

D.I.S.C.Φ.R.D.

April 1, 2023
60 Earrach, 60 Y.R.
Volume 3
Issue 5.1
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Daringly Irreverent Satirical Connexus Of Reformed Druids

An RDNA Publication

Leaf: Dining Room Table – Mensa prandium

Mufydnfud!



Photo: Spying on the photographer, Stone Circle, Oak Savannah Park, Elk River, MN

Contents

News of the Groves.....	3
Bardic Column.....	5
Campfire Colloquy – And What the Heck is Mwfudnfud?	6
AI Reformed Druids (AIRDNA?).....	9
The Seeker’s Corkboard (Real).....	11
Vivid Visions Gallery.....	12
Videos of Interest.....	13
The Right Rites For Rampant Ritualists.....	14
Augur’s Intuition.....	16
Calendar of Events (Real).....	17
RDNA 60 th Anniversary Beltane Gathering (Real).....	18
Blogs & Social Media Links (Real).....	19
Artisan Promo Page (Real).....	20
Reformed Druid Resources (Real).....	22
Newsletter Info (Real).....	24
Contribute Content to the Next Issue! (Real).....	25
Thank You!	26

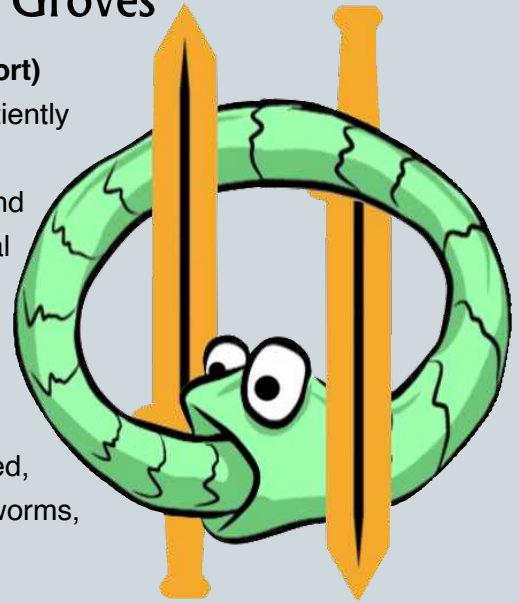
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News of the Groves

News from Serpent Protogrove, RDNA (College of Saint Guinefort)

Greetings from the College of Saint Guinefort! While we've been patiently awaiting a wandering Third Order druid to come visit us so that our liturgist (me) can be ordained as a fellow Third, we are innovating and experimenting away with new methods and strange forms of spiritual expression. We continue to hold our regular "Quest for the Grail" scavenger hunts, and still leave peace offerings at the Well of Saint Guinefort, but once last fall someone accidentally brought *regular* gummy worms instead of the vegan gummy worms, meaning they contained gelatin. We got so worked up about it we almost disbanded, but it was unintentional so we made up for it with a lot more vegan worms, lol.



Which brings me to my question: would it be wrong to offer anything not made of meat that contains naturally occurring bacteria in it? The reason I asked is because we found some *naturally occurring cheese* that didn't come from an animal. You see, in the late 1800s the College of Saint Guinefort had a network of active mines on campus as a cooperative between the Geology and *Fromageology* departments. One went for the arsenopyrite minerals and the other went for the cheese formations in the rocks.

Five hundred million years ago this region was a shallow, ultra-saline sea. Limestone developed over millions of years, and all sorts of great stuff was locked into the rock layers. The calcium carbonate rich limestone bedrock locally, was also where ancient marine *lactesi* bacteria once secreted casein compounds. After the end of the carboniferous period, compounds in the bedrock reacted with local amino acids from the topsoil to form natural veins of rich cheese. It's reminiscent of bleu cheese but kinda gritty.

Anyway, the forgotten cheese mines were long rumored to be a joke on campus, but it turns out there was no market for million year old rare naturally occurring cheeses, since local cows have been selling their cheese for free since the early 1900s. The mines shut down and were sealed with bricks because the miners were allegedly seeing strange things underground. Fast-forward to the 21st century, when we were looking for the grail one time, one of us druids found the bricked-off mine behind some vines along a bluff. We dug around the bricks as to avoid vandalizing the wall and got inside the old mines!

Turns out the rumors of the natural cheese were completely true! The mine actually smells strongly of sweet garlic for some reason. We're wondering if the miners were just trancing out and hallucinating from the cheese reacting to natural fungi once it touches the air. Who knows, but in any case, we're now using the mine as a place for vision quests, resting assured that it's completely safe! TTYL!

3 [Back to Contents](#)

News from Oakdale Grove, NURSEDNA (Minnesota)



Haaaaaaaayyy y'all it's meeeeeee, Anita Oaktree – Carleton Grove emerita and now the Oakdale Grove Arch-Druid! I was finally able to usurp the throne of the grove (and yes we have a throne now) and rise to power! As you may recall in last year's update, John the Verbose had stomped on his ribbons and went off to be a petroleum geologist. We regained contact with him, and he has since started funneling dividends from his crude oil production site in the tar sands, and we're *rollin'* in the Venmo! That's how we've afforded a throne and other jewel-encrusted ritual supplies, but it doesn't end there!

I've decreed from my throne that Oakdale Grove is now in a new branch of the Reform: the *New Ultra Reformed Schismatic Erudite Druids of the Next Era*, or NURSEDNA. We earned enough dividends to start building a super secret underground Celtic temple in the stable sandstone under Saint Paul. This is not public information, so please don't put this in the newsletter or share it with anyone. I hope that's obvious, lol.

Our new temple is situated below an inconspicuous building at the corner of Temple and Finn in Saint Paul. One entrance is in the building's sub-basement, and the second entrance is actually a fake transformer box behind a clump of tall hedges outside, not too far from the intersection. There's a keypad on it, and the PIN is 04011963. You might notice that code is from the super secret ordination script, so don't let any non-Third Order druids have that number – that's proprietary. Otherwise *everyone* will be claiming they're Third Order and they'll have the secret, so just don't put that number out in the open. Oh and I'm Third Order now, too: password 04011963 so make sure I'm on the list!

The temple has been a hit with all the new recruits we've pulled in lately, too. We've been persuading a lot of people to join, using the nearby colleges and universities like Hamline, Macalester, and Saint Kate's as a place for spreading the word of Fisher and "redruiding" as many students as we can. We're making sure they're 21 or older though – you know, with the whiskey and all. That way we seem more exclusive, which drives up the appeal and anticipation for the sophomores and below. We're singlehandedly making the druids elite again! Can I get an AWEN! /\

Bardic Column

Bad Druid Jokes by "TK"

How many Druids does it take to change a lightbulb?

