

The Rainbow Gathering

Five Decades of Beta-Testing Anarchist Society

Kenny Palurintano
December 2018 Edition



When the earth is ravaged and the animals are dying, a new tribe of people shall come unto the earth from many colors, classes, creeds and who by their actions and deeds shall make the earth green again. They will be known as the warriors of the rainbow.

About The Author

I'm Kenny Palurintano, and if you're reading this then I want you to know that I'm grateful that you're alive. I've begun printing zine-sized booklets like this as a way to share the things that matter to me in face-to-face encounters instead of having a separation between my physical world and my content-creating world online.

About 6 years ago, after decades of attempting to be somewhat "normal" in a wholly sick & oppressive system/culture/society, I had an epiphany moment (thanks psilocybin) and my life has been dedicated to healing my own trauma, personal growth, being of service, and raising the consciousness of Planet Earth.

I travel the world holding space for healing (my own and that of others), cooking organic plant foods, producing transformational events, promoting revolutionary music, creating content, philosophising, and working to be the most joyful & potent version of me that I can. Among other things, I have a passion for learning & teaching about mindfulness, authentic living, alternative economic & community models, reprogramming our brains, and everything else I find that empowers humanity and leads to liberation.

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Introduction

One of the biggest questions that anarchists face when spreading the message is, "If it works so well, why isn't anyone doing it on a large scale?" Unfortunately, most anarchists stumble at this question, because they don't realize the correct response is: "they are."

The largest, long-running experiment in anarchy is something that most have never even heard of: The Rainbow Gathering. Since 1972, this metropolis of freedom & healing has been forming all around the world, often with a population in the tens of thousands. In staying true to the nomadic nature of humans, the Gathering is not a single physical location, it is a set of principles & agreements, a way of being, that coalesces around the world for weeks or months at a time. There are also permanent Rainbow Gatherings, as I will get into later.

Having lived the last 3.5 years on the road, attending conferences, festivals, and other world-changing events, I've found Rainbow to be by far the best of them. It engenders the most authentic connection, the most practical application of the philosophy of self-ownership, the most 'act as if' intentions.

Key Principles

The things that bring humans together from all around the world, with widely varied cultures, ideologies, lifestyles, and even languages, are the principles by which they live, the basic model of interaction under which everyone operates. Some of these things are never even discussed, but the container has been established so clearly, intentionally, and repeatedly that they don't really have to be. These principles encapsulate the basics of anarchy/voluntaryism, but take it a (much needed, in my opinion) step farther as well.

1. You can do what you want, as long as you aren't hurting or threatening anyone else

At Rainbow, each of us is recognized as a sovereign individual, and given the space & respect to live however we wish. Whether you want to drop acid and run through the forest naked, build a giant net-fort in the trees and make bird-calls at people, or bring ounces of DMT and sit next to the trail sharing with passers-by, you are free to do you. As long as you're not violating consent (aggressing), you are free.

2. Give what you can, take what you need

The gathering is a place where nobody is forced to give anything in order to get the necessities of life. If you are hungry, go to any kitchen, and they will feed you. If you are hurt, ask where CALM (the medics) are, and they will take care of you. If you need a sleeping bag, start asking and you will have one before you know it.

The gift economy model functions extremely fluidly, and everyone ends up with more than they need. I myself am a chef in a 24-hour kitchen, and all that I ever have to do is yell "we need dishwashers," "we need firewood," or "we need veggies chopped," and I will always end up with more volunteers than I know what to do with. With complete freedom, it becomes obvious just how strong the desire is in the overwhelming majority of people to help out in whatever way they can.

3. If you find a job, it's yours

This principle falls right in line with the previous one. Since the Gathering is a place of true freedom, that means that it is also a place of true responsibility. We are all responsible for taking care of each other. If you notice that a compost pit is full, a kitchen is out of firewood, or a water reservoir is empty, you now have a responsibility to make sure that problem is solved.

