

D.I.S.C.Φ.R.D.

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Daringly Irreverent Satirical Connexus Of Reformed Druids

A publication for the Reformed Druids of North America – RDNA
Leaf: Dining Room Table – *Mensa prandium*

Mufydnfud!



Photo: A sugar maple tree named Sappy Fred (tree 81) at Eastman Nature Center, Maple Grove, Minnesota. Each year volunteer professional sappers helping with sap collection get to name the trees they tend to.

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What the Heck is Mwfydnfud?

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 of 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 non-Masonic *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.

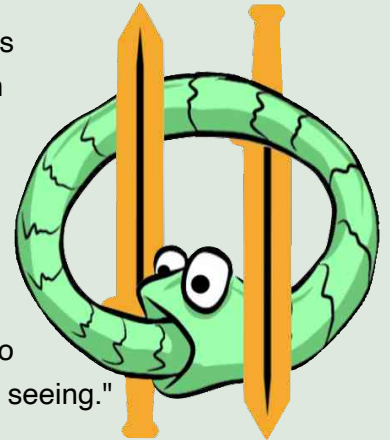
So what *is* Mwfydnfud? An ancient Welsh festival? Hardly, but it does look vaguely Welsh. It's an acronym in the RDNA that stands for *Mess With Forces You Do Not Fully Understand Day*. It was created by the Druids of Carleton Grove and wasn't identified for a specific date other than being in the spring, 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 whimsy!

In this informal issue of *C.O.R.D. Biquarterly*, you will find articles loaded with nonsense, satire, irreverence, and other absurd or off the wall multimedia content. In the Table of Contents or throughout the issue, you might have noticed that there are some section headers that end in "(Real)" which is an indicator that the entire contents of those sections are sincere, and not part of the satire.

News of the Groves

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

Greetings from the Druids of the College of Saint Guinefort! Our cheese mine is continuously growing new cheese as those *Lactesi* bacteria and natural casein compounds and amino acids percolate down through the calcium-rich bedrock here. Though something odd happened last year: the American Dairy Association actually sent us a preemptive Cease & Desist letter warning us not to try to sell the cheese. We didn't even have plans to sell it, because it's not the greatest cheese to begin with. It probably wouldn't be FDA approved either because it low-key causes hallucinations. We *give* it away to anyone who asks for some, but they usually don't ask for it twice unless they're going "sight seeing."



We continue to await a wandering Third Order Druid to be able to travel to us and help us upgrade our Protogrove to a formal RDNA Grove. To our knowledge, the closest one is [Jack Pine Grove](#) at Ypsilanti University. Sadly, their current Arch-Druid there doesn't have a car, and we're fairly remote up here, nestled in the Porcupine Mountains.

We also reached out to Oakdale Grove of the N.U.R.S.E.D.N.A. and they said they are sending a Third Order envoy to us at Lughnasadh. My main concern is that I graduate next month, so soon I'll be moving back home to "*la terre sans druides*" (Louisiana). I do have a sweet career lined up back home that starts July 1 as a project manager for an alternative energy company. I can't work remotely until my 90 day probationary period lapses, but I'm willing to let all that go if I stay at Guinefort through Lughnasadh and get ordained by Arch-Druid Anita from Oakdale Grove. My Provisional Preceptor will hopefully be living on campus for the summer and can get ordained as well so that *Serpent Grove* could then pass that tradition down to future generations.

I'm just a little apprehensive about the expectations over Reformed denominations. Like, is Oakdale Grove gonna expect us to convert to *New Ultra Reformed Schismatic Elitist Druids of the Next Aeon* like them? Or would we be able to retain our basic RDNA affiliation? I know you can't take anything away from the Third Order process, but that offshoots can add requirements... I'm confident that we can complete any initiation requirements that the N.U.R.S.E.D.N.A. has in store for us, and I know they will hold their candidates to a high standard. We're gonna give them breakfast pasties and a few pounds of cheese from our mine (see last year's update for those lovely deets). Anyway, I'm super excited about it, so I'm sure it'll be fine to put my career plans on hold. Advancing the Reformed Druid movement is vastly more important anyway. Regards from da U.P.!