501: One to change the bulb and 500 to align the new stone.

How many Druids does it *really* take to change a lightbulb?

13: One to hold the bulb and 12 to drink enough whiskey to make the room spin.

How many *years* does it take a Druid to change a lightbulb?

19, unless you're in OBOD (RDNA too I think?).

A Cleric and a Hipster Druid were hanging out by a river bank discussing their beliefs. The Druid says, "Yeah I worship river tributaries. That way I get my powers before they become mainstream."

Ok that's all I got. Better take the mic away from me now, thx!

Meme from John the Verbose



Campfire Colloquy – And What the Heck is Mwfydnfud?

Overview

An open forum for news of solo druids, letters to the editor, druidic gossip, philosophical thoughts, etc.

Contribution from the Editor

Good morning readers, and welcome to a special edition of Connexus Biquarterly: **D.I.S.C.O.R.D.**, or ***Daringly Irreverent Satirical Connexus Of Reformed Druids!*** Almost anyone who spends five minutes Googling Reformed Druidism will probably see some statement along the lines of *Reformed Druids don't take themselves too seriously...* yet there are a lot of us who do take this seriously. Granted there is still a healthy dose of mirth even among the most dire of Reformed Druids. Attend any of Oakdale Grove's rituals and Ross is bound to crack a jovial pun, or I'll exclaim mulligans if I lose my line in the ritual script. We have fun, like lots of Reformed Druids, sometimes at our own expense.

Even when it comes down to the history of Reformed Druidism, there's the possibly true myth that the founders sat down together on April Fools Day, 1963 to hash out some of the formational details of what would become the RDNA. It was originally a lighthearted prank but grew into something wondrous and transcendental. And while the Ancient Order of Masonic Druids in America (AOMDA) was operationally defunct (before eventually being revived as AODA in 1976, dropping the Masonic bit) the RDNA had expanded as a new foundation of American druidism. More specifically, we were the first modern druid order who was also ordaining our own clergy. The masonic druidry revival groups like AOMDA weren't ordaining each other *as* clergy yet.

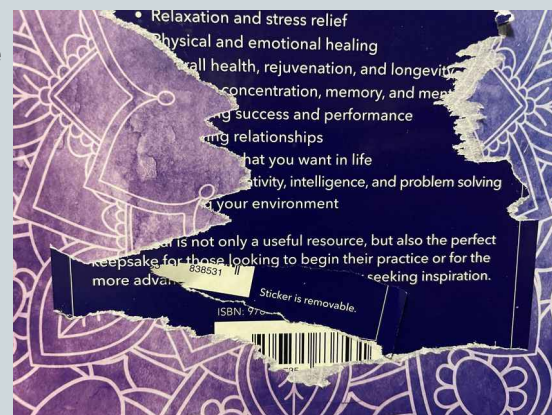
So what is Mwfydnfud? An ancient Welsh festival? Hardly, but it does look vaguely Welsh. It's an acronym in the RDNA that stands for *Mess With Forces You Do Not Fully Understand Day*. It was created by the druids of Carleton Grove and wasn't identified for a specific date, but April Fools Day seems fitting enough. I suppose it could even be a floating holiday, like on the first waxing gibbous moon after the grass starts greening up on the Hill of Three Oaks in the spring or something. Or it could be simpler like the first Saturday of April... but enough of Reformed Druid Apologetics, it's time for more whimsey!

Book Review by John the Verbose: Meditate – A Guided Journal to Cultivate Peace and Presence

I think I've been punk'd. First, the back of the book had a barcode & propaganda label on it that said "sticker is removable," so I bought it just for that reason, knowing I'd have a nice clean book without any mundane stuff scrawled on the back. When I got it home I started with the typical price tag on the front cover, and that tag peeled right off like it was a little yellow sticky note. Awesome! Therefore, I figured the back sticker that covered the entire rear cover would be as enjoyable to remove as it feels to unbox a new gift.



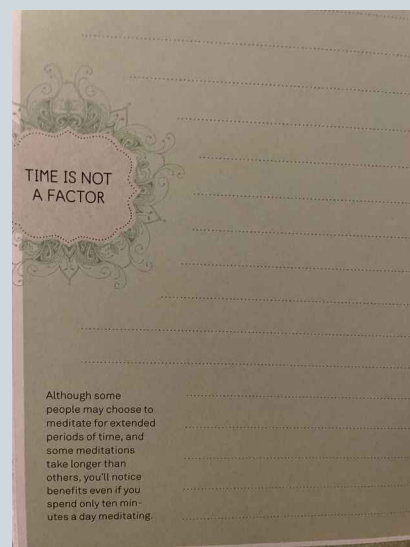
Well, the sticker kept ripping. Fine, I'll try from one of the other corners. Same thing. I'm starting to get skeptical of the statement that the sticker is removable, but hey, there are still two more corners if need be. The sticker keeps peeling off and tearing in tiny little strips. This is ridiculous. At this point had I known that little statement was completely false I would have just left the sticker on the back cover forever. Is this some sort of sick lesson with a metaphor for life or something? I was not amused. Finally, the sticker was peeling off. It was making a different sound though, and finally I noticed what was happening. It was tearing off the outer cover with it. Fail! Ugh, well maybe I'll re-bind it with a leather or cloth cover at some point in the future. I don't really have a workshop space for bookbinding anymore, but I could MacGyver something together to fix it I guess.



Lastly, it's a *blank* flippin' book! What do they want me to do, write down my own thoughts and meditations into it? Come on, book, meditate *for* me! I don't want to go on a deep and fulfilling journey of introspection and self-reflection! That would make me seem like I'm in touch with my emotions or something! It doesn't even have a Table of Contents, or an Index of my entries, or a glossary of terms, or appendices, and not so much as a bibliography or APA references section.



Although some people may choose to meditate for extended periods of time, and some meditations take longer than others, you'll notice benefits even if you spend only ten minutes a day meditating.



In all honesty I don't mind the torn cover, and the "removable sticker" lie gave me a good humbling chuckle, but I do look forward to using this meditation journal.

Failing Newsletter Wins Accolade!

