

Questionnaire & Freeform Responses

1998-2009

MICHAEL HOPP / 1998 / *HEALING THE HEALER WITHIN*

Why this theme?

I wanted men to look inward. I wanted to explore the various modalities of health and healing and give men fun tools to take home and work with. I also wanted to create a safe space for them to explore things such as massage, yoga, and the Dances of Universal Peace that they may not have had the opportunity to do in their personal lives.



Satisfaction / Insights as leader



I knew that I could only do what I could do, and not pretend to be someone else. I had to trust my strengths and run with them. My choice in leadership style was to lead from the back of the line. One [satisfaction] that jumps up first was the fact that at the first planning meeting, I lined up 17 massage therapists to work on all of the men who attended. We took off our clothes, got on the table, and didn't write down a damn thing! I can't say [my life's path] has been different [since leading] as I've been on a spiritual path most of my life; but I can certainly say it has been enriched. It gave me another dimension of expression in which to put my energy and passion. I began men's work in 1982, and I never had a clue that it would end up taking me to a place like Ghost Ranch, with a hundred guys, half of them wearing skirts and brassieres at Saturday Night Live!

The future of Men's Wellness

I don't know that I can see the future of Men's Wellness. It has always been an organic, loose-knit, unstructured organization that has tried to serve whoever shows up and is willing to put in their ideas.

Statistical Info

Date/Place of Birth

January 7, 1961 – Livonia, Michigan

Died – December 26, 2004

Responses from Summer, 2004