

# In Our 21<sup>st</sup> Year!

## Sisters of the Dance

### September 22, 23, 24, 25 2011

We invite *women* to dance, sing and pray together at the Autumn Equinox for a weekend of ceremony, celebration and healing under the stars. We invite all dancers to come on Thursday to help prepare the land. We will gather in Arroyo Grande for three days beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 21 until 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24 at which time the gates will close. Our Orientation circle starts at 11:00 a.m. **Opening Ceremony** is at sunset.

Women of all ages, from young women who have begun their moon time to Grandmother Elders, will be dancing all night long to dance our sacred dream awake and to honor our Mother Earth. A traditional **Women's Sweat Lodge** will be open to all dancers on Saturday night during ceremony.

For the women who are in their moon time, we will also offer a special teaching **Moon Lodge** to honor their sacred time and create power rituals to reclaim moon power.

The **Mother Lodge** welcomes all women in support of the process of being a mother/daughter.

We will have a **Grandmother Lodge** to honor our Elders. We promise to offer them a comfortable place to experience the Long Dance as they grace us with their presence and wisdom.

A **Drum Circle** will share the responsibility of maintaining the constant drumbeat from sunset to sunrise. **All are invited to drum!**

Bring a **Potluck** supper for **Thursday** and **Friday evening** and **your own food for the day Thursday, Friday and Saturday**. A catered **Harvest Breakfast feast** is planned for Sunday morning after our glorious night of dancing. Hot teas and coffee will be available at all times throughout the night.

A special feature of the dance will be the **Giveaway Round** on Sunday morning during the Harvest Feast. Bring a gift, either simple or lavish, for a dance sister to choose anonymously from the Giveaway Blanket. It could be something you've made, or purchased, or had for years and wish to pass along, something you've created, something heart-felt and beautiful to honor the Sisterhood of the Dance.

When Saturday's Orientation Circle is completed, a **Trade Circle** will be open to **all** women who wish to display their arts, crafts or services for sale or barter. This promises us an opportunity to celebrate and support our creativity and skills as well as giving us a time for fundraising.

### **BROTHERS**

Men are invited to support this ceremony by joining the **Thunder Lodge**. This lodge provides physical support and protection, energetic as well as physical for this ceremony. They have their own ceremonial circle in their camp and a Sweatlodge Ceremony Thursday night!

This is a physically challenging ceremony. It is a participatory "LONG" Dance. It's about submerging one self in a timeless void of intense energy and exposure to Air, Fire, Water, Earth, and Spirit. Attending this ceremony is being present and actively engaged with the aspects of this Living Prayer. It is you who makes this Ceremony; join us in creating a shapeshifting experience.

## What to bring:

- ⇒ **Comfortable**, layered clothing plus a special dance dress or (skirt which is required for the dance).
- ⇒ Masks face painting, musical instruments, drums, rattles, songs, stories.
- ⇒ Blanket for warmth.
- ⇒ Towel for the Sweat Lodge. **No contact lenses allowed in Sweat.**
- ⇒ Water, food & beverages, reusable utensils, cup & plate. **These are not provided.**
- ⇒ We suggest 5 gallons of water, per person. We also recommend freezing one gallon.
- ⇒ Sunscreen and hat.
- ⇒ For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, bring food and drink.
- ⇒ A potluck offering for Thursday and Friday evening meals.
- ⇒ A gift for the Giveaway Blanket on Sunday.
- ⇒ Art, crafts, or services to sell or barter at the Trade Circle.
- ⇒ A donation of wood to feed the sacred fires.
- ⇒ A donation of a good, used, dark-colored blanket (moving quilts are welcomed) for Sweat Lodge or charity.
- ⇒ All participants may choose to arrive on Thursday morning to prepare the land. Bring camping gear for Thursday and Friday ONLY.
- ⇒ **Campsites will be packed up and put away by the start of ceremony (sunset) Saturday.**
- ⇒ Please, NO children or pets at the dance. Leave them safe with family and friends.
- ⇒ **Brothers** come prepared with plenty food and water. Camping gear, flashlight, layered warm clothes. A stove will be provided for your cooking needs. Your Sweat Lodge ceremony will be Thursday late afternoon, with a potluck after.