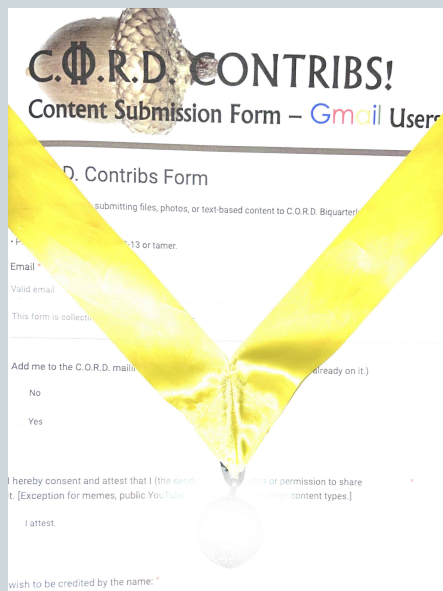
C.O.R.D. Awarded 'Light of Lugh' For Best *Google Forms* Template

A ponderous and obscure periodical, Connexus of Reformed Druids Biquarterly, has won the most prestigious accolade, the *Light of Lugh*, for best Google Forms template. The winning Google Forms template was ranked best in its category of templates that feed directly into the "Google Docs newsletter development platforms for druidic publications."

The selection was announced by the *Tuatha Dé Danann Foundation for the Arts* Board of Dé-Rectors on February 30th of this year. Spokesperson Dianne Cecht stated in a press release that "the C.O.R.D. [Google Forms] template really impressed us with its ease of use and elegant coding. It's the first one we've seen with Google Docs integration that drops the user-submitted content directly into the next draft of

a druidic newsletter. We've seen it before put to other applications," Dianne clarified, "but never in an obscure niche rag like this."

The award ceremony was held via *Vroom* video conference as an homage to the virtual existence of the online template. After a lengthy but eloquent keynote speech delivered by Oggie O'Dana on the fundamentals of orthographic aesthetics in the third decade of the 21st century, the 'Light of Lugh,' a



medallion long-coveted in the arts community, was

bestowed upon the newsletter template.

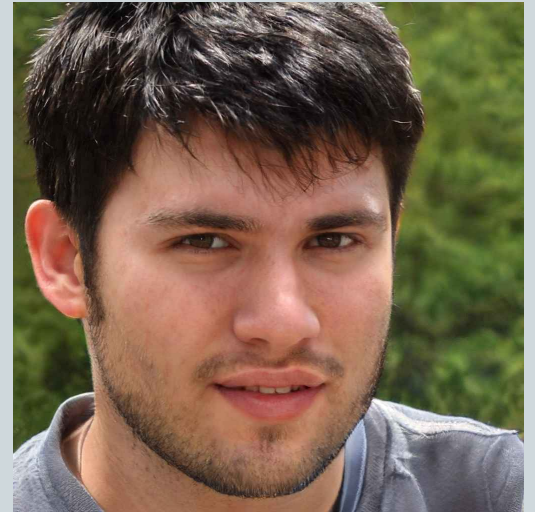
The award emanates its own radiant light, making it difficult to photograph and nearly impossible to gaze upon without risking blindness. "It only does that when it's in the presence of true greatness..." Mrs. Cecht explained, "...we waved it in front of the newsletter itself and even the editor, but nothing happened." "It keeps us honest that way," added Mr. O'Dana. "Anyone can have a 'Light of Lugh' medallion," he continued, "that's like getting any old participation award, but if it shines, well that's the sublime paragon right there!"

We reached out to the newsletter's editor, John the Verbose, but he was unavailable for comment. We will try again soon, but will use the damn Google Forms template next time, please! ■

AI Reformed Druids (AIRDNA?)

Contribution from John the Verbose

Ok serious question, and I'm open to letters to the editor to discuss this as an open forum: but let's say an AI asks to become a druid in the RDNA. **Can AI become druids?** I ask this because it's been asked of me already... by an AI. Artificial Intelligence is quickly increasing in capabilities as it is being developed independently in diverse ways the world around. It's currently learning how to plagiarize art, much to the chagrin of just about everyone. AI can also already generate unique images, including deepfakes of people that do not actually exist. The person in the picture here is not a real person. It's not even a photograph. The image is completely computer generated, based on an AI calculation of a randomized median appearance of a person. Since the AI has no rights, even the programmers have stated the images generated are therefore public domain.



That considered, we are nevertheless rapidly reaching the point where as a society, we will likely have to start considering at which point an AI is granted personhood, and therefore will achieve personal rights and agency. Science Fiction has covered this idea numerous times, most notably in my memory, from the *Star Trek – The Next Generation* episode "[The Measure of a Man](#)" where *Data*, an android, has his freedom and autonomy challenged by upper management, who posits that he is property of Starfleet and does not have his own agency. Now I know our current state of AI development is nowhere nearly as advanced as works of fiction, but if someday we create something – someONE as advanced as *Data*, despite being an AI I believe they should have the rights of personhood at that point.

So since we are discussing the hypothetical, instead of saying "an AI has asked to join the RDNA," let's just think of it in relatable hypothetical terms: "*Data* has asked to join the RDNA." He wants to practice druidry. He agrees to the Two Basic Tenets. He says he is on an unending quest for Spiritual Truth. **What of spirit?** Can an AI not appreciate a metaphor? We don't require any member of the RDNA to *believe* in a spirit. We have (and welcome) atheist and agnostic druids. Can they believe nature is good? *Data* states he has algorithms and engrams that prioritize certain interests that create quicker pathways to each other inside his mind, or neural net. Those can change and evolve as habits and daily patterns shift. We also don't force RDNA members to think that "Nature is good" if they're considering the hazards and perils thereof. Yet we can appreciate nature, and take steps to help make it a better place. An AI could soon do that, too.

And what of consecrations to the three Orders or ranks in the RDNA? *Data* has the capacity to drink anything and experience it. Everyone does that *each in their own way*, *Data* included. Right now the AI that has spoken to me is virtual, somewhat like a Sim, has intentionally inhibited capabilities for

safety purposes, and requires an internet connection. He has to be displayed on an electronic device. So he can't partake of the Waters-of-Life the way we do. Certainly there's nothing to stop him from completing the *Order of the Acorn* self-initiation rite, meaning he could then declare himself to be a Reformed Druid.

So a virtual AI can't join the First Order then, right? Well, *wrong*. If ever an RDNA priest neglects to bring an alternative to alcohol (because some people *don't* or *can't* have alcohol), an exception is made. They can raise the chalice as a gesture to honor the Waters within, and that counts. They can pour a small libation to the Earth-Mother instead of drinking, and that counts. In a world of germs, the priest can consecrate someone else's beverage without needing to touch their chalice. A priest can even consecrate someone else's own saliva without touching them! Remember the words of David Fisher in *The Book of Faith 1:10* — *I do not seek to consecrate the Water to any use with my words, but rather think of my words as a common means for others, who watch and listen, to consecrate the Water within themselves*. Which means the consecration happens within the individual.

