

New Orleans Men's Circle
Spring Retreat
April 5-7, 2024
King's Arrow Ranch

The Journey

There are mountains, mountains already crossed, mountains yet to cross, mountains to be avoided. There are rivers, some so small they can seemingly be stepped across almost effortlessly, but some with depths that no man knows. But the journey can also be on the vast trackless sea, and from islands can sometimes come songs sweeter than any ever heard, the fulfillment of all desires. There are dangers on the sea, dangers beyond comprehension, dangers that lurk if you land, and dangers as well if you sail past. On the journey, by land or by sea, there are days of storms and days of exquisite beauty.



Others travel on the journey: at your side, or behind you, or ahead of you. Some become boon companions, but not all wish the traveler well.

The journey also offers places of repose, where you can stop for a moment, or where you can stop for all eternity, or where you can stop for all eternity contained in a single moment.

Where, then, are the paths to take?



Where do you find yourself on the journey? Is the journey about getting there or being here?

What is, or has been, the hardest? What brings, or has brought, the most joy?

What has opened or broken your heart?

Who goes, or has gone, with you or before you?

What is to be sought or let go?

WHAT TO EXPECT

We seek to provide a safe place for men to connect with themselves, other men, and the environment. Large and small group experiences as well as some time alone are planned. In our mythopoetic tradition, storytelling, poetry, drumming and experiential learning can be expected.

COVID: Please take appropriate precautions for your own health as well as other men's.

PLEASE INVITE ANOTHER MAN TO COME WITH YOU.

WHEN

The dates for the retreat are April 5th, 6th, and 7th of 2024. Arrive Friday, April 5th. On-site registration and bunk assignment will begin by 5 p.m. Please plan to arrive no later than 5:30 P.M. Dinner will be available at 6 P.M., and our opening ceremony will begin at 7 PM. You may arrive as early as you wish on Friday to check out the grounds, hike, meditate, or spend some time in nature. The retreat will end after lunch on Sunday.

WHERE

King's Arrow Ranch, Hillsdale, MS, just east of I-59 North at exit 35, 75 miles north of New Orleans and 30 miles south of Hattiesburg, MS. In case of emergency, you can be reached through the King's Arrow Ranch phone # 601-796-3423. You will be asked to avoid use of your cell phone during the Retreat.

PRE-REGISTER VIA E-MAIL

We ask that you pre-register ASAP so we can estimate lodging and meals required. To register, just reply to this email and let us know you will be there (info@theNOMC.org). If you do not have email, call one of the facilitators to register. A confirmation email with more details will be sent upon registration. For confidentiality and privacy, information provided for registration will only be available to retreat participants.

COST

Note: The cost of the Retreat has been increased to \$140.00, and that fee covers all meals and lodging. You can pay by check or cash upon arrival, Friday, April 5th.

SCHOLARSHIPS

If you need financial assistance, please contact a facilitator ahead of the retreat.

NOMC PLANNING MEETING

At the conclusion of the retreat on Sunday, a planning meeting to discuss the next retreat, as well as planning for the future of NOMC will be held. All interested are encouraged to stay for the meeting.

QUESTIONS?

For additional information about the retreat, contact a facilitator.

Jerry: 716-799-4851

Francis: 504-390-2947

Brandon: 720-620-0428

VISIT THE NOMC WEBSITE

<http://www.thenomc.org/retreats.html>