News from Oakdale Grove, NURSEDNA (Minnesota)



'Sup, betches! Anita Oaktree here, reporting in from our literal underground lair in Saint Paul. I gotta admit, carving out these sandstone caverns under the city was a real engineering nightmare. We're kinda done. With the caves, that is. The humidity down here is nearly 100% year round, and the temperature is always in the 50s. Condensation beads up on everything, and the sand is so fine, that the double whammy wreaks havoc on electronics and anything with moving parts. Our Druidic book collection gets mold on the outside so dang fast in these caves, it's disgusting.

The next thought is to hire out contractors to install an air exchange system with industrial dehumidifiers. That, and we gotta spray a lime plaster on the bare sandstone and tile our floors to eliminate the loose sand. We're seriously considering using our crude oil dividends to buy up a top floor penthouse or office suite in one of the skyscrapers to adopt as our temple. It's also gonna need a rooftop forest, so that kinda limits our real estate options, but I'm sure we can force it to work. Money talks, amirite? At the very least it would be good to have multiple lairs.

We already have a mega yacht; that's our newest Druidic acquisition. It's a seized Russian oligarch's luxury displacement cruiser that we got at auction for pennies on the dollar. We *Fisherized* it the "Wavesweeper II." We use the onboard pool for ordinations to the Orders of Sirona and Llyr. We painted a giant Druid Sigil on the helipad and have a Grove of potted cypress trees encircling it, and our fire brazier looks great in the center. Unfortunately, a Belorussian KGB operative snuck aboard and stole back the helicopter, also taking the caviar stash, the taxidermy Siberian tiger, and whatever was in the safe behind the Salvador Dali painting in the vodka lounge. We think it was diamonds, because there were a few empty velvet bags on the floor.

Luckily the Faberge egg collection and Alexander Nevsky's sword were left behind in the display cabinet. We use the sword for Oakdale Grove's new knighthood ceremonies. We'd love to get the long range helicopter back because it's hard to get to Saint Petersburg (Florida) where the yacht is moored without it. Sadly, it's not like we can write a nice friendly letter to Viktor Lukashenko asking to have his operative send the chopper back. And the *next* time we hire a random volunteer pilot, they're getting a *background check!*

So, um, hey... like *don't* paste this next bit in the newsletter. I know the Google Forms dump the whole thing into the draft anyway, so have your editor do some flippin' editing this time. I gotta voice my concerns, but there's no need to spread ugly rumors to the whole *Druidiverse* about it. This is about that one protogrove that's a bunch of Yoopers, *Saint Snake Protogrove* or something at a Frenchy sounding Catholic college. EvErYtHiNg about them throws up its own red flag to me.

So the biggest thing that bothers me about that snake protogrove is that they were "accidentally" sacrificing non-vegan gummy worms. To me that's shorthand for "they're sacrificing actual live snakes." They're SO un-Reformed! But the next red flag was that they're not taking Druidism seriously enough. They're playing games hiding chalices as a "quest for the Grail." They need to cut that crap out. There's no room for *fun* in Druidism. Have you even Googled that college's saint? I'm like: *damn, they're a cult!*

One of the other big things that bothers me is that they're doing rituals *underground* in that old mine of theirs. I mean, seriously? I bet they're even *profiting* off of that naturally forming cheese that grows in the mine. Druid Groves are supposed to operate in the red! Who do they think they are? You wanna know what I did? I sent them a fake Cease & Desist letter, complete with faked letterhead from the American Dairy Association. They shouldn't be having any income or profiting off of any commodity, and it's up to me to stop them.

Their Provisional Arch-Druid had the audacity to reach out to us, asking us to send an envoy for helping them turn there mere protogrove into a full RDNA Grove. I told them to talk to someone at Jack Pine Grove; they're at least in the same state. You wanna know what I think? I think Snake Protogrove is asking for us to help them specifically because they secretly want to be a rival N.U.R.S.E.D.N.A. Grove, probably with their own throne as well. They want *all* the power that I wield. There is only one lord of this throne, only one who can bend it to her will. And she does not share power! I refuse! However, I did tell them I would agree to visit them at Lughnasadh. I'm gonna set them up with the cruelest fool's errands as prerequisites to the rites of passage. They think Hell Week at the frat house is bad? They're gonna have to shed blood and tears to get ordained, and it won't be to the N.U.R.S.E.D.N.A., just the RDNA.

