

# C.Φ.R.D. Biquarterly

## Connexus Of Reformed Druids

A publication for the Reformed Druids of North America – RDNA

*Beltane*

*Happy RDNA New Year!*

May 1, 2025  
1 Samradh, 63 Y.R.  
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Photo: Oakdale Grove's Druid Sigil-inscribed stone, moved from our oak grove to the paved trail around 2020 during prairie restoration, probably because it had a mysterious carving on it.

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# News of the Groves

## News from the Carlton College Grove (Minnesota)

Carlton College Grove is very pleased to announce that they have four new Third Order candidates who will be vigiling before the Arch-Druid graduates this spring. One of the aspiring Third Orders will become the new Arch-Druid of Carleton Grove and the Chair of the Council of Dalon Ap Landu. The other three are seniors this year, and will be taking Dalon Ap Landu with them to do their next works in Druidism. We wish Austin and the three graduating candidates the best of luck in their future endeavors and look forward to working with the new Arch-Druid!

## News from the Clan of the Spouting Orca Protogrove (British Columbia)

NEW RDNA PROTOGROVE! As Beltane happens in the Northern Hemisphere, the oaks begin to leaf out. And so too does the RDNA. A warm welcome to the Clan of the Spouting Orca Protogrove and its seven members!

## News from Oakdale Grove (Minnesota)

In April, we held a Grove "staff meeting" as our casual hangout. The weather was pleasant enough to sit outside by a bonfire with s'mores and coffee for two hours while we worked on whittling and carving our hiking staves. We had seven attendees where we conversed on philosophy, theology, politics, and of course Druidry.



On Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, we celebrated Beltane and had three new First Orders join the RDNA during the ceremony. Nine Druids were in attendance under warm sunny skies, perfect for a Beltane ritual! Of note, the Waters-of-Life flowed stronger than usual and a south wind omen gave us the sign that our sacrifices were accepted.

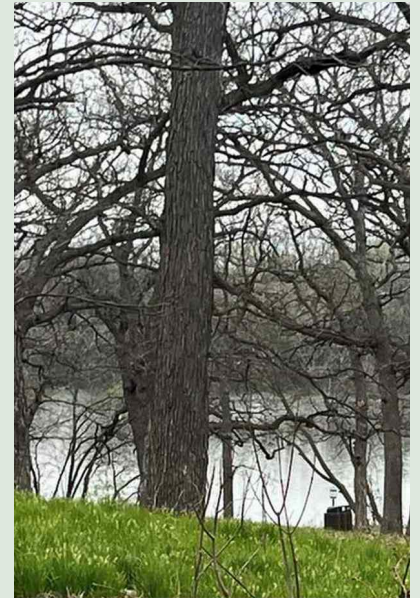
Join us on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM as we make a sacred pilgrimage to Maka Yusota (Boiling Springs) at 12788 Independence Ave in Savage, Minnesota. Maka Yusota is one of the sacred sites of the Dakota people. The Dakota people have an oral tradition that the springs are an oracle. Another oral tradition states that Unktehi, a legendary horned serpent, resides in the waters.



## Bardic Column

### **Reflections on Beltane by Johano Sycamore Bear**

*The veil grows thin, the fires rise high,  
As Beltane dances 'neath the sky.  
In fields where blossoms dare to glow,  
The seeds of passion start to grow.  
Green leaves awaken in the glade,  
With whispered songs the woods are swayed.  
The May Queen walks with flowered crown,  
The Horned God smiles, the sun shines down.  
Twin flames leap toward starlit air,  
A sacred path for hearts laid bare.  
Handfasted souls in circles spin,  
As drums beat wild from deep within.  
The hawthorn blooms, its scent so sweet,  
Where lovers in the twilight meet.  
They light the fire, they speak the name—  
The turning year, the Beltane flame.  
So raise your voice and dance the day,  
Let laughter drive the dark away.  
For life is crowned in green and gold,  
As Beltane's mystery unfolds.*



Silverwood Park by *I Talk To The Trees*

# Campfire Colloquy

## Overview

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

## A Slice of Nature... for your everyday

*Oriana – Sunset Grove, California – May 2025*

As Druids we are all pretty tuned into nature. It's 'who we are'.

After all – NATURE IS GOOD.