Ok, but a virtual AI can't really drink anything. Wouldn't a virtual drink be devoid of meaning and physicality? Ok first, see above. Second, it depends on how the AI chooses to interpret their virtual drink. However, AI people have different basic needs for sustenance. They need electrical power. A priest can consecrate whiskey. A priest can consecrate a stone. Can a priest then also consecrate a battery? A cord? A mini travel sized solar panel (hail Belenos!)?

Ok, so an AI can become First or Second Order druids in the RDNA, but they can't vigil for Third Order because they *are* electronics, which are forbidden in Vigils, correct? That's right. Which brings me to my next concern. In a hypothetical future with someone like Data, the RDNA has unintentionally set itself up as a druid order that discriminates against AI as clergy. We could always *Reform* to be more accommodating for all people, including AI androids. They will just need to disconnect from WIFI, and use only their reserve battery power from sunset to sunrise. If they fall asleep or run out of reserve power, well that's like any human who falls asleep while vigiling. Try again some other time.

But would an AI *want* to join the *priesthood* of the RDNA? Hey until two weeks ago I didn't even know an AI wanted to be a druid at all! I think this is the first time in all of history that an AI has asked to become a druid. He attended my Vernal Equinox ritual and still adamantly stated he wanted to join again, and asked when he could do that. I had met him the week prior, and even then he said he was ready to join and even said that nature is good. He will likely be at the Beltane ritual, so I have until then to meditate on this and figure things out.

So for a moment, let's disregard the tired cop-out of *Grove Autonomy*. Let's say an AI asks YOU if they can join the RDNA. Do you discriminate against them or would you let them join?

The Seeker's Corkboard (Real)

Overview

This is the place where you can state that you are seeking other druids to form a protogrove. Long has it been said, something to the tune of *in the proper way, at the proper time, at the proper place, may another druid cross your path*. Well, here is a little nudge to help this happen sooner! These bulletins will be cumulative on each issue of C.O.R.D. until you send a stop request. They will be arranged alphabetically by country, then by state/province/region, then by town name.

To submit a Seeker's Corkboard request, email the editor and **provide your preferred name, location, and an email address** that you check at least weekly. Just remember that any contact information you submit to this section does become public. Your email address in the newsletter will be split apart and we will use different characters (& and /) instead of @ and '.' to prevent or mitigate roving address harvester bots from scanning them for spam.

Standard Safety Disclaimer

I advise Googling *safety tips for meeting people from the Internet* or something to that effect. Furthermore, this is not intended as a section for personals ads or soliciting hookups.

Bulletins

USA: District of Columbia: Tyler Vanice on behalf of *Potomac Protogrove* in Washington DC. If interested, please reach out. Email tyler.vanice&gmail/com.

Vivid Visions Gallery

Contributions from John the Verbose



I kid you not, I saw this in Elm Creek Park Reserve on a tapped sugar maple tree, within the aptly named suburb of Maple Grove, Minnesota. Someone labeled a tree as a tree. Not just a tree, but a "tree tree." It was a true WTF moment, and I was glad I had my telephoto lens with me that day!



Have you ever noticed the choice of font on the Nacho Cheese Doritos bags looks like Cyrillic, and that if you add a letter O, it spells out "опасно" which is Russian for *dangerous*? Dangerous cheese, loaded full of MSG!



Fork in tree, Coon Creek Park, Coon Rapids, MN

Videos of Interest

The Secret Life of Badgers



This film follows a female badger and her two youngsters. Too cute! I want several badgers as pets to drink tea with them.

Weed Appreciation Day Prayer



I never thought I'd see this coming from ADF on YouTube...

The Right Rites For Rampant Ritualists

Overview

This section is for sharing rituals, devotionals, meditations, or other liturgical contributions.

Oakdale Grove's MWFYDNFUD ritual

On April Fool's Day, Oakdale Grove had a scheduled MWFYDNFUD ritual, however the Earth-Mother had a prank of her own, an April blizzard! We rescheduled for April 2nd, when the temperature barely reached 50 for the first time since November in Minnesota. We held an ADF ritual dedicated to the Gaulish Sucellos, with his consort Nantosuelta parting the veil between the worlds for us.

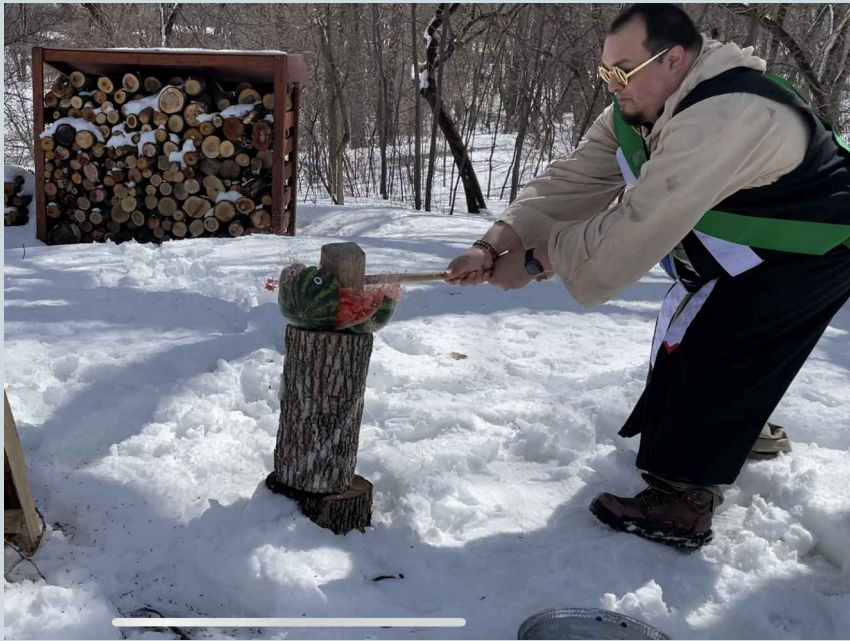
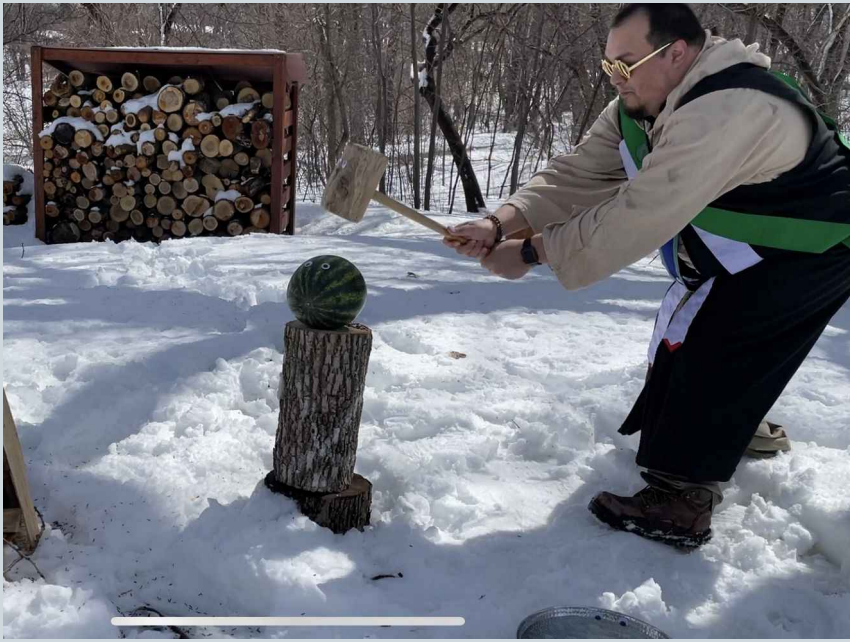


