

# C.Φ.R.D. Biquarterly

## Connexus Of Reformed Druids

An RDNA Publication  
Leaf: White Oak – *Quercus alba*

May 1, 2022  
1 Samradh, 60 Y.R.  
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*Beltane*



Photo: Solstice Meditation Garden, Springbrook Nature Center, Fridley, Minnesota  
The Northern Pin Oak behind the left column has finally dropped its marcescent leaves.

## Contents

Happy RDNA New Year!.....	3
News of the Groves.....	4
RDNA Spiritual Retreat in Wisconsin.....	5
Bardic Column.....	7
Bonfire Banter.....	8
The Seeker's Corkboard.....	10
Vivid Visions Gallery.....	11
Videos of Interest.....	12
The Right Rites For Rampant Ritualists.....	13
Augur's Intuition.....	14
Calendar of Events.....	15
Blogs & Social Media Links.....	16
Artisan Promo Page.....	17
Reformed Druid Resources.....	19
Newsletter Info.....	21
Contribute Content to the Next Issue!.....	22
Thank You!.....	23

Click on a line to jump to that page.

Note: Click-navigation only works if you download the PDF.

## Happy RDNA New Year!

### Welcome to *Year of the Reform 60!*

Happy New Year to the Reformed Druids of North America! It is now 60 Y.R. and the 59<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Order. Reformed Druidism was established on Beltane of 1963, in which they designated it the First Year of the Reform, rather than year zero. Technically there could have been a “year zero” if you take into account the period prior to that Beltane when they were in the pre-planning stages of the protest movement against coerced chapel attendance.



Year Zero was probably the time when David Fisher dubiously claimed he was initiated as a Third Order Druid Priest back in high school. It would also have been around the time that Howard Cherniack indicated that his parents fill out “Druid” in surveys that ask about religion if they didn’t want to indicate they were Jewish. The group of students scoured the library for any books on the druids to learn how to recreate a long-defunct form of spiritual expression. If Fisher *was* a Third Order Druid priest from a fraternal druid organization, he should already have known how to recreate it. He was, however, a member of the Order of DeMolay – essentially Freemasonry for kids, though from thence came some organizational inspiration for rituals and ranks.

The library resources on the ancient druids proved to be rather scant and unreliable. As a nod to the disconnect from the past and dearth of surviving knowledge, they hesitated to call themselves merely *druids*. “Well let’s just say we’re *Reformed* and we can create something new!” Thus the *Reformed Druids of America* was conceived. Ah, but Howard reminded them he was Canadian, thus they were the *Reformed Druids of North America*. They made that name official on Beltane, 59 years ago in 1963 by voting on establishing a Grove Constitution, and thus began Year of the Reform 1.

They first used an inferior type of altar that was a portable record player under a white cloth. Then they built altars of stone. The altars were destroyed twice by the Anti-Druids in the early weeks after Beltane, then the third time the stones were mortared together. A protective curse was placed on the altar, and one of the Anti-Druids sprained his ankle. They wanted to consecrate the altar with a sacrifice of life, and after much disagreement, decided that since they are *Reformed* they shall never sacrifice a living animal. To do so would be unreformed.

On the third Year of the Reform, Mary “Dannie” Hotz was ordained unto the Third Order, and was the first woman to be ordained to the priesthood of any modern druid order, for they were *Reformed*.



## News of the Groves

### News from Oakdale Grove (Minnesota)

Oakdale Grove is up to our ears in planning for the Season of Life! Our fellowship has seen growth in the last year, and I've made a few new vestments including two diagonal shoulder sashes, a whole druid robe, and one of two reversible Third Order ribbons!

We're preparing for our Beltane ritual, which was postponed on account of blustery rainy weather and a threat of thunderstorms. The Facebook event listing for our ritual had been shared widely and 115 people responded as either going or maybe going, which is unprecedented as our events have never had that amount of interest before! The Star Tribune has also informed us that they are sending a photographer to our ritual which I am cautiously optimistic about.

Then the week following is the RDNA "Recharge" Spiritual Retreat which will probably be a bit draining for our two candidates for the Third Order who plan on vigiling on that weekend. After the retreat I am hoping to convene a meeting of Oakdale Grove's council to discuss further developments of our Druid Training Program. We started developing it in 2020 just before the pandemic, and I had hoped to have it completed it by December of that year. Turns out writing an entire training program for druids is hard, especially when in the RDNA you can't make any definitive blanket statements without caveats or exploring other methodologies and constantly saying its all valid.