That said, outside of our druidic pursuits, life happens. Commuting to work, working in an office building/inside our homes etc, and it often happens that adding a slice of nature to everyday can sometimes be slightly outside of our reach.

My contribution to the newsletter this year will be to write a short piece with each edition on ideas on how to incorporate 'A Slice of Nature' into your every day.

## **BELTANE**

Beltane is HERE! And it brings with it the season of light! I wish you peace and prosperity in this season of light! A few ideas for taking advantage of these extra light hours outdoors this May below!

## **Dinner Al Fresco**

Set up a pretty table in your outside space, or find a picnic table in your favorite park!

And enjoy the extended evenings golden hours out of doors! Even if you aren't up for an all nighter around the bonfire, this is a great way to celebrate the season of light and welcome back those long warm evenings!

## **Artichoke Heart and Fontina Pizza**

Celebrate the season with the fruits of the season! (err Flowers of the season!) Make a flower and cheese pizza! Artichoke flower to be exact! I have been harvesting Artichokes from my garden daily and recently found this recipe, which is a great one to make personal pizza's (vegetarian even) and take outside for your Al Fresco dinner (If you are lucky enough to have a Pizza oven outside – even better)! I have been marinating my own artichoke hearts – (I'm extra) but please feel free to use previously marinated ones as well for the below recipe from Food and Wine!



[Artichoke & Fontina Pizzas Recipe – Eugenia Bone](#)

### **Tussy Mussy / Nosegay Gifts**

Go out into nature and collect some wildflowers to make teensy bouquets for giving.

In our family as a child we would make these on May Day, and create a little cone to hang on our grandmother's front door (using a paper doily and a piece of ribbon). Though any paper cone would do! Then we would ring and dash to be anonymous.

A really sweet gesture and a beautiful way to spread the joy of the season with others.



### **Happy RDNA New Year by John the Verbose**

This Beltane marks the 62<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Reformed Druid movement, and starts year 63 in the Year of the Reform (Y.R.). Back in 1963 they started their calendar at Y.R. 1 rather than at zero, though I like to say that the tail end of Y.R. 0 existed briefly, starting around April 1 while they were discussing their future prank. At Beltane the Waters-of-Life flow strongly in celebration of the return of the Season of Life. To a lesser degree, they also flow strong to celebrate the continuation of the tradition.

When the SDNA and NRDNA offshoots of Reformed Druidism emerged, they had previously wanted the RDNA calendar system to be adjusted to align with Samhain of 1962 and the Celtic New Year. By that time, the RDNA calendar system had settled in comfortably, and the Council already had the perception that they were in abeyance. It is unclear if the remaining NRDNA Groves and Protogroves still use their own calendar system or if they reverted to the RDNA's calendar, though there never was really a strong emphasis on strict time reckoning in the Year of the Reform system. Happy New Year!



## **Book Review of Wishtree (2017) by Katherine Applegate, Reviewed by John the Verbose**

Wishtree is a children's fiction novel about an old red oak tree that can talk, but is only allowed to talk to her animal friends. For over two hundred years, people have tied strips of cloth to her branches at Beltane, with a wish attached to every piece of cloth. Wishing trees, prayer trees, medicine trees, cloutie trees – whichever name they go by – are ubiquitous throughout cultures the world around. In this story, the Wishtree is in danger of removal.

The novel is geared toward elementary school age kids. It is large print with short chapters, and has **illustrations on a majority of the pages by Charles Santoso**. The monochrome sketch-style pictures have relatively high detail with careful attention to shading to give a sense of depth. A majority of the illustrations are just branches of the red oak, but each leaf has a sharp level of detail. Although there are a number of human characters in the book, the illustrations are exclusively of the tree, animals, or a few objects.



The plot confronts the issue of Islamophobia after a Muslim family moves into the house with the oak tree in the front yard. Samar is the little girl who lives there now. Being new and being Muslim is difficult for her, and through the story she struggles to make friends. The tree and the neighborhood animals begin working together to help her get to know one of the neighbors.

The old tree is really beginning to outgrow the yard, the sidewalk, and the underground utilities. The landlady then makes the resolve to have the tree cut down after the next Beltane is over. The tree becomes contemplative and stoic, never panicking over its impending fate. The animal friends don't understand how the tree can be so calm about it, especially when a number of the animals live in or on the tree.