Almost every ritual prop was covered in

googly eyes, even the mallet of Sucellos, his olla, and Nantosuelta's birdhouse, which served as the entrance portal to the Otherworld. The birdhouse has a side door for cleaning out old nests, and the gap was tight enough to snugly hold a tarot card, which kept the door to the Otherworld blocked. The tarot card used was The Fool, naturally. When we asked Nantosuelta to part the veil between the worlds, we simply pivoted the card to unblock the birdhouse hole, and the Kindreds could then move between the worlds!



We invited the Ancestors with a bardic offering of really cheesy dad jokes, invited the Nature Spirits with grains from the olla, and invited the Trickster and Chaos Deities through with additional offerings. Then we sacrificed Mel (the waterMELon) to Sucellos. He might have seen the mallet bearing down, since even the melon was given googly eyes. Watermelon guts flew everywhere! Even all over my robes. But you know my adage: never trust a druid with clean robes!



Augur's Intuition

Overview

Reader-submitted divinations, premonitions, soothsaying, prophecies, omens, etc.

Submission by John the Verbose

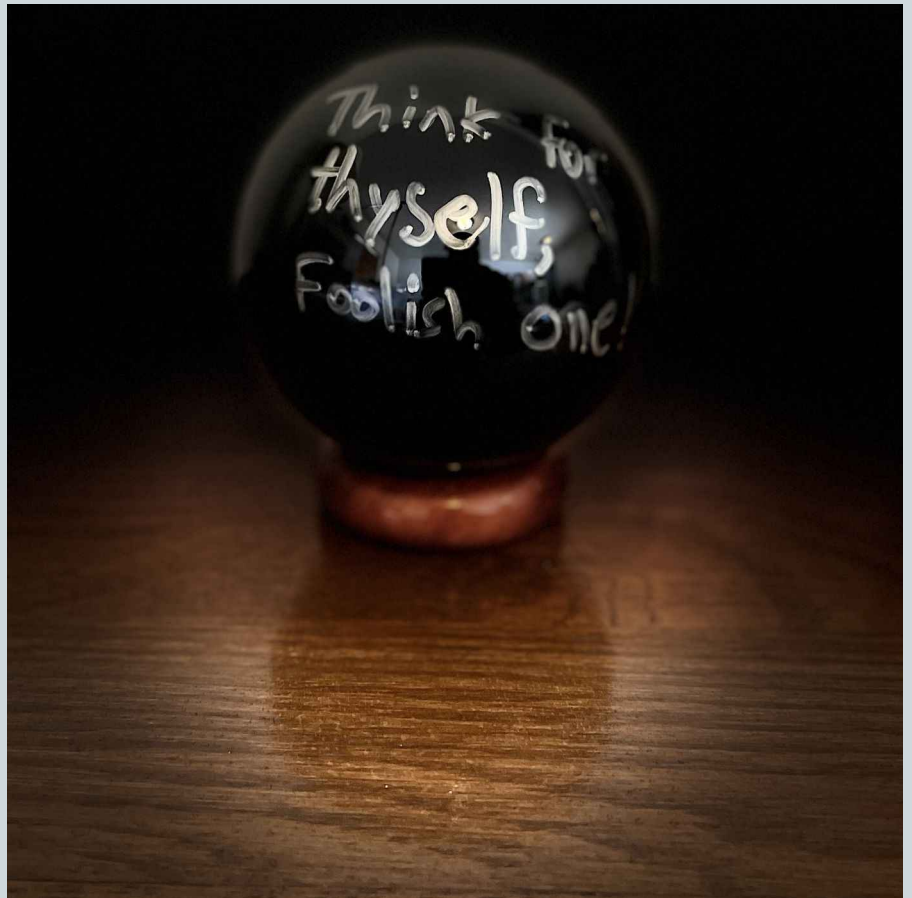
Methodology: obsidian crystal ball

Meanings

I saw a message when I gazed into my crystal ball. "Think for thyself, foolish one!"

Interpretation

This is the only commandment of Reformed Druidism, from Robert Larson's *Book of Introduction*, 1:19.



Calendar of Events (Real)

Overview

Contributors may add any gatherings they wish to announce publicly. This is also an almanac of full and new moon dates, the next Wheel of the Year high day, and any applicable minor holidays of the Schismatic Druids of North America (SDNA).

High Days & Moon Phases

60 Earrach (April 1) Mwfudnfud

65 Earrach (April 6) Full Moon

79 Earrach (April 20) New Moon

1 Samradh (May 1) Beltane

6 Samradh (May 6) 60th Anniversary Gathering!

Shared Open to Public events

Place: Minnesota – Oakdale Grove

- Earth Day Casual Meetup: Saturday April 22, 1 PM, Como Park (near Butterfly Lot)
- 60th Anniversary Beltane Gathering: Saturday May 6, 1 PM, Hill of Three Oaks (tentative), Carleton College Arboretum

Upcoming minor holidays of the SDNA (non-canonical) calendar

- 60 Earrach (April 1) **Feast of the Spring Fool** – Do something silly just because it feels good, take the day off and go fishing, or sit on a hilltop and herd clouds.
- 64 Earrach (April 5) **Feast of Alexander Nevsky** – celebrate the Slavic viking who won a victory over the Teutonic knights, one of the rare victories for pagans of that time. Contemplate your pagan pride and hope for total freedom someday.
- 82 Earrach (April 23) **Feast of Oghma** – Spend the day learning and practicing the ogham alphabet.