This doesn't necessarily mean that you have to physically solve the problem; you may not be physically capable, or even know what to do. Everyone can, however, spread the word until they find someone who is capable of solving it. If a shitter is full, let the closest kitchen know (and maybe volunteer to help), if someone is injured, let CALM (the medical camp) know, etc. By taking responsibility for any problem we find, everyone makes sure that the Gathering remains safe, clean, and functioning.

4. Everyone at the Gathering is your family, treat them as such

At Rainbow, you will never see two humans who just met shaking hands; they will always be giving each other a hug. Throughout your time at a gathering, you will hear crowds getting together and screaming "We love you!" at the top of their lungs, with the cry rippling through the forest. As you make your way down the main trail for the first time, with all your gear on your back, hundreds of people will say, "Welcome home."

One of the biggest things that separates the Rainbow Gathering from any other kind of event or community on Earth is the remembering that we are all truly one human family. As with any micro/macrocosm of a family, and as the name suggests, Rainbow has people from every part of the spectrum. Doctors, veterans, street-kids, Christians, Hebrews, Hare Krishnas... In this place, they set aside the illusion of separation and live in the truth of the love that we all are.

That doesn't mean that you have to spend all your time with any particular person or group, and it doesn't mean that there's anything you have to be or do. It simply means that there is a certain level of respect, love, and care among us that is often lacking in the modern world.

History of the Gathering

Rainbow is the result of the synthesis of the hippie movement, environmental activists, and the abundance of homeless & disillusioned veterans at the end of the 1960s. The first Gathering took place over the 4th of July weekend in 1972, at Strawberry Lake in Colorado, near the Continental Divide. That was the first US National Gathering, and it has happened July 1-7 every year since.

Since that first Gathering, the "National" Gathering has occurred every year from July 1-7, hitting peak populations of over 40,000 humans. In the decades between then and now, the idea has grown & spread exponentially, and at this point is a worldwide occurrence. Every year, most U.S. states have their own regional, almost every country has their own, and there is also a Global Gathering. Just as an example, in the fall of 2015, Palestine had its first Rainbow Gathering. At this point, things have spread so much that there is always at least one Gathering occurring somewhere in the world. For example: Hawaii, Guatemala, and Costa Rica all have gatherings every winter.

Purpose of the Gathering

While the Gathering entails more than I can describe, and over the years has meant many things to many people, it also has a central purpose that has always been the same.

The whole event is the build-up to, celebration of, and clean-up after the 4th of July (or full moon/new moon for other gatherings). Starting at sunrise on the 4th, the entire Gathering is silent until noon. During this time, everyone is praying for world peace, whatever that means to them. At right around noon, everyone gathers in the main meadow in a giant circle, holding hands. As everyone stands in the circle, focusing their attention on the Peace Pole (an altar in the center of the meadow), all of the children parade into the middle. Once the children reach the middle of the circle, everyone 'OHMs' together, and the rest of the day becomes a blur of music, dancing, watermelons, and hugs.

Interaction with the State

One of the many features of the Gathering is its intentional separation from the State and its rules & violence. Between the explicit unwillingness to cooperate and the simple fact that the Gathering and its attendees are focused on peace, which is anathema to the State, there has been a lot of push back from the *United States*. Forest service, park rangers, and other Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) have always had a presence at the Gathering, mostly focused on giving people extortion slips and stealing "illegal drugs."

Throughout a visit to the Gathering, you will hear calls of "6-Up", which is LEOs, and "7-Up", which is forest service. To simplify, "6-Up" means guns and "7-Up" means no guns. Over the years, LEOs have brought violence into the Gathering many times, coming to a head in 2010, when they attempted to kidnap someone they claimed to have a "warrant" for. They believed the man they were looking for was in *Kiddie Village*, so they came in full force to the camp with the most children and elders, and opened fire with paintball guns full of hard-plastic pepper-spray-balls, injuring dozens of people.

Why would we ask for permission to live?

From 1972 until the early 2000s, the United States Forest Service used violence and threats of violence many times in attempts to get humans at the Gathering to sign "permits" for using the land. For the first 10 years, many times they managed to find someone to sign their permit, almost always under duress, and never an honest or legal permit, as Rainbow has no organizers or "leaders".