# RDNA Spiritual Retreat in Wisconsin

**Recharge among the druids!** Oakdale Grove will be holding a druidic spiritual retreat camp from Friday May 13<sup>th</sup> through Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 at Willow River State Park in Hudson, Wisconsin. Oakdale Grove has sponsored and paid for a group camp site for up to 30 people; so if you plan on *camping* with us you will need to RSVP with our link below so that we can be in compliance. The site is for tent camping only, does not have any RV hookups or electricity, but is ADA accessible. Vault toilets are adjacent to the campsite.



The only monetary cost to attendees would be that each vehicle needs to have a Wisconsin State Parks sticker for the number of days they plan on attending. For out of state vehicles, the parking fee is \$13 per day or \$39. At that point, non-resident attendees are better off purchasing a \$38 season pass, then they can visit all Wisconsin state parks through December 31, 2022.

## **Tentative retreat programming, subject to change, to be finalized in Beltane newsletter:**

- **Friday**
  - 3:00 PM earliest check-in, tent setup, free time
  - 6:00 PM potluck dinner (participation encouraged, not required)
  - 7:30 PM brief opening ritual
  - 8:30 PM sunset, free time
- **Saturday**
  - 8:00 AM breakfast (potluck encouraged if you have food coolers stocked with ice?)
  - 9:30 AM Journaling and Meditation Seminar
  - Free Time
  - 12:00 PM Lunch (bringing your own food (BYOF) recommended)
  - 1:30 PM Panel Discussion: Druidry 101 & the Orders of Reformed Druidism
  - Free time
  - 6:00 PM Dinner & “Whiskey Potluck” (charcuterie potluck encouraged)
  - 7:30 PM Ritual & Bonfire
- **Sunday**
  - 5:45 AM sunrise
  - 8:00 AM breakfast
  - 9:30 AM Calling All Bards – Bardic Expression Seminar (wear a paint shirt)

- 12:00 PM closing ritual
- 3:00 PM checkout deadline: group camp site must be completely clean and vacated

**For those who plan to attend the retreat, here is a list of things to bring:**

- Tent, sleep gear, camp chair, warm & cool weather clothes (spring can be chaotic), bug spray
- At least two gallons of water per person in case site water is still off due to cold spring weather
- At least one bundle of firewood from less than 10 miles away from the camp
- Potluck food that can be shared with attendees
- any additional food for "BYOF" meals
- Optional but encouraged: Bottle of whiskey or scotch for the sampling party for the purpose of reviewing them. Whiskey is customarily considered the sacramental "Waters-of-Life" in the RDNA. We can all coordinate brands later. Interestingly there just happened to be a whiskey tasting party at Paganicon this weekend, presided over by Jason Mankey and hosted in the Druids of the Midwest party suite. Needless to say I was taking a few extra notes to add to the ideas I already had.
- A ritual chalice (optional), ritual garb (optional)
- Water to stay hydrated plus any additional food if necessary

**RSVP at [Signup Genius](#) here** (sorry about the ads, but it's a free and safe signup service).

## Bardic Column

### **A Haiku by Sarah of the Woods**

*energy wakes up  
green peeks out under dead leaves  
the sun just might win*

### **To My Deities by Johano Sycamore Bear**

*O Earth Mother, who giveth life  
You give me life and cradle me  
You will take me back in death and cradle me*

*O Belenus, healer and god of light  
You shine upon me and the earth mother  
You give us warmth and comfort*

*O Dalon ap Landu, the mighty oak  
The sacred Oak, Lord of the Grove  
I come to you to revere all of creation.*

*O Artio, the Goddess of Healing  
I come to you, not for myself  
But to bring peace and succor to others*

*O Orion, God of Strength  
I ask of you to bring peace to the world  
I ask of you to bring the strength to hold the peace.*

*To the Deities I have named  
To those I have not named  
Who watch over me*

*I ask simply for strength  
I ask simply for inspiration  
I ask simply for understanding*

Johano Sycamore Bear  
Second Order, RDNA  
Bard of Oakdale Grove, RDNA

7 [Back to Contents](#)



*Rue Anemone by John the Verbose*

# Bonfire Banter

## Overview

This section is an open forum for opinion pieces, letters to the editor, druidic gossip, philosophical exposition, news of solo druids, relevant product reviews, tutorials, and other discourse.