It is a really dynamic book; through story telling it teaches a little bit about science and biology, a little bit about philosophy, a little bit about social justice and empathy, and occasionally peppers in wit and humor. The comic relief is well thought out, because there are a few times in the book that even I was moved to tears. Naturally, the stoic tree has a very Reformed Druid perspective, with thoughts echoing the Second Tenet in which Nature is still important despite the struggles we face, even if it is our own mortality.

I think it's a great book for young druidic pre-teens. If the kids' parents can handle the woke likes of The Lorax, then the parents will be just fine with their kids reading Wishtree!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## **Book Review of Celtic Druidry: Rituals, Techniques, & Magical Practices (2024) by Ellen Evert Hopman, Reviewed by John the Verbose**

I've read a few books that are specific to Celtic Druidism, and this is the best one so far. The content begins with an informative Q&A that addresses differences and carryovers between ancient and modern Druids, customs, appearance, accessories, their methods of worship, and more. The book highlights numerous ways that pre-Christian Celtic women and goddesses were strong, influential, capable, and powerful. These details are often omitted from many books on contemporary Druidism, perhaps only being limited to mentions in other books that women in Celtic society were treated as equals to men. Celtic Druidry cites specific examples from mythology, excerpts from Brehon Law, Roman historical accounts, and from archaeological indicators.

The book incorporates historical and archaeological facts as precedent for establishing a modern Celtic Reconstructionist druidic practice. Celtic Druidry and Celtic Reconstructionism are very intersectional topics, and readers interested in either one will find a home for this book on their shelves. Often when people hear 'Celtic' Druidry, they might primarily think of Irish Druidry in particular. While this book in fact leans a bit deeper into the Irish thematics, the book is still very inclusive, incorporating pan-Celtic details on deities and customs, such as Welsh, British, Gaulish, and even Iberian.

I love the insightful table on the divinatory meanings of different birds; the table would be easy to learn and practice ornithomancy with. There's even a whole section on wren divination (personally I still need to learn what a wren *sounds* like; birds aren't necessarily my strong point, but I digress). This book has countless tidbits of advice and examples of ritual methods that should even be recognizable to Celts in the Iron Age.

Many books on Druidry contain a table on the Ogham alphabet, but not all of them come with a pronunciation guide – however, this one does! The herbal magic chapter provides a good high-level overview and tips of general herbal techniques. It states when to use roots, when to use bark, and when to use leaves among other details. Ellen also has more in-depth books dedicated to sacred herbs for those who want to learn more.

While Reformed Druidism is sometimes placed in the domain of non-Celtic Druidry, there are still many members of the movement who count themselves as a Celtic Druid. This book should be recommended for them, or for anyone interested in broader Celtic focuses in their spiritual journey.

★★★★★



**"Hawthorn – the May Day Tree from Ellen Evert Hopman, Archdruid Emerita, Tribe of the Oak**  
Book excerpt from Tree Medicine Tree Magic (Pendraig Publishing) by Ellen Evert Hopman  
[www.elleneverthopman.com](http://www.elleneverthopman.com)

The Latin name for hawthorn is *Crataegus oxyacantha*, which comes to us from the Greek “kratos” (hardness), “oxus” (sharp), and “akantha” (a thorn). “Haw” is an ancient word for hedge, and in Germany and the British Isles this tree was commonly used to separate fields.

Hawthorn bears a special relationship to May Day, the ancient cross quarter day known to the ancients as Beltaine (possible “Fires of Bel” or “Bright Fires”), which is celebrated in honor of the Sun God Belenos. The true date for this festival was reckoned as the first morning that the hawthorn blossoms opened. It is one of the sacred three of British and Celtic antiquity: “Oak, and Ash, and Thorn.” When these trees grow together it is said to be a favorite haunt of the fairies. To this day, in Ireland, it is considered a woeful thing to cut down a “Fairy Tree”.

In ancient Greece and Rome, hawthorn was employed in fertility celebrations and rituals. It was associated with marriage and babies, and was sacred to Hymen, the God of marriage. Bridal attendants wore its blossoms, and brides carried whole branches. Torches used in wedding processions were made of hawthorn. Interestingly, its leaves were placed under the bed or around the bedroom as an aid for preserving chastity. Hawthorn leaves were placed in the cradle as a protective charm after the birth of a child.