In 1999 at the Pennsylvania National Gathering, USFS picked out 3 people that they decided were the leaders, and charged them with not completing a permit. The charges went to court, and the "Rainbow 3" were given a sham trial, with no witnesses allowed, and ended up spending time in federal prison.

Much more information on the battle around permits can be found here:

- <http://nevadautahgathering2014.blogspot.mx/2014/05/a-brief-summary-of-gatheringforest.html>
- <http://www.bliss-fire.com/PermitHerstory.htm>
- <http://www.bliss-fire.com/Permit.htm>
- <http://www.bliss-fire.com/CourtCases.htm>

Keep away that fiat currency!

Along with not believing that any human should need to ask permission for the use of a piece of land, especially one that is public, meaning un-owned, the Gathering has stayed away from the use of government-issued currencies as well.

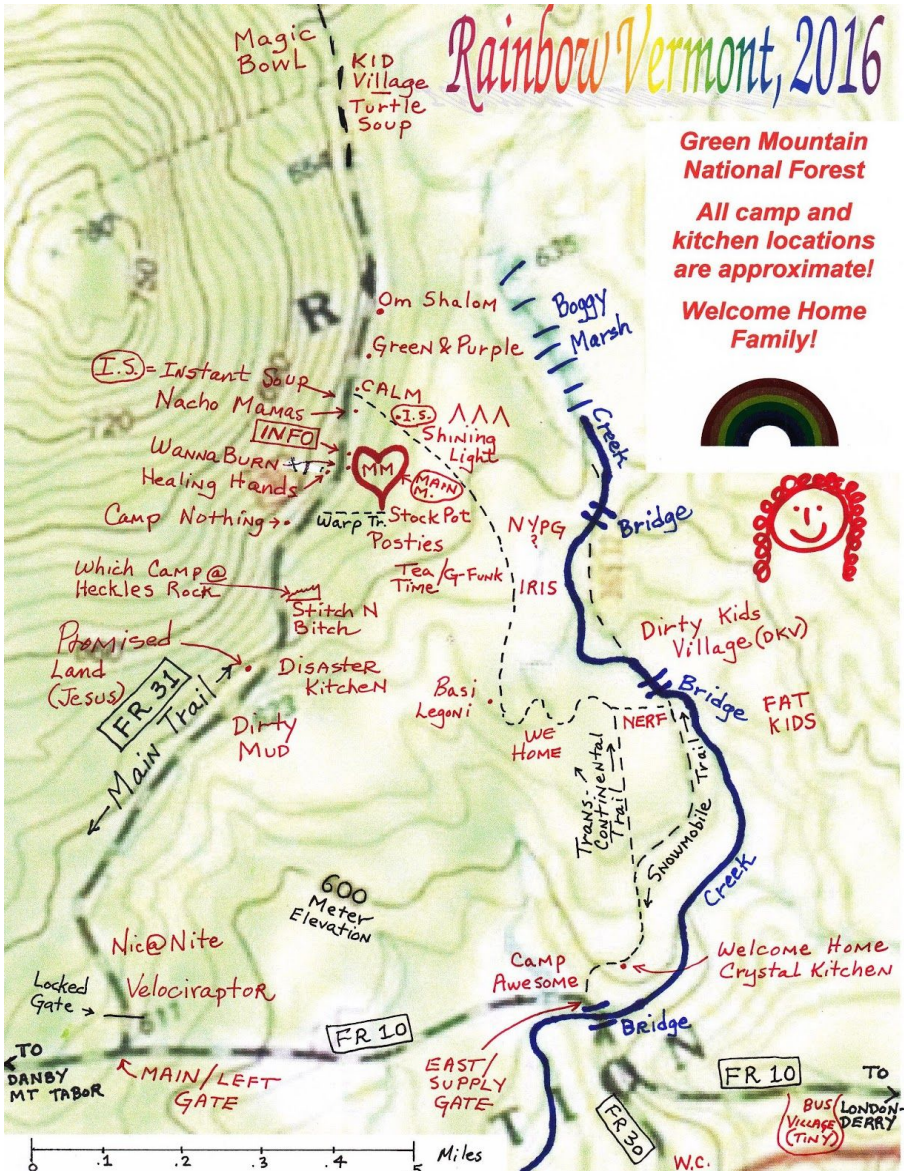
The Gathering is a completely free event, with no entry costs, no camping costs, no vendors, no selling of food... The only time that you will ever see currencies at a gathering is in the main circle, where the family comes together for dinner every evening, when people walk the circle with the "Magic Hat." 100% of donations to the Magic Hat are used for town runs to get food, lime (you'll know why in part 3), toilet paper, first aid supplies, etc. Food is all given freely by any kitchen, instruments are loaned to those who wish to play, and extra supplies are shared with those in need.