But the big "gotcha" is actually gonna be me micromanaging everything for their preparation, and I'm just gonna ghost 'em. I'm not even gonna drive one mile towards the College of Saint Gullible. I bet in their corruption that they've become just a bunch of disingenuous entitled brats. They seem nice, but I bet they're so un-Reformed that I simply must gatekeep them *out* of the RDNA. Their protogrove founder graduates this year. I'm hoping that by next fall, there won't be anyone to carry their torch of pompous selfishness and lust for power. And I hope their cheese mine gets damp and moldy! I will not be unseated! Again, please don't put these last few paragraphs in the newsletter. I really just needed to vent about those amateurs in Python Protogrove or whatever they call it.

Sincerely,
Anita Oaktree,
HM/HRH, ODAL, Gr., Br., Be., Si., KMFDM, Ta., Lr., Dn., Brt., Mor., Ep., Esquire
Adr. Oakdale Grove, N.U.R.S.E.D.N.A
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Campfire Colloquy

Overview

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

The Season of Life in the RDNA Should Begin at Oimelc

By John the Verbose

Is this an excuse to drink whiskey in the winter? Kinda sorta. Carleton College, the founding location of Reformed Druidism, developed the custom of the Waters-of-Life for the warm 6 months of the year and the Waters-of-Sleep for the colder 6 months of the year as more or less an inadvertent tradition. Being a prestigious college, Carleton draws in some of the brightest and most creative students from far and wide. This means that many of the students inevitably come from places with a much warmer climate than Minnesota.

In popular culture, Halloween is depicted as being around peak fall color season when it's crisp jacket weather. Meanwhile in Minnesota, the tide of Samhain is when fall color season has almost always completely passed, sometimes already snowy, and almost always frigid. I imagine many Druids from the first year of the Reform were from warmer places. Norman Nelson was from South Dakota, and was probably fine with a chilly Samhain. Just about everyone else thought having a Samhain ritual in the Arboretum was a little too extreme, given Minnesota's seemingly arctic climate at that time of year.

Instead, the Druids would hold services on campus-proper, meaning they would have to obey the *Dry Campus* rule that prohibited alcohol. Thus, they simply switched to using plain water and called it the Waters-of-Sleep. For the Midwinter Solstice they were most likely off campus for the winter holiday season, and probably did not celebrate anything major until Oimelc. Of course they would have had regular services on Saturdays at noon to fulfill the religious service attendance requirement.

Oimelc is the celebration of the earliest signs of spring. In Ireland the daffodils start sprouting across the landscape and the sheep give birth to the first lambs of spring. Yet in Minnesota, February starts while the Earth-Mother is still in deepening snow, and the temperatures drop below what your kitchen freezer is set to. The state's winter frost depth can reach three to six feet down. It is a desolate place of ice and snow. Uff-da.

Richard Shelton wrote his "Yet Another Service For Oimelc" script with the computer lab in mind for the ritual setting. Usually, Druids do it outdoors, whatever that phrase is intended to mean, but yes there are indeed indoor rituals. Ideally, different Groves and Protogroves in the RDNA should hold

services that make sense in the context of their own climates. They shouldn't feel pressured to celebrate exactly the same way as Iron Age tribes in Ireland. However, some (N?)RDNA Groves have innovated with the *Waters-of-Awakening* during the Season of Sleep in climates where their wintry weather had already ceased for the season. Do they simply rename the spring water, or are they adding a tiny amount of whiskey to "liven" it up? Well I can't remember and I'm not looking it up again right now. Your turn.

What *does* make sense is that the *Waters-of-Sleep* should at least be used at Samhain and on any subsequent services until your region of the Earth-Mother is awakening for the year in earnest. I like the idea of the *Waters-of-Awakening*, whether it's still just spring water or there's just a hint of added spirit. Heck, Bailey's Irish Cream is a liqueur of whiskey and chocolate & vanilla flavored cream, making it a perfect seasonal beverage for use as the *Waters-of-Awakening*! Beltane is still the time when the ratio of whiskey is the highest of the year. No doubt that the ultra-orthodox good-old basic RDNA traditionalists will stick to calling it the *Waters-of-Sleep* from Samhain up to Beltane, and that's always going to be perfectly valid. So what is *your* next reform?

