

Dearest Friends,

Once again, I wish to approach you as a resident of the Gulf Coast Community, a member of Sand Sea and Spirit, and a part of our Global family.



The impact of events in the Gulf of Mexico continues to mystify – why did this happen, what will be the final impact, when will this come to closure? The ramifications are already being felt in the Gulf Coast area and potentially in our sister city in Alabama, as we as many coastal communities.

People ask me “What does this mean for Sand Sea and Spirit – and the retreat in September?”

Now, more than ever, we are called to stand in “Living Our Talk.” February 2009, the Sand Sea and Spirit community added *It’s more than “Just a vacation”* as a byline. Sand Sea and Spirit **IS** more than “Just a vacation.” We truly can make a difference by supporting Orange Beach/Gulf Shores. Our family members - and our family members in business there– Renee Fought (Justine’s sister and our liaison at the Welcome Center), Carolyn Hall (David’s Gallery and Yoga Teacher extraordinaire), Capt. Lori (Dolphin Queen Cruises), Becky Drouillard (the Printing Zone), Les Linton (local musician), Linda Alderman (Brett Robinson and Phoenix V) along with so many others, open their hearts and welcome us back each year.

I’ve contacted Renee Fought about how we can assist. I would like to present the following:

Between now and August 30th the registration fee will remain at \$225. Of that, \$25 will be donated in your name to the appropriate relief fund. Renee is researching our options; if we have more than one, you may choose which receives your donation.

She also suggests www.gulfshores.com for accurate updates on the Gulf.

Last year, our retreat began to express a heightened awareness in Eco-Responsibility – reusing plastic cups and flatware, along with offering recycle bins. Perishable foods were donated to the zoo, and a local shelter received any leftover items they were able to accept.

This year our goal is to take another step. Through donations of mugs, stoneware, flatware, and cloth napkins, we will minimize our use of consumables. These items will be collected at the picnics June 13th and August 1st, and used each year as part of our growing Eco-Awareness. We will again donate to the zoo and shelter at the end of the retreat.

As of this morning, June 3, 2010, no oil is present on the beaches of Gulf Shores/Orange Beach. My intention is to look towards September with joy and excitement, to spending time and space with a magnificent group of family and friends. To a time of celebration and healing – growing in awareness. To live my Sand Sea and Spirit talk.

We know the power of prayer and intention. We know the Sacred Space which can be created and supported not only by those in this dimension, but by our family who now are in other dimensions. Because we have yet to see our own personal impact from this change in our oceanic community does not mean the ripple will not reach us inland also. The interconnectedness of our eco-system says differently.



I wish to express my gratitude, in advance, for your prayers and loving support.

Thank you for BE-ing.

Karen Rollins

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