Don't worry an-caps, this doesn't mean there is no trade at the Gathering! You can actually find *Trade Circle* at any gathering, usually in a wide open field. People set out blankets, sheets, and rugs, displaying anything from handcrafted jewelry & artwork, to knives, Magic: The Gathering cards, and anything else you can imagine. This is the true Agora, with people trading all sorts of things, haggling over crystals or giving someone a painting that made their eyes light up in exchange for a hug. Here at *Trade Circle*, and anywhere else you want to barter with someone, the most common currencies are crystals, chocolate, and cannabis.

Whether or not folks at the Gathering would be open to the use of crypto-currencies has yet to be addressed, since there is generally no internet/cell service in the woods, but my guess would be not.

Layout

Most gatherings have a very similar layout: everything starts with the parking area (lot/field/road), and the main “gate”. The main trail starts at the gate, and winds its way through the Gathering, sometimes for many miles. Somewhere close by the main trail, generally close to the middle of the Gathering, will be *Main Meadow*, where the family comes to eat dinner together each night, and where everyone gathers on July 4th for the peace prayer.



Though the entire Gathering holds true to the principles discussed earlier, as with most theoretical anarchist societies, it is actually a large umbrella community made up of smaller communities, called camps. The Gathering could be most closely analogized to a county or state, made up of a large variety of cities (camps), each with their own agreements and purposes. Most camps are kitchens, providing food either for dinner at Main Circle, or serving meals during the rest of the day. With that said, there are also a HUGE variety of camps (dozens at any Gathering) that do all sorts of other things. Here's a glimpse at just a few of them:

- **Instant Soup** is the camp that I have called home since first attending a Gathering. Instant soup is a 24-hour vegan kitchen, running for over 20 years. We hold ourselves to the standard that "Nobody leaves hungry". At any given time, we'll have 10-50 humans in it; making food, playing music, sleeping, smoking weed, giving massages, etc. The only extra agreement that holds true here is: no animal products under the tarp.
- **Granola Funk Railroad** is a camp that spends the weeks leading up to the main Gathering dates building a stage, and for the peak days of the Gathering, they hold concerts and variety shows. Many musicians have played the Granola Funk stage, mostly before becoming famous, including Wookiefoot & Medicine for the People.
- **Green Path** is the camp that is always farthest off in the woods. Their focus is on teaching survival skills, everything from edible plant walks to tincture workshops to orienteering.
- **CALM** is the Gathering's medical camp, made up of doctors, nurses, herbalists, and other healers. They not only provide their services for anyone who is injured or ill, they also offer classes & workshops.
- **Lovin' Ovens** is one of the most unique camps. They arrive at the Gathering early, and build dozens of mud-brick ovens, and throughout the Gathering cook up thousands of rolls, sticky buns, or pizzas at a time. After the 2015 Gathering in the Black Hills, members of the kitchen went out to Pine Ridge and taught people how to build the ovens, both temporary & permanent.
- **Home Shalom, Jesus Camp**, and **Krishna Kitchen** are pretty self-explanatory, and just go to show the variety of cultures, beliefs, and goals that bring people together into a Rainbow camp.

Infrastructure

One of the most amazing things to me about the Gathering is the actual physical infrastructure, the way in which we handle the needs of thousands of people without electricity, petroleum, or plumbing.