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.

USA: Georgia: Savannah: Hey this is a PSA. There are druids in your area seeking other druids (like, at least three, and I don't think it's the same person), we just don't have names or contact info. I can't even remember where I've been seeing references to this (Probably somewhere on Discord), but hey, reach out to us if you wanna put in a bulletin here. Contact the newsletter editor!

Videos of Interest

American Woodcocks Demonstrating Some Dance Moves



Woodcock Dancing to Electronica



Reformed Druids in 1964. It was a simpler time.



Augur's Intuition

Overview

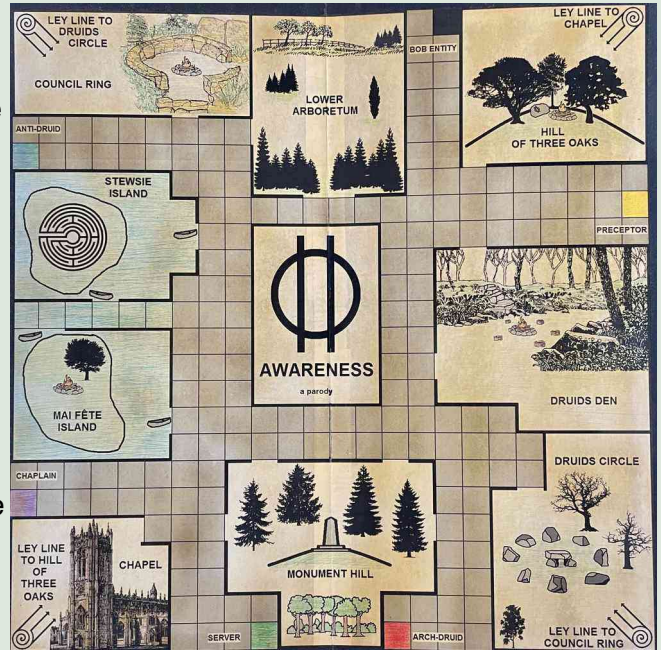
Reader-submitted divinations, premonitions, soothsaying, prophecies, omens, etc.

Submission by John the Verbose

Methodology: Awareness (the board game that parodies Clue)

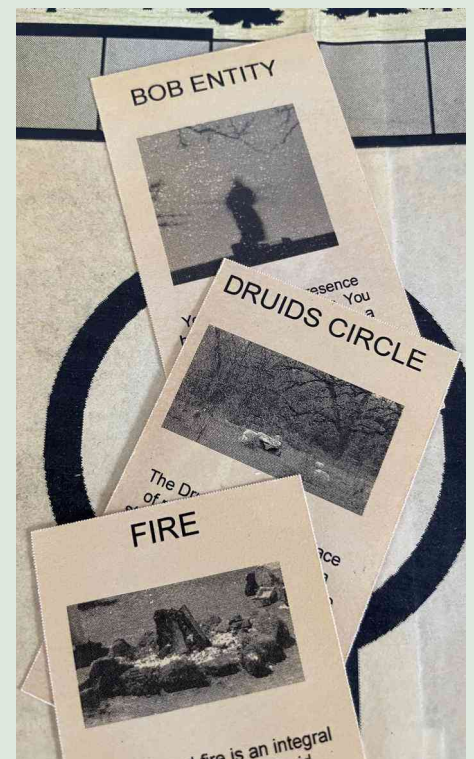
About this method

You've played Clue, yes? Or at least know what the game is? John the Verbose created "Awareness" as a nonviolent parody of Clue wherein – instead of a murder mystery of whodunnit, where, and with what – rumors sprout of someone on the campus of Carleton College who meditated somewhere with a sacred object, and claimed to discover the "ultimate spiritual truth." This of course also pokes fun at Reformed Druidism, as the RDNA cautions against people who make such claims. The players' objectives are to determine who declared the ultimate truth, where on the campus, and with what. I drew three cards from the parody's deck to interpret the omen on this auspicious day.