## Contribution from John the Verbose

Do all RDNA Groves & Protogroves operate in the red?

In Reformed Druidism, Groves are given a lot of autonomy by the Council of Dalon Ap Landu so that the voting members of each fellowship can determine as a group what may be best for their Grove. That is of course, as long as they remain cognizant of the spirit of the Reform as to not deviate into unrecognizable practices. But there's no *Codex of Form Missive* to follow, no *Book of Changes* to adhere to, no treasury accounts to maintain, no requirement of membership dues, and no periodic reports to send in to be considered an active Grove. Granted if we reach out but don't receive return contact within a month, we might mark your Grove as inactive but I digress.

Roughly nine years ago there was a debate as to whether the Arch-Druid of a Grove should need to be wealthy enough to just cover all the operating costs of a Grove. Most Groves last only a half-dozen years or so with a bit of variation. I am not aware of any RDNA fellowships charging membership dues, and someone in the debate hypothesized that a Grove that charges fees might last even fewer years. So how do Groves handle their operating expenses?

Carleton Grove, the RDNA's founding fellowship, is perhaps very lucky to be an official student organization at Carleton College. They are eligible for an allocation of funding through the Carleton Student Association. This allocation comes in via the Student Activity Fee (\$390) which is billed into their 2022-2023 tuition & fees of \$78,624. Ouch. The student organization funding allocation is also augmented by vending machine revenue from the prior year. I suppose if you get a lot of grants and scholarships, then maybe it doesn't really cost that much to be a Carleton druid. Either way the perks are nice, but there's no way other Groves can thrive by charging activity fees that exorbitant.

In Oakdale Grove we stopped maintaining our treasury box within the first two years. Once it had \$5 in it to put towards our whiskey fund. When a bottle of whiskey (that doesn't taste like brake fluid) costs about \$30, that fiver lasted a couple weeks in the treasury until our next bottle of Johnny Walker (Black Label). On another occasion the treasury held \$10 which had been donated specifically for paying for the next person's Druid Sigil pendant. It has become customary for new Third Order druids to be given a Druid Sigil pendant of some sort upon their ordination. I carve the sigil into polished stones, sometimes store bought, and sometimes from a river or Lake Superior.

As the Arch-Druid of Oakdale Grove, I've probably poured a couple thousand dollars into running our

8 [Back to Contents](#)

fellowship over the last eight and a half years. Though the members have always been generous in many ways. They offer to pitch in or just bring things to share. Everything has always just worked out for us. Whether it's books, or potluck food, or gas money on road trips, or fire wood and candles, or an extra bottle of whiskey, or fabric for making vestments, our Grove members have all pitched in. It's humbling to be around people that are so kind and supportive without ever asking.

Lately I've begun wondering what our overhead costs are for ordaining a druid to the priesthood. Traditionally it costs the candidate *breakfast* for their ordainer. Though after Ross and my combined ordinations in 2013, our ordainers ended up buying *us* breakfast in an unexpected reversal of the custom. The actual minimum cost of accomplishing an ordination can theoretically be about \$10...

**Minimum Cost Range:**

- small red ribbon – \$4
- small white ribbon – \$4
- a few sheets of printed paper – \$2?
- firewood (4 bundles on average might last overnight) – \$0-\$32
- Druid Sigil pendant (perhaps homemade up to commissioned in Sterling Silver) – \$0-\$40+
- sampler bottle of whiskey – \$3

**Oakdale Grove Cost Range:**

- large red ribbon – \$8
- large white ribbon – \$8
- document – \$16
- firewood – \$28
- Druid Sigil pendant (stone, Druid Sigil carved in with rotary tool) – \$10
- ordination certificate & Letter of Good Standing (MN clergy requirement) – \$1
  - Other overhead costs for this include an Oakdale Grove seal embosser (\$38). The State of Minnesota also requires an address on the Letter of Good Standing letterhead; so we opted for a tiny PO Box in Oakdale (\$166/year... ouch, thanks DeJoy.)
- sampler or existing bottle of whiskey – \$3 worth

Overall we do operate in the red. When it's a labor of love we make sure it's still worthwhile, and I gladly continue to fulfill my oath of service to the members of the Grove and to the Earth-Mother.

# The 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 consistently at least once per month. 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 will use different characters (& and /) instead of @ and '.' to prevent or mitigate random harvester bots from scanning them for spam.

## Example Bulletin

USA: **Kansas**: Hutchinson: Dorian seeking others for starting RDNA protogrove. Email dorian\_the\_druid (at) gmail (dot) com.

