



# Signals



Mid American Indian Fellowships, 8471 SW State Route V,  
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## 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid American Indian Fellowships Gathering New Location with Different Date and Schedule

**The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid American Indian Fellowships Gathering is scheduled for Saturday, September 7, 2019 at Deer Run RV Park, 5055 NW Hwy. B, Appleton City, Missouri 64724.**

While participants may arrive on Friday and camp on Friday night and/or Saturday night, scheduled gathering activities will happen only on Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. and winding up around midnight.

**Activities** will include indigenous crafts, games, auction, ceremonies, dance and a talking circle, as in previous years. There will be no more than one speaker at the gathering, with a talk tying in with some aspect of decolonization and/or cultural restoration, with most of the day and evening given to activities.

**Food:** There will be breaks for brunch and dinner. Rather than having a food team or food coordinators, people are asked to prepare and bring whatever foods they want – a simple potluck such as we have at fellowship meetings and ceremonies. Table service will be provided and washing stations set up with instructions for everyone to wash their own. Please bring reusable cups for coffee and/or water, etc.



**Auction:** Please consider bringing crafts, art, culturally relevant books, handmade articles, etc. to donate for auction. Proceeds help defray Gathering and other MAIF expenses.

**Deer Run RV Park is located on the North side of Hwy. B, 11 miles west of Osceola, Missouri and 27 miles east of Rich Hill, Missouri.** RV Camping is \$15 per night. Tent camping is \$10 per night. Those planning to camp should please contact the park directly. The phone number is (660) 598-2481. The address is 5055 NW Hwy. B, Appleton City, MO 64724. Be sure to let the park know you are coming for the Mid American Indian Fellowships Gathering. If we have a minimum of three campers, we get to use the clubhouse free of charge.

As in the past, be sure to bring lawn chairs and reusable cups or mugs.



**Other Lodging in the Area:**

- Wildflower Inn, Osceola, Missouri (11 miles away) (417) 646-2555
- Weaubleau Motel, Weaubleau, Missouri (25 miles away) (417) 428-3516
- Apache Motel, Rich Hill, Missouri (27 miles away) (417) 395-2161
- Parkfield Inn, Clinton, Missouri (35 miles away) (844) 793-2498
- Westbridge Inn and Suites, Clinton, Missouri (35 miles away) (660) 885-2206
- USA Inn, Clinton, Missouri (35 miles away) (660) 885-2267

## **Meet Oshara Meesha, Speaker for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual MAIF Gathering:**



We are very pleased to announce that artist and activist Oshara Meesha has agreed to speak at this year's Gathering.

My name is Oshara Meesha. I am an artist in Topeka, Kansas. It was an honor to be one of 27 core artists for the Brown v. Board Arts Connect Topeka Mural Project. I hope to use my gifts in the area of art to promote social change and be a part of the solution in the world. I am a part of Kansas People's Agenda and the Poor People's Campaign in Kansas. I am currently working on a mural project on the Topeka Police Department along with eight core artists.

## **Mid American Indian Fellowships Meeting Schedule, Etc.**

**Please call or e-mail for exact meeting locations, dates & times. Please bring a covered dish & lawn chairs to all meetings.**

**ᐱᐱ ᐱᐱ do'hi soquili Indian Fellowship: Rayville, MO.** For meeting location, dates, times & other info contact Jan Owens [kcbdywork@gmail.com](mailto:kcbdywork@gmail.com) (816) 896-1044, Ron Owens [ronlowens@yahoo.com](mailto:ronlowens@yahoo.com) (816) 616-4360 or Robert Francis [maif77@hughes.net](mailto:maif77@hughes.net) (660) 464-1749.

**DhōhU aniyansa Indian Fellowship, Topeka, KS:** For meeting location, dates, times & other info, contact Robert Francis [maif77@hughes.net](mailto:maif77@hughes.net) (660) 464-1749.