Cards drawn

- **The BOB Entity** – You are an eerie presence haunting the arboretum. You are energetically bound to a cursed Black Obsidian Ball (BOB) buried somewhere in the arboretum decades ago. You like to rise from the soil to chase joggers.
- **The Druids' Circle** – The Druids Circle is a place of power. The stones tell a story. Four of the stones were once part of an older stone circle that existed where the Recreation Center now stands. Is this circle a gateway to the otherworld? There is more here than meets the eye.
- **Fire** – The Sacred fire is an integral part of Reformed Druid rituals, when it is safe or allowed. Sacrifices are burned in the flames, and the fire is used for meditations and scrying. There's an entire book in ARDA called The Book of Fire, and countless other references. "Fire is a good servant, but a bad master."



Interpretation

- The BOB Entity discovered the ultimate religious truth in the Druids' Circle while meditating into a fire. Fires aren't allowed in the Druids' Circle anymore. What are you, some kind of rule breaker? Oh, you thought this would be some sort of *divination*? Ha! Here, have the rest of this page, blank!

The "Carletongny" Calendar (Real)

Overview

Did you know Reformed Druidism has its own calendar system? There are different ways of calculating RDNA time, but here is the method that this newsletter uses. Carleton Grove called 1963 the *First Year of the Reform* (Y.R.) which for them began at Beltane. They had no year zero. That's why 2023 was Y.R. 61 at Beltane for the 60th anniversary, not year 60. Beltane (May 1) is when **summer** begins, or **Samradh** (SAU-rah) which lasts 92 days. Lughnasadh (August 1) is when **autumn** begins, or **Foghamhar** (FOE-war), lasting 92 days. Samhain (November 1) is when **winter** begins, or **Geimredh** (GEV-rah), lasting 92 days. Oimelc (February 1) is when **spring** begins, or **Earrach** (ARE-rock), lasting 89-90 days. The term "Carletongny" Calendar is merely a play on words from the *Coligny* Calendar, an archaeological discovery of a fragmented Celtic calendar.

C.E. (Beltane)	Y.R.	C.E. (Beltane)	Y.R.	C.E. (Beltane)	Y.R.	C.E. (Beltane)	Y.R.
1963	1	1993	31	2023	61	2053	91
1964	2	1994	32	2024	62	2054	92
1965	3	1995	33	2025	63	2055	93
1966	4	1996	34	2026	64	2056	94
1967	5	1997	35	2027	65	2057	95
1968	6	1998	36	2028	66	2058	96
1969	7	1999	37	2029	67	2059	97
1970	8	2000	38	2030	68	2060	98
1971	9	2001	39	2031	69	2061	99
1972	10	2002	40	2032	70	2062	100
1973	11	2003	41	2033	71	2063	101
1974	12	2004	42	2034	72	2064	102
1975	13	2005	43	2035	73	2065	103
1976	14	2006	44	2036	74	2066	104
1977	15	2007	45	2037	75	2067	105
1978	16	2008	46	2038	76	2068	106
1979	17	2009	47	2039	77	2069	107
1980	18	2010	48	2040	78	2070	108
1981	19	2011	49	2041	79	2071	109
1982	20	2012	50	2042	80	2072	110
1983	21	2013	51	2043	81	2073	111
1984	22	2014	52	2044	82	2074	112
1985	23	2015	53	2045	83	2075	113
1986	24	2016	54	2046	84	2076	114
1987	25	2017	55	2047	85	2077	115
1988	26	2018	56	2048	86	2078	116
1989	27	2019	57	2049	87	2079	117
1990	28	2020	58	2050	88	2080	118
1991	29	2021	59	2051	89	2081	119
1992	30	2022	60	2052	90	2082	120