This comes down to a few basic things: water, food, shelter, and waste disposal. There are a lot of standard practices when it comes to these things, but in true anarchist form those standards are not implemented by a central authority, but organically discovered over time.

Water

One of the key elements when picking the location for a Gathering is the presence of a water source, from which we run miles of hosing, gravity-feeding water to the kitchens with filtration systems. From those kitchens, everyone without filtration of their own will come and fill up from the reservoirs.

For example, Instant Soup has a 50 gallon drum that we keep full at all times, as well as a post-filter spicket so folks can fill their large jugs as well.

Food

All of the food in the Gathering is donated. Most people coming into the Gathering bring something with them, whether it is a dozen pineapples, or a 25lb bag of beans. My first Gathering, I had just quit my job at Bob's Red Mill, and I brought 600 pounds of grains, beans, and seeds with me. For the last few years, Organic Valley has also been donating a truckload of food, as one of their higher-ups is a long-time Rainbow. Every evening at Main Circle, the Magic Hat is passed around, and money is collected for town runs, and when a kitchen is really needing a boost, they get creative.

All cooking is done with fire, either pits with grates over them, or mud-brick ovens. Very little is used that needs refrigeration, as the only options would be a few coolers scattered throughout the gathering. Fresh produce and dried beans & grains account for most Rainbow fare.

Shelter

Most everyone at the Gathering brings their own tent to live in, but those that don't are never out of luck. Many bring extra tents and hammocks with them, just for family in need. There are also many, like Lucid of Shining Light, who bring tipis to offer up for the tent-less as well, and worst case scenario, people just sleep at one of the camps. Instant Soup's fire is always burning, and every morning there is at least one person who spent the night in the kitchen.

Most Gatherings occur during the warmer seasons, but some places are prone to monsoon-like weather (South Dakota included a daily flood), and those who are unprepared offer an excellent opportunity for others to be of service to their family.

Waste Disposal

Each camp separates its trash, recycling, and compost on-site, and throughout the Gathering, teams collect trash and recycling. There is a collection site created, usually near the main entrance to the Gathering, and everything is carefully sorted. This sorting is much more thorough and holistic than you will ever find in a commercial operation, with people pulling out anything that can be reused or repurposed. Compost is buried on-site in each camp, giving that sustenance right back to the Earth.

Instead of bathrooms, the Gathering has latrines (called "shitters"), which are approximately 4 foot deep, 8 foot long, trench-shaped composting toilets. Latrines were first widely used during the trench warfare of the last century. This design serves a multitude of purposes at the Gathering: it once again gives all the nutrients right back to the Earth, the physical act of squatting is much more natural for the human body (once someone gets comfortable with the idea, they quickly find it's much easier to poop in the woods than on a toilet in a tiny room), and by sprinkling ash or lime over the waste, it ensure that flies don't spread bacteria to the food & water supplies.

Did you know that flies will dig through a foot of dirt to get to human feces, but a millimeter of ash or lime will stop them?

Conflict Resolution

The incidences of violence & aggressive conflict are greatly reduced at a Gathering compared to the world at large, thanks to the container of love and compassion that has been created, the recognition of individual sovereignty, and the lack of alcohol. On those rare occasions when violence of some sort does break out, Rainbow is already prepared for it. The term is *Shanti Sena*, which translates to "Peace Army", and everyone at the Gathering is Shanti Sena. If someone sees a fight breaking out, they yell out "Shanti Sena!", and everyone within hearing repeats the call, while also moving towards the origin. As the shouts ripple outward, there are soon dozens of people on scene to help out. The idea of Shanti Sena is to nonviolently de-escalate the situation, only resorting to a physical response when absolutely necessary (usually involving simply pulling people apart, or tying someone to a tree who is unwilling/unable to be talked down). Workshops and trainings on Shanti Sena practices and principles are quite common at the gathering, and can present newcomers with many skills that are applicable anywhere in life.