Medieval European tradition held that the hawthorn was a favorite tree of witches, and that they could transform themselves into a hawthorn tree at will. When you consider the value of hawthorn as a healing agent, there is probably some truth to that assertion. Many witches were known to be practitioners of “green magic”, or the healing arts, and they could have been seen near these trees when gathering their useful gifts.

Hawthorn is a tree of Mars, and is of the Fire element. It is sacred to Cardea, Flora, Hymen, and Thor, and bestows powers of fertility, chastity, fishing magic and joyful celebration. At Beltaine (May Day), it is customary to decorate the top of a May pole with its boughs. Magical rites of all kinds can be performed under a “thorn.”

Chaste hawthorn will help keep you on track when a period of waiting and inner silence is called for. She will focus your attention until the moment when renewed activity and fertile progress arrives. Carry a piece of “thorn” in a pouch to bring good luck when fishing. Use it as an amulet to ward off depression and restore happiness. Hang hawthorn from a high point of a building to protect it from lightning. Always trim hawthorn hedges from east to west, in a Sun wise direction and never cut a blooming tree (it angers the Fairies).

Elaborate legends surround the hawthorn. One is the story of the ""Glastonbury Thorn"" that used to grow on the island of Avalon in Somerset, England. The reverence in which this tree was held was probably a remnant of the ancient respect given it in pre-Christian times. This regard was carried into the Middle Ages.

The legend of the Glastonbury Thorn speaks of Joseph of Arimathea who brought a staff of hawthorn from Palestine when he travelled to England to proselytize. At that time, Avalon was by the sea, and when Joseph landed at Glastonbury, he thrust his staff into the ground where it miraculously rooted and flowered. He decided to build a church on the site. Eventually, the abbey of Glastonbury was built there and the famous tree was venerated by pilgrims until 1750 when its stump was replaced by a stone marker.

To the ancient Teutons and Scandinavians, hawthorn was sacred to Thor, the storm God. They made funeral pyres of the wood believing that the souls of the dead would escape via the burning thorns and thus ascend to the sky. The sacred hawthorn fire, to these people, was a mirror of the celestial fire, lightning.

A Scottish legend tells of two boys who were plowing a field in which an ancient hawthorn was growing. One of the boys drew a circle around the "Fairy tree", to protect it from the plow. Instantly, a table covered with delicious food appeared in the circle. The lad who had drawn the circle ate the food, but the other refused. He who ate the fairy offerings became wise ever after. In ancient Ireland, the destruction of a hawthorn tree was considered a dangerous thing. Such action could result in the death of one's cattle or children, and the loss of all wellbeing.

Holy thorns grew near sacred wells where pilgrims would tear off bits of their clothing and hang them on the trees (a practice that continues to this day in the "Cloutie Wells" of Scotland, England and Ireland). These bits of clothing might be left as an offering after a cure or they might serve as prayer flags wafting their prayers for health and healing to the breezes. It was hoped that the prayers would go out to the Gods via the medium of the tree and the wind. An interesting side light is that solitary hawthorn trees growing on hills or near sacred wells were considered to be markers that showed an entrance to the world of faery. The prayers were thus being offered to the fairies as well.

### **Druidic Insights**

The Doctrine of Signatures tells us that plants with thorns signify herbs for sharp pain. It should come as no surprise that prickly hawthorn's flowers, young leaves, and berries are excellent heart tonics, especially for the pain of angina. But the heart is not just a physical muscle.

Stand beneath or meditate with a hawthorn to get to the heart of a matter, especially one that is

painful. Hawthorn will also help you penetrate to the heart of the Earth and the Sidhe (Fairy) Realm.

Hawthorn is the harbinger of summer and the Beltaine (May Day) festival, a rite that honors fecundity and love. Hawthorn branches were once used as decorations at the top of May poles. But strong prohibitions existed to keep the blossoming hawthorn away from the house, because mischievous Fairies might come in with them!

Bards once chanted curses while standing under a hawthorn, to prick and goad their enemies, and to break their hearts.

### **May Brandy**

Ingredients:

- Hawthorn flowers
- Whiskey or Brandy

Method:

1. Fill a jar with hawthorn flowers (be sure not to include the stems)
2. Cover with whiskey or brandy and allow to sit for two to three months
3. Strain and re-bottle

### **Hawthorn Cocktail**

Ingredients:

- 1 bottle white wine
- 1 sprig of lemon thyme
- 1/2 bottle red wine
- 2 sprigs of borage
- 1 orange, sliced
- A handful of hawthorn flowers

Method:

1. Pour the wine into a bowl.
2. Add orange slices, herbs, and flowers.
3. Cover with a cloth and let stand for a day and a half.
4. Strain and shake with ice in a cocktail shaker.
5. Decorate glasses with borage flowers or hawthorn flowers.

