

More about Jed Diamond

Since its inception in 1992, Jed has been on the Board of Advisors of the **Men's Health Network**. His work has been featured in major newspapers throughout the United States including the **New York Times**, Boston Globe, **Wall Street Journal**, The Los Angeles Times, and **USA Today**. He has been featured on more than 1,000 radio and T.V. programs including **The View** with Barbara Walters, **Good Morning America**, **Today Show**, **CNN-360 with Anderson Cooper**, **CNN with Glenn Beck**, CBS, NBC, and Fox News, and To Tell the Truth. He also did a nationally televised special on **Male Menopause for PBS**.

Jed's new book, *MenAlive: Stop Killer Stress with Simple Energy Healing Tools*, is due for publication this June and we will be among the first to see it. This is a man with a powerful and positive message who listens and cares deeply. Come hang out with Jed this weekend.

Why I'll be there:



"For me, the NW Elder Retreat has become the highlight of my year. It is my Valhalla, Warrior Heaven."

John Kalb, Wellness Chiropractor,
Ashland, OR

Photo by Shari Kalb with permission.



"I enjoy the company of elders. I come to these elder retreats for the 'craic' (pronounced crack). That's Irish for interesting banter, good company, genial conversation, rumbling belly laughs, and great stories. When I reflect back on the many elder retreats I've attended, all I remember is" craic was mighty."

Bill Mawhinney, Poet, Port Ludlow, WA

Photo by Charles Maclean with permission.



"In January each year, I put this Elder Gathering first in my annual calendar. It has been the most laughs, great playful challenges, sharing and always unexpected miracles."

Bill Kauth, Elder, MKP Visionary-at-Large - Ashland, Oregon

Photo from Bill Kauth with permission

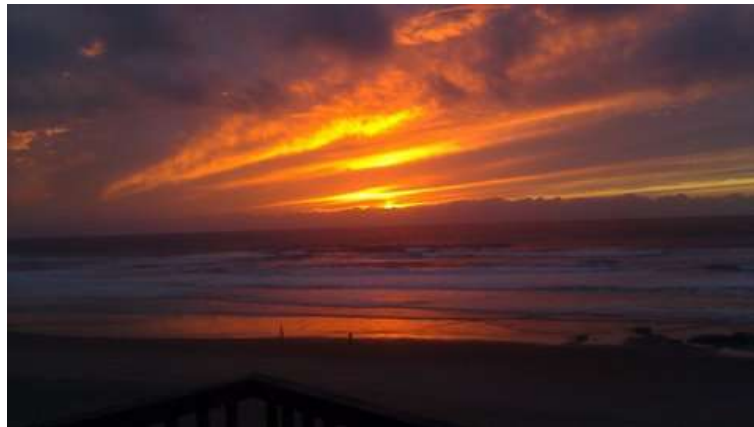


“Because humanity needs wise elders and we need each other now more than ever. Worldwide economic and political suffering call us to tell our truth. We need to connect to, own, ground and occupy our own wildness from a place of fierce connection, compassion and conviction.”

– Nelson Oostenink, Talent, Oregon raising the bar.

“The big question is whether you are going to be able to say a hearty yes to your adventure.”

- Joseph Campbell



Just another ho-hum Oregon Beach Sunset

Photo by Charles Maclean with permission.