The following was written by Carla, posted on welcomehome.org:

- 1. Safety is the primary consideration of any Shanti Sena action - safety for both the person acting out and for the people around them.*
- 2. Whenever possible, interventions should be non-physical. Any physical intervention should be as brief and as gentle as possible, and then only if someone is harming themself or others.*
- 3. If any decision needs to be made about what to do about an ongoing situation, or about an instance in which violence has occurred, it should never be made by one or two people, and it should not be made in the heat of the moment. Folks need to chill, sit down with each other in a circle, OM to bring in Spirit, and then discuss the issue calmly.*
- 4. Whenever possible, we try to deal with the situation in camp. If someone is a clear and imminent danger to self or others, however, it is appropriate to turn them over to the police if no other solution can be arrived at to insure the safety of other gatherers; or if the person is mentally ill and is clearly a threat due to their*

disorientation, it is appropriate to turn them over to the local mental health system. Many people may question whether this is the best thing to do, and questioning is a good thing; but there comes a time when all other options for safety have been exhausted and our only resort is the system. Sad but true.

5. *The purpose of Shanti Sena is not to determine guilt or innocence, or to mete out justice or punishment.*
6. *There are times when someone just doesn't get that their behavior is not acceptable, but it is not appropriate to turn them over to the system. Yet, we may not feel that they are safe to remain at the gathering. At that point, a Shanti Sena council may determine that the best course of action is to ask the person to leave the gathering. This option should never be taken lightly, and only in instances where safety cannot be insured by any other means. It should be carried out gently and respectfully, the person being escorted to the highway or to the bus station. The "banishment" stays in effect for that gathering only. There is no such thing as permanent exile from the gathering. All people are capable of change, and hopefully they will get the message the first time they are not allowed to stay.*

The term "Shanti Sena" was first used by Mahatma Gandhi, and comes from the Sanskrit words Shanti (peace) and Sena (army/band). Gandhi had great plans to implement this sort of decentralized, unarmed peacekeeping force en masse, and called for a meeting of hundreds of his colleagues to discuss the idea in 1948, but was assassinated a month before.

In his book *Hind Swaraj*, Gandhi said:

"...a nonviolent army acts unlike armed men, as well in times of peace as disturbances. They would be constantly engaged in activities that make riots impossible. Theirs will be the duty of seeking occasions for bringing warring communities together, carrying on peace propaganda, engaging in activities that would bring and keep them in touch with every single person, male and female, adult and child, in their parish or division..."

Consensus-Based Decision Making

All decisions of any import at/about the Gathering, from where the next one will be held, to what will be bought on town runs, are made by consensus, usually by humans gathering in a circle. One of these circles, called *councils*, is probably happening at all times in a Gathering. Most often, to open the circle, everyone holds hands, breathes together, and generally *ohms* and/or sings together, often followed by someone explaining what the purpose of the council is. From that point, a talking stick/feather is passed around, everyone has the opportunity to speak when they have the feather. Consensus has been reached when nobody has anything else to add.

Councils are generally open to everyone who wants to attend, or everyone who is affected for smaller-scale decision making. By deciding not to attend, you are trusting your family to reach a decision for you, and in many cases it doesn't make sense for everyone to attend every council. If you don't ever work in a kitchen, you wouldn't have much to add to kitchen council, just as someone who knows nothing about architecture or construction wouldn't have much to add to a council about building a house. Some examples of common councils:

- **Main Council** begins after the Peace Prayer on July 4th, and goes on for hours a day, until a decision has been reached on the general area for the next year's Gathering. Once a general area has been decided, the council is over, and for the next year, scouts explore National Forests in the region doing research.
- **Spring Council** begins in early June, at a central location in the region that was decided for that year's Gathering. The scouts present the data they have collected over the past 10 months, and council happens until a decision is reached. Once that happens, the GPS coordinates & directions are put up online, and *Seed Camp* begins, with folks building kitchens, clearing trails, running water lines, and digging shitters.
- **Kitchen Council** happens every morning of the Gathering. Representatives from the kitchens meet up, circle, and balance inventories, discuss any issues with the water supply, and come up with a list for whoever is going to town on a supply run.