Find the book in fine bookstores, at Pendraig Publishing, and in all the other usual places [HERE](#)



# Seeker's Corkboard

## 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.

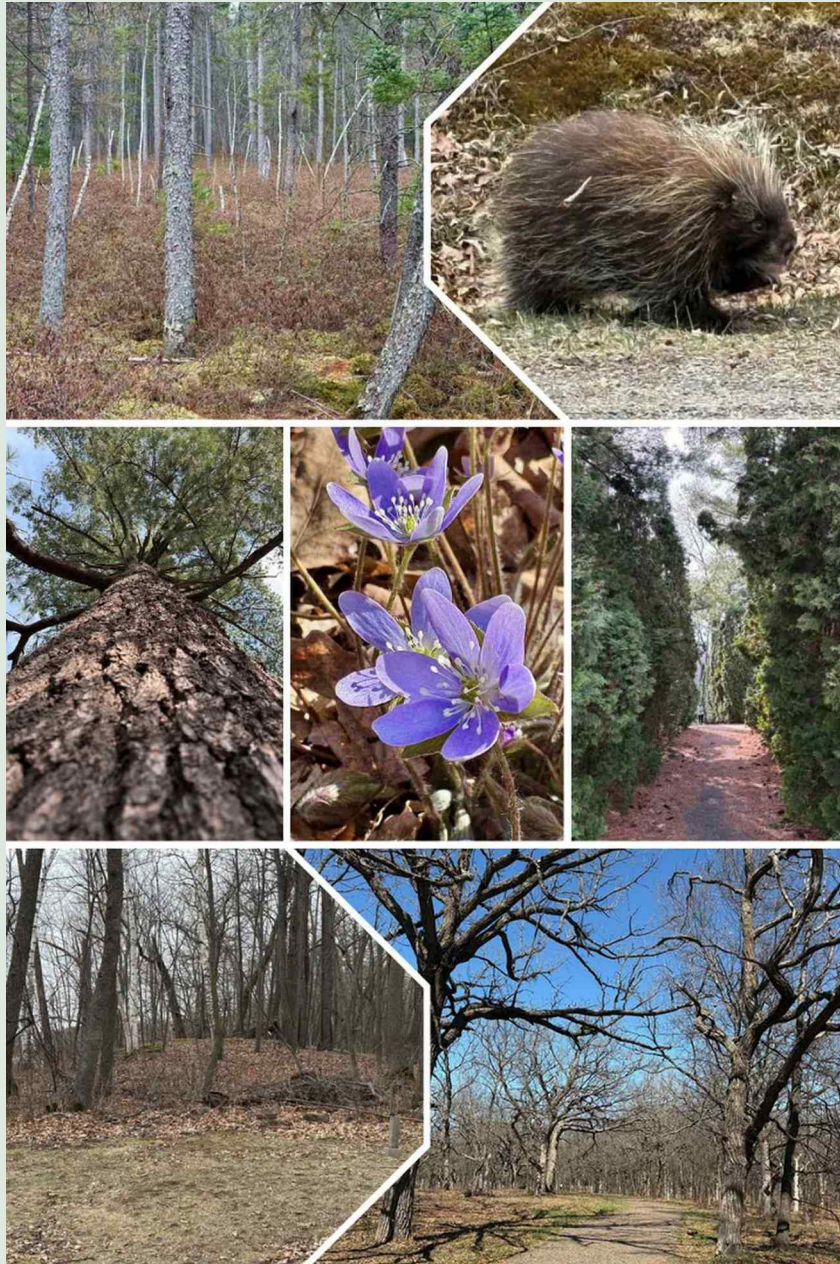
**USA: Georgia: Savannah:** Hey this is a PSA. There are druids in your area seeking other druids (like, at least three, and I don't think it's the same person), we just don't have names or contact info. I can't even remember where I've been seeing references to this (Probably somewhere on Discord),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

**USA: Massachusetts: Central MA:** from Avery Vreeland

Looking for others interested in establishing a RDNA/General Reformed Druidism study group in the central Massachusetts/Wider New England area, with eventual aspirations of forming a Grove. Please reach out to gremilkin&proton/me.

