



*Our altar from last year*

## **MEXICAN DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION AND CEREMONY**

***November 1, 2014***

***at Kalpulli Chaplin***

***18 Bedlam Rd, Chaplin, CT,***

***Feast 6 pm, ceremony 7:30 pm***

We will share a pot luck feast at about 6:00 pm. At about 7:30 pm, we will share the Day of the Dead Ceremony, where those who wish will light a small candle commemorating the life of someone close to us who has passed on to the other side before us. It is a beautiful and gentle ceremony, a healing alternative to the scary image of Halloween. Feel free to bring the traditional cookies or candies in the shape of skulls or skeletons. If you wish, bring some marigolds or other yellow flowers and pictures of loved ones who have passed on for our altar. This is one way of reminding ourselves that death is just a normal part of life. It is as normal to die as to be born. As Tlakaheel often said (I think quoting a famous author) "When we are afraid of death, we die many times, but when we are not afraid, we die only once." This is a good time to remember our ancestors. Death is merely a transition to another place, another world. Although we may be very sad to see someone go from our lives, we can celebrate their being, and look forward to seeing them again on the other side. As Tlakaheel reminded us, death does not exist, everything is just transformed.

Every year we make an Ofrenda or altar with pictures, mementos, flowers (preferably Marigolds), offerings of foods, etc. You may have seen the remains of last year's up in the loft. Please feel free to bring your offerings too. During part of our ceremony, we burn small thin Birthday candles in remembrance of those who have passed on, so please bring a few if you can. We have a lot to remember this year, Please bring the small ones, as larger ones make a lot more smoke. The small round votive candles burn too long and make it hard to place enough in the sand where we burn the candles. Children are most welcome. **PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO COME.**

There are a lot of websites with more information on the traditional celebrations, such as [http://www.mexconnect.com/mex\\_/muertos.html](http://www.mexconnect.com/mex_/muertos.html) or [www.mexicansugarskull.com/support/dodhistory.html](http://www.mexicansugarskull.com/support/dodhistory.html)

For those interested, we will also light the Sacred fire for our **Temazkal sweat lodge at 1 pm** and enter the lodge as soon as the stones are hot. Please contact us if you are interested in the Temazkal and have not been to our lodge before.

**6 pm, we will share our pot luck Feast of the Dead**

**7:30 pm: we begin our Ceremony. ,**

*For more information contact us at [info@Kalpulli Chaplin](mailto:info@KalpulliChaplin.com), or call 860-455-9203.,  
Kalpulli Chaplin, 18 Bedlam Rd. Chaplin, CT. 06235*