Rainbow Outside the Gathering

Don't worry, just because the Gatherings are a short-term events popping up here and there, doesn't mean there are no permanent manifestations of Rainbow. The connection, support, and infrastructure extends far outside the gathering as well. The Rainbow network is made up of 3 main components: the permanent Gatherings/villages, the rolling kitchens, and the individuals and households that function as way-stations for traveling family.

- All around the world, you can find Rainbows ready & willing to help out family in need. This network is completely decentralized, and mostly available through word of mouth, various Facebook groups, email lists, and the *Light-Line*. In my travels, I have stayed the night with various people I've found this way, and on my way to the 2016 National Gathering, a brother I connected with on Facebook drove 2 hours out of his way to pick up my little sister and I, bringing us to the Gathering.
- When the Gathering is over, many of the kitchens that feed people at the Gathering load their equipment and crews onto a converted school bus, and head out onto the road to spread the Rainbow ways and feed people for free. At any given time, there are dozens of rolling Rainbow kitchens setting up at things like Standing Rock & Ferguson, working with Food Not Bombs, and of course feeding at regional gatherings throughout the year.
- The most permanent & self-sustaining manifestations of the Gathering are the intentional communities and ecovillages. Although there are a variety of communities around the world that live in alignment with the values and practices of the Rainbow, there are also a small handful that literally came out of Rainbow, or are even permanent Gatherings themselves.
- My favorite example of these is East Wind, which is a kitchen, setting up at Nationals most years, and usually bringing a bus load of people and 5-gallon buckets of peanut & almond butter from their eco-village in Missouri. Their village houses between 80 & 100 people at a time (they've even started having babies born there), operating on a completely anarcho-mutualist system. They grow their own food, share their clothing, and make & sell rope sandals, nut butters, and excess produce to cover monetary expenses.

Conclusion: Anarchy from the brain vs Anarchy from the heart, time for Synthesis

Having traveled to a huge variety of festivals, conferences, convergences, and other world-changing events over the last couple of years, I can definitely say that the Rainbow Gathering is by far the most life-changing, and the best example of the practice of "act as if you already are who you want to be". From decision-making to waste disposal, from emotional connection to feeding masses, Rainbow offers us solutions that can be applied to almost every aspect of human life.

The biggest issue facing the liberty movement right now, and the reason that I promote Rainbow so much, is that there is an artificial divide based on the labels folks use to self-identify. On one side those who identify as "anarcho-capitalists", "voluntaryists", and "libertarians", and on the other side those who identify as "anarchists", "hippies", "Rainbows", or who don't self-identify at all, and simply want to be good people and help make the world a better place. There are only 2 real differences I see here:

- Most of those on the *an-cap* side have reached the ideas of anarchy through critical thinking, philosophy, reading, and debating, while those on the *hippie* side have reached these ideas through personal experience, suffering/empathizing with oppression, and the need for community.
- Folks want to live different lives themselves. Some are entrepreneurs and want to compete and push themselves more and more every day to survive & succeed, while others want to work cooperatively, live simply, and produce all their own necessities of life.

One side uses specific terms like the *non-aggression principle* and talk about economics a lot, while the other side simply does what feels right, and knows that the decisions we make affect every other living thing on the planet. As soon as humans stop arguing about the 1% of things they disagree on and work together on the 99% we share (freedom, peace, and love), the world we want to see will manifest almost instantly.

Known Dates for 2019 Gatherings

March 6-April 5 : Costa Rica

San Buenaventura

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/360706644293255>

April 4-May 4 : World Gathering

Colombia

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/356038414908341>

June 2-July 3 : Middle European

Austria/Germany/Czech

<https://rainbowforum.net/viewtopic.php?f=67&t=4746>

July 1-7 : US Nationals (the original & biggest)

Wisconsin/Minnesota

www.welcomehome.org

August 1-30 : Sweden

<https://rainbowforum.net/viewtopic.php?f=67&t=4677>

August 1-30 : Belarus

facebook.com/groups/by.rainbow

Recurring Gatherings

These gatherings generally occur, but not always, and not always at the same time. More to give you a rough idea, and somewhere to start searching from.