**Please remember what you bring in,  
Including trash and recycling, you take out!**

***We invite circles from all traditions or solitaires to this all-way ceremony. We honor the many traditions of the four directions. We welcome the possibility of a earth based powerful dynamic expression of shape shifting collective energy. Participants bring their unique medicine to the whole. We welcome All Our Relations, to the highest good of all.***

***Reproduction of these forms is encouraged!***

# THE THREE CIRCLE MEETINGS

Dearest Sisters and Brothers:

It is time once again to start turning the wheel of the Long Dance Ceremony. This is a call to inform you about the three Facilitating Circles involved in the preparation of Long Dance which is open for volunteerism: the Core Circle, the Home Lodge, and the Village Builders. We hope that you will join in on our preparation! Everyone is welcome in the Home Lodge and in the building of the village. The Core Circle is, however, reserved for those who have actively participated in the Home Lodge for at **least the last two years**.

As we build the village, we gain a three dimensional experience of the medicines of the five directions. Choosing to walk through participation in the building of a village leads us to a deeper connection to the elements and mysteries at play in our lives. We are blessed with the opportunity to experience true community with a group of individuals committed to spiritual expression through ceremony. Come laugh and play as we raise our sacred village.

## *1. The Core Circle*

As mentioned above, we only invite those to the Core Circle who have been involved with the Home Lodge for at least the last two years. The Core Circle is called together to act as a guidance council for this ceremony. This is your invitation to join us in this process.

**(Core Circle has the additional choice of ordering a long sleeve logo T-shirt.)**

**The Core Circle Meeting: Date: May 7<sup>th</sup> Time: 12:00 Place: Hua's**

**Contact: Hua: [rosa2hua@aol.com](mailto:rosa2hua@aol.com), Phone: 805.481.0892**

## *2. The Home Lodge*

The Home Lodge is comprised of both sisters and brothers who will **facilitate** the ceremony. Home Lodge serves as a grounded support for the dancers and holds a safe, strong space for all participants. Being a member of Home Lodge creates a deeper and more profound experience of the Ceremony, and supports our accelerated growth through spiritual expression. All levels of experience are welcomed! In deciding to participate in Home Lodge, please call or email to pre-register. Home Lodge members have the choice of logo tank top, short sleeve T-shirts, or aprons.

**The Home Lodge Meeting (*Attendance required unless incurs hardship*) Date: July 16, Time: 10:00 am**

**Place:** Hua's A Mixed Community Evening Sweat Lodge after meeting. Potluck

## *3. The Village Building Weekend*

The village building weekend is open to any and all who would like to share the building of sacred ceremonial space. In this giveaway, we experience our strength and the beauty that we carry, and have lots of fun receiving the joy of collective manifestive power.

**All help is deeply appreciated whether attending Long Dance weekend or not.**

**(The disclaimer form is still required)**

**The Village Building Weekend Date: Sept. 10 & 11, 2011 Time: 5:00 am Sat through 8 pm Sun**

**Place:** Long Dance site **Bring:** Drinking water, food, gloves, chair, sun block, hat, tools. Trucks are needed for transporting wood, gear and tipi poles. *Wood donations are appreciated! (oak or eucalyptus especially)*

*(Please respond to Hua via email your intentions of showing up for Village Building Weekend)*

**LONG DANCE CEREMONY: SEPTEMBER 22-25, 2011**

*Defining a Chief:* A leader who serves the people, not a ruler or governor. Power comes with responsibility and a Chief is accountable to the people. They do not determine who comes to ceremony they serve to the greater good.

*Defining a Dog Soldier:*

The medicine of Dog is the medicine of loyalty – to oneself, to a group, to a ceremony, or a cause. The Dog soldier shows up with integrity, with everything that they are. They give from the heart, requiring nothing in return. The Dog Soldier role is a place of learning through doing. By becoming one who uses their energy and resources wisely, they are able to contribute freely to the whole without being drained or lessened. The Dog Soldier is not a position of glamour, of constant praise and recognition. It is a position of honor – where word is backed up by action, and where an individual can demonstrate their impeccability.