**Indian Fellowship of Joplin: Joplin, MO.** For meeting location, dates, times & other info contact Bruce Redden [kannonkocker@yahoo.com](mailto:kannonkocker@yahoo.com) (417) 291-5848 or Jay Redden (417) 781-6791.

**ᑕᑕᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎ kanalusgv Indian Fellowship: Hermann & Holts Summit, MO.** Meets the first Saturday of each month. For meeting location, dates, times & other info, contact Bud Moellinger [budsheri@ktis.net](mailto:budsheri@ktis.net) (573) 252-4494 or Robert Francis [maif77@hughes.net](mailto:maif77@hughes.net) (660) 464-1749.

**Gᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎ walela Indian Fellowship: St. Joseph, MO.** For meeting location, dates, times & other info contact Kathy Whitley [kathywhitley@ymail.com](mailto:kathywhitley@ymail.com) (816) 244-8942 or Randy Whitley (816) 676-8895.

**Traditional Chickamauga Cherokee Ceremonies are held at the daksi gatiyo ᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎᑎ in Bates County, Missouri.** Those *seriously* interested in attending and participating may contact Robert Francis at [maif77@hughes.net](mailto:maif77@hughes.net) (660) 464-1749.

**To help with Compassionate Veterinary Care,** serving indigenous people and their animal helpers in South Dakota and Missouri. Contact Sheri Moellinger, DVM (573) 252-4494 [budsheri@ktis.net](mailto:budsheri@ktis.net) .

## Updated Statements of Purpose and Membership

Following more than a year of prayerful deliberation, the MAIF Council voted to amend Articles I and VIII of the Mid American Indian Fellowships Bylaws, these articles being the Purpose Statement and Statement of Membership. These two articles, as amended, are printed below:

### ARTICLE I. Purposes (as amended by MAIF Council February 23, 2019)

To promote and encourage harmonious relationship with Creator and Creation

To serve as a bridge for colonized persons to re-enter and participate in indigenous Native American Indian community, culture and/or spirituality

To promote healing/balancing of persons, peoples, cultures and land

To promote and encourage reconciliation within and between persons, peoples, the Earth and all Creation and Creator

To promote Native American Indian cultural awareness and appreciation in both Native and Non-Native peoples through sharing of Native American Indian history, contemporary issues, arts, traditions and personal stories.

To promote, encourage and provide opportunities for active decolonization and indigenous cultural revitalization and restoration

To act as a network of indigenous spiritual groups.



### ARTICLE VIII. Membership (as amended by MAIF Council February 23, 2019)

Membership in Mid American Indian Fellowships is open to those who desire to connect to, re-establish, increase their knowledge concerning and/or align their lives more directly to Native American Indian cultures and traditions.

Membership in Mid American Indian Fellowships is actualized or brought into being in and through participation.

Members participate; those who participate are members.

## A Poem by Susan Bates

Susan Bates lived for many years at the Morningstar Grounds in Ozark County, Missouri where she served the people as Blue Holly Clan Mother. She was a writer, an herbalist and was known as a wise woman. She crossed over April 25, 2019 from complications arising from Myasthenia Gravis, a condition she lived with throughout much of her life. Her funeral was held at the Morningstar Grounds on May 26, 2019. It rained that day and was still raining as the people gathered. Then, as the funeral began, the rain abruptly stopped, and the sun came out.

## Song for the Dead

by Susan Bates

Send down the Rain  
Wash clean your Spirit.

Send down the Rain  
Wash clean your Soul.

Send down the Rain  
Your journey's over.

Send down the Rain  
Soon you must go.

The Rain is here  
Now we will miss you.

The Rain is here  
Our tears will flow.

The Rain is here  
New Life Awaits you.

The Rain is here  
Soon we'll all go.

Here come the Sun!  
She smiles upon you.

Here comes the Sun  
Your cares now go.

Here comes the Sun  
You walk in Beauty.

Here comes the Sun  
Great Mystery Know.

### Mid American Indian Fellowships

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