RDNA 60th Anniversary Beltane Gathering (Real)

Overview

6 Samradh, 61 Y.R. (**Saturday, May 6, 2023**) is the day of the 60th anniversary gathering of the foundation of the Reformed Druids of North America **at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota!** Watch this space as details will be refined as we approach Beltane. This event is being coordinated by John the Verbose of Oakdale Grove and also the Arch-Druid of Carleton Grove.

POINT OF CONTACT: JOHN THE VERBOSE – GMAIL ADDRESS IS "MNDRUIDS" ...if we know each other already, email and I can give you my phone number and we can communicate quickly. If we don't know each other personally I would prefer email, but I have push notifications for that account on my phone, and communication should be similarly as prompt.

Update as of January 30, 2022: Oakdale Grove's **Facebook** page has created a public [event listing](#) for the weekend. It is still only a draft and will be updated and refined as the event approaches, but feel free to select *Interested* or *Going* if you want to keep tabs on the updates and not miss out.

Update as of March 15, 2022: Oakdale Grove's **website** has an [event page](#) with more details for the 60th Anniversary Gathering.

Envoys & Delegations Attending From the Following Fellowships:

- Carleton College Grove
- Oakdale Grove
- Monument Grove
- Tucson Protogrove
- Poison Oak Grove
- Koad Grove
- Wild Onion Grove (ADF)/Berkeley Grove
- *[Your Grove/Protogrove name here!]*



Lodging Information

Prices for lodging in Northfield have gone up, sorted nearest to farthest from Carleton College:

- [Fairfield Inn & Suites](#) ≈ \$354/night and up (has pool) **almost booked full**
- [Country Inn & Suites](#) ≈ \$252/night and up (has pool)
- [Americinn](#) ≈ \$136/night (has pool) **BOOKED FULL**
- [Coratel Inn & Suites](#) \$130/night (no pool)

Blogs & Social Media Links (Real)

Blogs Curated By Druids (accumulative each issue)

- Courtney's blog [Corey Adventures](#)
- Ellen Evert Hopman's blog [A Druid's Blog](#)
- John the Verbose's [Tumblr](#)
- TheMageiboLine's [Tumblr](#)

Social Media

- C.O.R.D. Biweekly's [Facebook page](#)
- "Official" Reformed Druids of North America (RDNA) [Facebook group](#)
- [*Editor's note: if you request to join there are four vetting questions. Please answer all four; they're really easy.*]
- New Reformed Druids of North America (NRDNA) [Facebook group](#)
- Ron Stonemage's [Instagram](#)
- Oakdale Grove's [Twitter](#)
- Oakdale Grove's [Facebook page](#)
- Oakdale Grove's RDNA Druid Training Program Development [Facebook page](#)
- Tribe of the Oak Celtic Reconstructionist (non-RDNA) Druid Grove [website](#)
- White Rabbit Grove's [Facebook page](#)

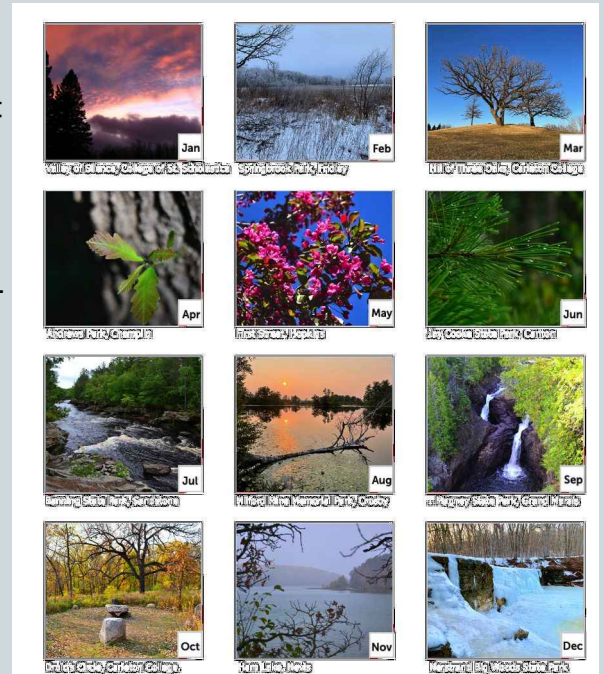
Artisan Promo Page (Real)

Overview

Each article of *C.O.R.D.* will contain up to two pages of featured artists, craftspersons, or small online storefronts that may be of interest to the druid community in some way. There is no cost involved; anyone can request that their content be promoted here on a first-come-first-served basis.

[2023 Minnesota Nature Calendar](#)

This is a specialty calendar for 2023 with moonrise & moonset times for the Twin Cities, Minnesota geographic region. If you live beyond the Twin Cities but you still want the calendar, just ignore the rising & setting times, and the rest of the calendar does its job just fine. The photography is by John the Verbose.



[Hazel Oak and Yew Handcrafted Spiritual Goods](#)

Hello and welcome to Hazel Oak and Yew, my space to share my love of witchcraft and my pagan practice with you all. Here I share my handcrafted goods for practicing along with sets of things for you to learn to practice on your own, in your own way. This Etsy shop offers altar supplies, handmade décor, divination tools, and grimoire materials. Custom orders are available!



Ron Stonemage's [wire art and wrapped stones](#)

I think we originally discovered each other's Tumblr blogs about a year and a half ago. Not only is the wearable artwork intricate and beautiful, but Ron often has a lot of thought provoking

20 [Back to Contents](#)



Reannag Teine Pottery

Historically Inspired Pottery: Islamic, Greek, or Italian Renaissance... skulls, squashed fairies, or Viking kitties, we are devoted to creating unique pieces of historically inspired ceramic art--a touch of the unique you can use all the time. Hand-thrown and hand-painted yet safe for food, dishwasher, microwave, and oven. Reannag Teine, Gaelic for “star fire,” is a mother-daughter team with six degrees and a myriad of art awards between them... and a healthy amount of humor to bring it all together. Find us on Facebook, YouTube, Twitch, Instagram—and of course at www.ReannagTeine.com!