To be a part of Core Circle or Home Lodge, please complete the registration form. Register for Home Lodge at or before the Home Lodge Meeting in July. Feel free to call HUA for what's available or to commit to a lodge. She will be happy to explore with you what would best work for you. There are Dog Soldier and Chief Positions available.

**This may be a consideration for trade exchange for Dancer registration fee**

**Lodge Openings:** Kitchen, Moon, Mother, Grandmother, Welcome, Sentry (Brothers), Wellness. Rubbish Rebel, Chief assistants.

**AGREEMENT AND RELEASE FROM LIABILITY**

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION

- 1. I, \_\_\_\_\_ (RELEASOR), acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to MADDUX RANCH A.G. (Company), to enter upon its real property situated in San Luis Obispo County, California, in the attached map (Property), for the purpose of SISTERS OF THE DANCE ((USE)), during the period of September 1, 2011 to September 30, 2011

ASSUMPTION OF RISK

- 2. I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN THE USE OF THE PROPERITY WITH KNOWLEDGE OF ALL DANGERS INVOLVED, AND HEREBY AGREE TO ACCEPT AND ASSUME ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY OR DEATH TO MYSELF OR OTHERS, AND DAMAGE TO OR DISTRUCTION OF PERSONAL OR REAL PROPERITY BELONGING TO MYSELF OR OTHERS, AS A RESULT OF MY USE OF THE PROPERITY, AND I HERBY VERIFY THE TRUTH OF THIS STATEMENT BY PLACINR MY INITIALS HERE \_\_\_\_\_.

RELEASE

- 3. As consideration for being permitted by COMPANY or one of its affiliated organizations to participate in the USE of PROPERITY, I hereby agree that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians and legal representatives will not make a claim against, sue, or attach the PROPERITY of COMPANY or any of its affiliated organizations for injury, death, destruction or damage resulting from the negligence , active, passive, or other wise, howsoever caused, by any employee, agent, or contractor of COMPANY or any of its affiliated organizations as a result of my participation in the USE of PROPERITY. I hereby release COMPANY and any of its affiliated organizations from all actions, claims, or demands that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives now have or may hereafter have for injury or damage resulting from my participation in the USE of PROPERITY.

INDEMNITY

- 4. RELEASOR agrees to indemnity, defend and hold COMPANY, its employees and agents, and all other parts having an interest in the PROPERITY (hereafter the Indemnities), harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, causes of action, losses or liabilities for injury to or death of persons, or for damage to or destruction of real or personal property, or for civil penalty (but not criminal penalty), including injury or death of any personnel of COMPANY or RELEASOR or of any other persons, and including damage to or destruction of the PROPERITY, RELEASOR or other parties, arising out of or in any way connected with the rights and USE permitted hereunder. Such indemnification shall include such injury, death, damage, or destruction as may be caused, directly or indirectly, solely or contributory by the active as well as passive negligence of COMPANY, its employees, agents or independent contractors. In the event any claim is asserted or action instituted against COMPANY, its employees or agents other parties to which this indemnity applies, RELEASOR shall immediately upon receipt of notice of such claim or action assume and pay for the defense of the indemnified party, and shall satisfy any judgment against the party that might be rendered. In the event of damage to or destruction of the PROPERITY, RELEASOR shall forthwith restore or replace the property, or at the indemnified party's option shall pay the replacement value of the PROPERITY.

KNOWING AND VOLUNTARY EXECUTION

- 5. I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT AND IT'S AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR MYSELF AND SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Executed at Arroyo Grande, California in September, 2011

(You) RELEASOR: By: \_\_\_\_\_

DECLARATION OF WITNESS

I certify that RELEASOR acknowledged in my presence that RELEASOR had read and fully understood the meaning and consequences of the foregoing release, and signed in my presence.