Foghamhar Y.R. 61 Date Conversion Chart

Earrach	Spring	Earrach	Spring
1	Thu, Feb 1, 2024	46	Sun, Mar 17, 2024
2	Fri, Feb 2, 2024	47	Mon, Mar 18, 2024
3	Sat, Feb 3, 2024	48	Tue, Mar 19, 2024
4	Sun, Feb 4, 2024	49	Wed, Mar 20, 2024
5	Mon, Feb 5, 2024	50	Thu, Mar 21, 2024
6	Tue, Feb 6, 2024	51	Fri, Mar 22, 2024
7	Wed, Feb 7, 2024	52	Sat, Mar 23, 2024
8	Thu, Feb 8, 2024	53	Sun, Mar 24, 2024
9	Fri, Feb 9, 2024	54	Mon, Mar 25, 2024
10	Sat, Feb 10, 2024	55	Tue, Mar 26, 2024
11	Sun, Feb 11, 2024	56	Wed, Mar 27, 2024
12	Mon, Feb 12, 2024	57	Thu, Mar 28, 2024
13	Tue, Feb 13, 2024	58	Fri, Mar 29, 2024
14	Wed, Feb 14, 2024	59	Sat, Mar 30, 2024
15	Thu, Feb 15, 2024	60	Sun, Mar 31, 2024
16	Fri, Feb 16, 2024	61	Mon, Apr 1, 2024
17	Sat, Feb 17, 2024	62	Tue, Apr 2, 2024
18	Sun, Feb 18, 2024	63	Wed, Apr 3, 2024
19	Mon, Feb 19, 2024	64	Thu, Apr 4, 2024
20	Tue, Feb 20, 2024	65	Fri, Apr 5, 2024
21	Wed, Feb 21, 2024	66	Sat, Apr 6, 2024
22	Thu, Feb 22, 2024	67	Sun, Apr 7, 2024
23	Fri, Feb 23, 2024	68	Mon, Apr 8, 2024
24	Sat, Feb 24, 2024	69	Tue, Apr 9, 2024
25	Sun, Feb 25, 2024	70	Wed, Apr 10, 2024
26	Mon, Feb 26, 2024	71	Thu, Apr 11, 2024
27	Tue, Feb 27, 2024	72	Fri, Apr 12, 2024
28	Wed, Feb 28, 2024	73	Sat, Apr 13, 2024
29	Thu, Feb 29, 2024	74	Sun, Apr 14, 2024
30	Fri, Mar 1, 2024	75	Mon, Apr 15, 2024
31	Sat, Mar 2, 2024	76	Tue, Apr 16, 2024
32	Sun, Mar 3, 2024	77	Wed, Apr 17, 2024
33	Mon, Mar 4, 2024	78	Thu, Apr 18, 2024
34	Tue, Mar 5, 2024	79	Fri, Apr 19, 2024
35	Wed, Mar 6, 2024	80	Sat, Apr 20, 2024
36	Thu, Mar 7, 2024	81	Sun, Apr 21, 2024
37	Fri, Mar 8, 2024	82	Mon, Apr 22, 2024
38	Sat, Mar 9, 2024	83	Tue, Apr 23, 2024
39	Sun, Mar 10, 2024	84	Wed, Apr 24, 2024
40	Mon, Mar 11, 2024	85	Thu, Apr 25, 2024
41	Tue, Mar 12, 2024	86	Fri, Apr 26, 2024
42	Wed, Mar 13, 2024	87	Sat, Apr 27, 2024
43	Thu, Mar 14, 2024	88	Sun, Apr 28, 2024
44	Fri, Mar 15, 2024	89	Mon, Apr 29, 2024
45	Sat, Mar 16, 2024	90	Tue, Apr 30, 2024

Blogs & Social Media Links (Real)

Blogs Curated By Druids (accumulative each issue)

- *I Talk To The Trees*'s blog [Corey Adventures](#)
- Ellen Evert Hopman's blog [A Druid's Blog](#)
- John the Verbose's [Tumblr](#)
- TheMageiboLine's [Tumblr](#)
- Druid Dad's blog [A Modern Druid Journey](#)

Social Media

- C.O.R.D. Biquarterly'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](#)
- Oakdale Grove's [Instagram](#)
- [Druid Dad Discord Server](#)

Other Media

- Podcast: [Druid Dad Podcast](#)

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.

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 questions that really invoke critical thinking in my responses that keeps me on my toes!



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)

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! ☸

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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!



Sugar maple "Sappy Fred" with pee bucket, Eastman Nature Center, Maple Grove, Minnesota