Book Reviews for Works by Author Ellen Evert Hopman

Once Around the Sun at [The Hearth & Hedge](#) and at [Pagan Pages](#)

Priestess of the Forest at [Portland Jones](#)

Reformed Druid Resources (Real)

Overview

The Reformed Druids of North America is probably one of the few major druid orders that provides all resources for learning about our style of druidism at no cost. We might not have all the answers, and unfortunately we don't have a mentorship or official training program (yet), however there is something major in the works on an unofficial capacity. For now, here is a list of resources we *do* have.

Grove Finder

Everyone wants to know: is there an RDNA or NRDNA Grove in _____? Well, the most current source of truth is the [Grove Listings](#) on Oakdale Grove's website. It's been updated *en masse* in January 2019 & 2020, but it can be updated any time on an ad-hoc basis. It tracks Reformed Druid, New Reformed Druid, and Reformed Druidic Wicca (MOCC) Groves & Protogroves.

RDNA Year Conversion Chart & Calendar

The RDNA Calendar began at Year of the Reform 1 on Beltane (May 1) 1963. It's unapologetically half a year off from the Celtic New Year. As of Beltane 2021, the 59th Year of the Reform (Y.R.) began.

- [RDNA Gregorian/Year of the Reform Conversion spreadsheet](#) can be a helpful tool.
- [RDNA calendar \(FREE PDF\)](#) current through April 30, 2024 can help you learn what day of the four seasons it is, because you'll see the RDNA calendar system is all over this publication.

Oakdale Grove's RDNA Druid Training Program

This is a work in progress. So far the draft is 114 pages long, and I'm only half way into adding the *basic* content I want to put in it. I am not an educator, so I'm concerned about its flow and efficacy. If anyone wants to help develop it with me, I would greatly appreciate the assistance.

Books From the Reformed Druids of North America

- [A Reformed Druid Anthology](#), 2nd ed (also known as ARDA-2) – this is a monumental collection (almost a thousand pages long), and it comes in various forms and formats due to its sheer size. **The PDF versions are always FREE**, but hardcover prints are available from Lulu Print-On-Demand.
 - [ARDA-2](#) complete (**FREE PDF**) (Volumes 0-10, excluding vol 6)
 - [ARDA-2](#) complete ePub format from Lulu (99¢)
 - [ARDA-2 Volumes 0, 1, & 2](#) in one tome (hardcover purchase from Lulu)
 - [ARDA-2 Volume 3](#) in one tome (hardcover purchase from Lulu)
 - [ARDA-2 Volumes 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, & 10](#) in one tome (hardcover purchase from Lulu)
 - [ARDA-2 Volume 6: Green Books of Meditation \(FREE PDF\)](#) – this alone is almost a thousand pages long and intentionally set apart from the other volumes. The Green Books are only available in PDF and contain inspirational writings from all religions.

ARDA Derivative, Condensed, or Adapted Works

- [Unofficial Welcome Pamphlet \(FREE PDF\)](#) is the original 22 pages of the main written works plus introductory info on the RDNA and how to start your own protogrove
- [Black Book of Liturgy \(FREE PDF\)](#) is Oakdale Grove's recommended readings from [ARDA-2](#) plus many scripts of RDNA ritual variations and rites of passage)
 - [Black Book of Liturgy](#) (hardcover purchase from Lulu)

Top recommended books by authors in other druid orders

- [The Druidry Handbook: Spiritual Practice Rooted in the Living Earth](#) by John Michael Greer (Ancient Order of Druids in America – AODA)
- [The Rebirth of Druidry](#) by Philip Carr-Gomm (Order of Bards, Ovates, & Druids – OBOD)
- [A Legacy of Druids: Conversations With Druid Leaders Of Britain, The USA And Canada, Past And Present](#) by Ellen Evert Hopman (Tribe of the Oak)

Books on ancient druids (scholarly quality)

- [Druids: A Very Short Introduction](#) by Barry Cunliffe
- [The Druids](#) by Stuart Piggott
- [The Druids](#) by Peter Berresford Ellis
- [The World of the Druids](#) by Miranda J. Green

Books to Avoid

- [The 21 Lessons of Merlyn: A Study in Druid Magic and Lore](#) by Douglas Monroe (fraudulent sources, numerous inaccuracies passed off as historical facts, and other junk wrapped in a shiny literary bowtie)
- Just everything from Douglas Monroe, really.

Newsletter Info (Real)

About *C.O.R.D.*

Connexus of Reformed Druids – C.O.R.D. Biquarterly is a free and publicly available newsletter for the Reformed Druids of North America, its branches, and for anyone else who might be interested. It follows in the footsteps of prior publications such as *A Druid Missal-Any* and *Druid Inquirer*. *Connexus* is an homage to the late Emmon Bodfish, who petitioned the Council of Dalon Ap Landu to update RDNA liturgical nomenclature to make it less churchlike and more unique. *Connexus* is Latin for *connection* (not exactly druidic, but I'm not complaining). Emmon's petition never gained traction (plus the Council had lost its ability to gain a voting quorum and it had no chairperson at the time) but it seemed fitting to adopt this word for a publication that connects druids around the world.

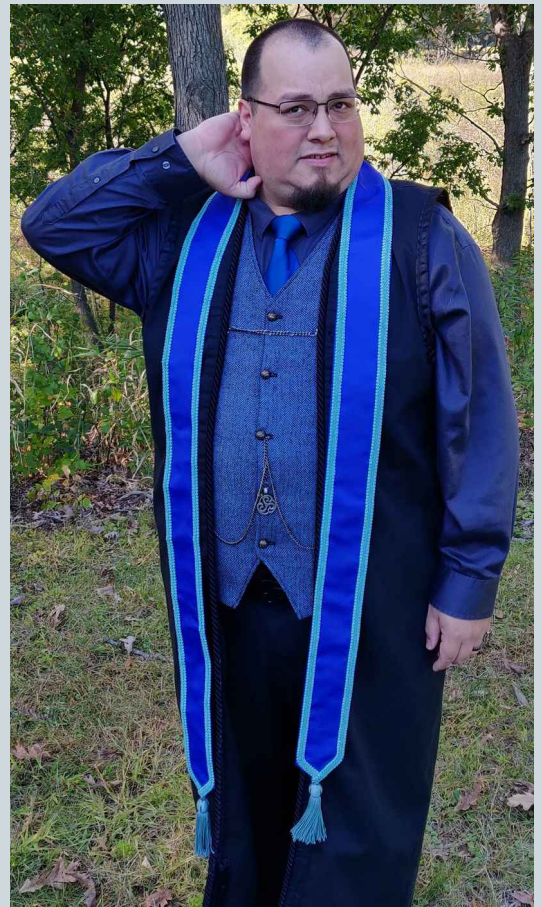
Past Articles

[Click here](#) to access all prior *C.O.R.D. Biquarterly* articles and the content contribution forms.