Guatemala Gathering

January full moon cycle.

Hawaii Big Island Gathering

Full moon January, with three days before and after the full moon to gather.

Ocala Gathering (FL)

February, with a focus on Valentine's Day.

AZ Love Gathering

February, with a focus on Valentine's Day.

A-Cola Gathering (FL)

March, usually around the first half.

Texas Spring Equinox

The two weeks book-ending Spring Equinox.

Costa Rica Gathering

Spring Equinox full moon cycle.

Israel Spring Gathering

The entire month of Hebrew Nisan.

Talladega Gathering (AL)

Early April.

Southwest Earth Day Gathering

The two weekends book ending the period of April 20th-22nd.

South Bend Kidz Gathering

April with a focus on the period of April 20th-22nd.

Oklahoma Gathering

Typically the first half of May.

Midwest Gathering

May.

Cumberland Gathering

Traditionally spanning the two weeks book-ending the May full moon.

Philly Area Rainbow Potluck

3rd Saturday of May.

NYC Central Park Rainbow Picnic

3rd Sunday of May.

Oregon Gathering

Often in Early June.

Katuah Gathering

Usually the span of the two weekends book-ending the Summer Solstice.

Colorado Gathering

Typically August (when it happens, which is not always).

New England Gathering

The two weekends book-ending Full Moon August.

Europe Gathering

August full moon cycle.

Quebec

August full moon cycle.

"Mainebow" Gathering

Typically August (when it happens, which is not always).

Nebraska Fall Gathering

Labor Day weekend through Labor Day

Heartland Gathering

Usually the span of the two weeks book-ending the Autumn Equinox

Washington Gathering

August or September often with the full moon or equinox in mind.

Shawnee Gathering

Traditionally the first fourteen days of October or Columbus Day and the eleven days preceding it.

Israel Autumn Gathering

The entire Hebrew month of Cheshvan

Thanksgiving / Fall Council

The fourth Thursday of November and the following weekend.

Georgia Solstice Gathering (USA)

December with a focus on the Winter Solstice.

Black Sheep Solstice Gathering

Usually the Friday preceding the Winter Solstice through December 26th.

Hawaii Oahu Gathering

Late December, every other year (odd years), usually including the period from Dec 25th - Jan 1st

Other Resources

Welcome Home (The Unofficial Official Site)

<https://www.welcomehome.org/>

The main place to find info about the next US Nationals, a directory of kitchens/camps, tons of Rainbow music, guides, and a directory of sites.

Butterfly Bill's Rainbow Gathering Site

<http://www.bliss-fire.com/home.htm>

A site collecting tons of history, documents, videos, stories, and more.

“We Love You”

<https://vimeo.com/5562245>

A Rainbow documentary, filmed at the 2008 US Gathering in Wyoming.

“Thank You Rainbow”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y9_-gijP6qo

Another documentary, filmed at the 2011 European Gathering in Portugal.

Abundance

These booklets cost me ~\$1 each to print, and that's really all I have to say about them in terms of "pricing". I don't know how much you can spare, or how much you enjoy my writing, so I leave you the decision of how to compensate me. (means & amount)

BTC



ETH



DASH



BCH



LTC



SMART



Komodo



EOS



Nexus



Welcome Home!

The Rainbow Gathering is a decentralized, globe-spanning, moneyless community/event that began in 1972. It is one of the oldest anarchist communities on the planet, the annual *US Nationals* is by far the largest anarchist event on the planet (there are also dozens of smaller gatherings every year).

This booklet began as the preparations for a speech by the same name that I gave at the 2017 Anarchapulco conference. Since then, I have updated & tweaked the document multiple times, and will continue to do so. If you'd like to watch the presentation, it's available on Youtube: <https://youtu.be/TZlhVktmKXI>

If you've come across this booklet, then I can almost guarantee that your life will be changed for the better by attending a Rainbow Gathering, especially if it's the BIG one, with people from all around the world.

You are beautiful!
You are powerful!
You are free!