# Vivid Visions Gallery

## Contributions from John the Verbose



1. "Touch the Earth" bog, Kathio Mille Lacs State Park, Onamia, MN
2. Porcupine (goth mouse), Kathio Mille Lacs State Park
3. Old growth white pine, Saint Cloud, MN
4. Round Lobe Hepatica, Eastman Nature Center
5. Towering cedars, Munsinger Gardens, Saint Cloud, MN
6. Indian mound, Kathio Mille Lacs State Park, Onamia, MN
7. Bur oak savanna, Anoka Nature Preserve

## Videos of Interest

**First People In Ireland – Ancient Irish Prehistory Documentary by History Time**



A documentary by Pete Kelly of History Time



# Augur's Intuition

## Overview

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

**Submission by John the Verbose**

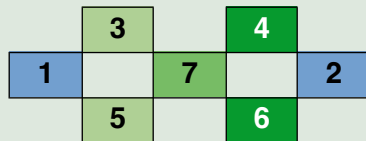
**Methodology: Tarot of Druids**

## About this deck

This isn't your typical Tarot deck, as the major and minor arcana are different, and you need to keep them as separate stacks. Cards 1 & 2 at the left and right are always from the major arcana deck, and the five cards in the middle need to be from the minor arcana deck. Cards on the left of the minor arcana are of lesser influence, the minor on the right have a stronger influence.



## Cards drawn (the Beltane spread)



1. **Mood:** Oisín – Travel and conquests
2. **Your Influences:** Grainne – Solving problems, new ideas

### External Influences:

3. Three of Chalices – New knowledge and learning
4. Six of Mistletoe – Calm and tranquility
5. Eight of Chalices – Shyness, unrequited love
6. Two of Anguinum – Undertakings or correspondence received
7. King of Anguinum – Fulfillment of plans

## Interpretation

As your problem solving skills point you in a new direction, you are able to overcome apprehension in interpersonal situations by merit of the promise of an easy outcome in your favor. Whatever it is, go for it!

# Other Blogs & Social Media Links

## Blogs Curated By Druids (accumulative each issue)

- Jax K's [Tumblr Blog](#)
- *I Talk To The Trees*'s blog [Corey Adventures](#)
- Ellen Evert Hopman's blog [A Druid's Blog](#)
- John the Verbose's [Tumblr](#) (not updated as much, but still a repository of druidic content)
- TheMageiboLine's [Tumblr](#)

## 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 [BlueSky](#)
- Oakdale Grove's [Facebook page](#)
- The *Order of Bradán Feasa* RDNA Druid Training Program [Facebook page](#)
- Tribe of the Oak Celtic Reconstructionist (non-RDNA) Druid Grove [website](#)
- White Rabbit Grove's [Facebook page](#)
- Oakdale Grove's [Instagram](#)
- RDNA on [Discord](#)

# Reformed Druid Resources

## 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, but 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 Listing](#) on Oakdale Grove's website. 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 2024, the 62<sup>nd</sup> Year of the Reform (Y.R.) began on the first day of Samradh, which is one day after the 90<sup>th</sup> day of Earrach. It simply counts the days of each season as well.

- [RDNA Gregorian/Year of the Reform Conversion spreadsheet](#) can be a helpful tool.

## Oakdale Grove's RDNA Druid Training Program

We've created a [free training program](#) for the RDNA, and for those who complete the program, an honor society within the RDNA called the *Order of Bradán Feasa* (pronounced *bra-DON FOSS-ah*), named after the Salmon of Knowledge in Irish mythology.

## Books From the Reformed Druids of North America

- [A Reformed Druid Anthology](#), 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

# Newsletter Info

## 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 it was difficult to communicate with the Council 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 developing the new RDNA style Druid training program, and established an honor society for those who complete it called the Order of Bradán Feasa.

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.



*Photo courtesy  
of I Talk To The Trees.*

Peace, peace, peace! ☸

# Contribute Content to the Next Issue!

## Submission Process

Issues will be released on the day 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
- Propose a topic; you can help make this newsletter be a success!



## The *Thank You* Photo!

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



Two deer among eight, ignoring me from 20 feet away, in front of Oakdale Grove's nemeton.