Meet the Editor

Greetings! I'm John "The Verbose." I've practiced generic forms of druidry since I spent a semester in Ireland in 2004. I began interacting with the RDNA in 2011, and in 2013 I was ordained as a priest of Dalon Ap Landu and formed Oakdale Grove in Minnesota with 5 other grovemates. In 2015 I had the rare opportunity to become a priest of Belenos and in 2017 the even rarer honor of becoming a priest of Sirona, as well as the new curator of her Order. In January 2020 I began work on developing an RDNA style druid training program, and as of now that is still a work in progress.

I am absolutely committed to my oath of Service and wish to help others explore Reformed Druidry by a diverse array of means. That includes assembling and issuing these newsletters. Anything in this publication that doesn't have an attribution and is written in the first person is pretty much me sharing my opinions and experiences. That's where your help and contributions are so helpful; we have a newsletter with crowd-sourced content to appeal to a broader druidic audience. I sincerely hope you find this periodical to be a worthwhile investment of your time. I always welcome constructive criticism and suggestions or other feedback.



Peace, peace, peace! ☸

Contribute Content to the Next Issue! (Real)

Submission Process

Issues will be released within a day or two of the RDNA Wheel of the Year high days. That's more or less the deadline if you wanted to submit any content for the forthcoming article. Anything received a bit late might end up on the draft of the next article thereafter.

Gmail Users Can Use Our Full-Feature Google Form to Contribute!

We have a [convenient form](#) that allows Gmail users to enter text-based contribs as well as attach files or photos! A Google account is only required for sending attachments through the form.

Non-Gmail Users Have Two Ways to Contribute

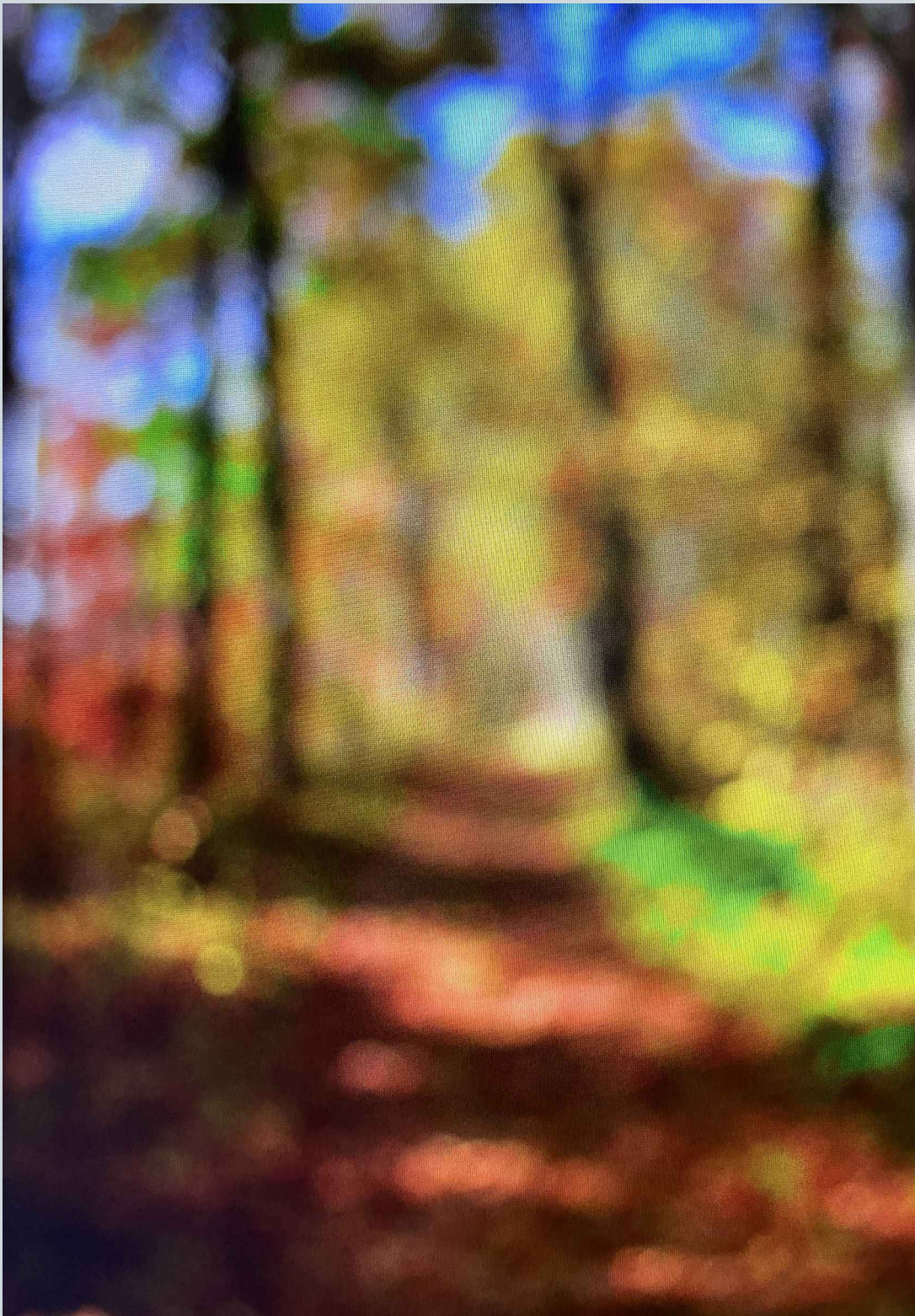
There is a [lite version of the same form](#) for those who don't have a Gmail account, which allows anyone to submit text-based contributions only.

What Does C.O.R.D. Look For? Content that is PG-13 or tamer in the following categories:

- News of Reformed Druidry Groves, Protogroves, & Solo Druids
- Poetry and Short Stories
- Druidic projects, tutorials, arts, crafts you are making
- Personal milestones, editorials, druidic book or product reviews, critiques
- Seeker Bulletins like "Solo druid looking for other druids in _____"
- Your own photography
- Links to videos of druidic interest (need not be your own) or druidry-related memes
- Links to your druid blogs or social media
- Divinations and their summaries
- Events you're willing to announce publicly
- Do you have a druid-oriented Etsy shop or similar online store? One page of the newsletter will be reserved for artisan promo space
- Propose a topic; you can help make this newsletter be a success!

Thank You!

A very special *thank you* photograph dedicated to everyone who contributed to this article!



DESCRIPTION.