Executed at Arroyo Grande, California, in September, 2011

(Us) BY: \_\_\_\_\_

THIS IS LANDOWNERS AGREEMENT, WHICH MUST BE RETURNED AT TIME OF REGISTRATION. DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES AND LEGALITIES BEYOND OUR CONTROL, WE NEED TO DANCE WITH THIS DOCUMENT TO BRING PEACE OF MIND TO THE LANDOWNERS. THIS IS A STANDARD FORM PLEASE READ BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL AND SIGN ON SITE.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

**REGISTRATION**

Mail this form, and your check or PayPal to:

**Church of Empowerment**

**PO Box 76, Arroyo Grande, CA 93421**

Please print your mailing and e-mail information legibly.

Provide your name that can be delivered to you by mail.

When we receive your registration and fee a conformation email will be sent to you with a site address for the second packet with directions to site and further information. Please download and print to have in hand. If you are using ground mail PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY! Mail your form and check. When received we will mail the 2<sup>nd</sup> packet. Bring your Disclaimer Form and giveaway with you to the check in table.

Fees:

\$150.00 per person. Non-refundable. **Sisters of the Dance is a non-profit event. Your registration dollars pay for the, insurance, land fees, supplies, etc. Moneys collected for this event are designated for this purpose, and other C.O.E. sponsored events. (Includes catered Harvest Feast on Sunday morning.)**

After: SEPT. 12<sup>th</sup>: \$170.00

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Spirit Name (opt)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Lodge members Please put in your lodge Preference:(\_\_\_\_\_)**

- I am planning to arrive on Thursday to help prepare the land for the dance.
- I am planning to arrive on Friday.
- I am able to pledge wood for the sacred fires.
- I am enclosing my check for \$150.00 as a Dancer registration.
- I am enclosing my check for \$50.00 as a Home Lodge member. (Call/email Hua if interested in participating as Home Lodge )
- I am enclosing my check for \$170.00. After Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>

**T-shirt cut-off DATE for ordering: September 12<sup>th</sup> – sorry, no exceptions!**

**Tee Shirts will be Yellow for the East. Shades of yellow vary in different shirt styles.**

- An additional \$18.00 for a logo T- Shirt Short sleeve T-shirt style available to Dancers.
- An additional \$23.00 for a logo Sweatshirt (hooded pullover) available to all.
- Circle size for Dancer T-Shirt: \_\_\_\_\_ S, \_\_\_\_\_ M, \_\_\_\_\_ L, \_\_\_\_\_ XL, \_\_\_\_\_ XX, \_\_\_\_\_, XXX?
- Circle size for Sweatshirt: \_\_\_\_\_ S, \_\_\_\_\_ M, \_\_\_\_\_ L, \_\_\_\_\_ XL, \_\_\_\_\_ XX, \_\_\_\_\_, XXX?
- Circle the color choice for the Sweatshirt. **Black, Purple, Cherry Red, Maroon, Dark Chocolate**

**The choices below are for Home Lodge ONLY.** Note that your \$50.00 fee includes one of the following shirts. If not interested in a shirt please deduct \$10.00 from registration fee and note it.

- Circle size for Home Lodge T-Shirt: \_\_\_\_\_ S, \_\_\_\_\_ M, \_\_\_\_\_ L, \_\_\_\_\_ XL, \_\_\_\_\_ XX, \_\_\_\_\_, XXX
- Circle size for Home Lodge Women’s cut T-Shirt: \_\_\_\_\_ S, \_\_\_\_\_ M, \_\_\_\_\_ L, \_\_\_\_\_, XL \_\_\_\_\_ XX, \_\_\_\_\_, XXX
- Circle size for Home Lodge Men’s Tank Top: \_\_\_\_\_ S, \_\_\_\_\_ M, \_\_\_\_\_ L, \_\_\_\_\_, XL \_\_\_\_\_ XX, \_\_\_\_\_, XXX
- Circle size for Home Lodge Women’s Tank Top (run small): \_\_\_\_\_ S, \_\_\_\_\_ M, \_\_\_\_\_ L, \_\_\_\_\_, XL \_\_\_\_\_ XX
- Apron Qty: \_\_\_\_\_