## Standard 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 seeking others for starting RDNA protogrove in D.C.. Monument Grove that previously met in the capital has been inactive and I would like to meet others in the area and start something back up. Also looking to be ordained if anyone is traveling to the capital region this year or next! If interested, please reach out. Email tyler.vanice&gmail/com.

# Vivid Visions Gallery

## Contributions from John the Verbose



Eastern Redbud, Oakdale Nature Preserve



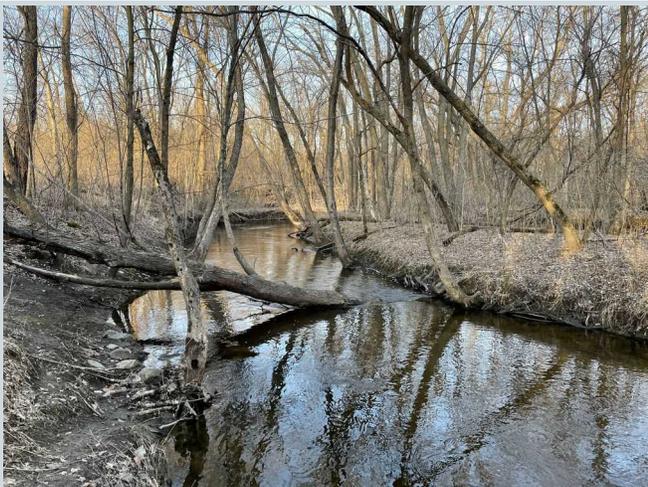
Eastern Redbud, Oakdale Nature Preserve



The actual Ostara Bunny, in the rain



Aspen catkins, Oakdale Nature Preserve



Rush Creek, Elm Creek Park Reserve



Willow River State Park, Wisconsin

# Videos of Interest

## Overview

This section is reserved for videos relevant to druidry. Enjoy!

### “Where the First Druids Came From” by Druid Way



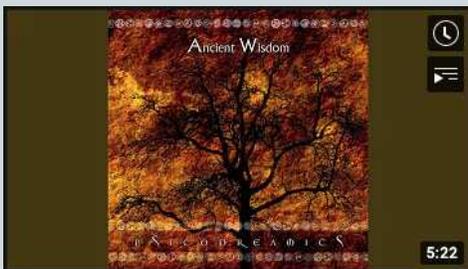
Extract from [The Mammoth Book of Celtic Myths and Legends](#)

### “Introduction to Sit Spots” by Westminster Woods Camp & Conference Center



A sit spot is taking time to be in one place in nature by yourself. Learn the basics of how to do a sit spot from Westminster Woods naturalists.

### “Beltane Moon” by Psicodreamics



From their album *Ancient Wisdom* (New Age/Ambient)

### “The Overview Effect”



How looking down on the Earth changes our perceptions

# The Right Rites For Rampant Ritualists

## Overview

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

### ***An Observation Ritual for Dedicated Druids by Johano Sycamore Bear***

This is a three-phase ritual designed to open your mind to the beauty of the Earth Mother that surrounds us even in the most unexpected places. Take notes throughout your ritual. Take pictures of things that catch your eye. Celebrate the small things that show you the beauty around us. Having said that, don't just take a picture and move on. Continue to observe with your senses.

### **Required Materials:**

Notepad, writing utensil, camera (if desired), and a love of the Earth Mother.

### **The Ritual:**

First: Go to an open space area, park, or nature preserve. Don't go out of your way to find one, let the right one call out to you.

Once you are there:

Find a path that you can easily walk a few times (2-3 is ideal). Be observant of the plant life, including the trees, and take notes on them. If you do not know what kind of plant or tree it is, look it up when you are back home or use your phone while you are on your walk. Remember, the purpose is to be open to the Earth Mother and not your phone.

Now, re-walk the trail or path. This time, do the same thing but with the wildlife. Walk slowly and quietly. Listen carefully. Don't rush and you may be quite surprised by what you can see and hear.

Personally, when I was first doing this ritual, I would walk a *third time*. This time, listen and observe everything together at once. Do the birds change their songs as you approach? When animals make the presence known, are they cautious but curious? What sound does the wind or rain make?

There is much to be learned from the Earth Mother. Stop and listen to Her as she is always speaking but are you listening?

# Augur's Intuition

## Overview

This section is reserved for reader-submitted divinations, premonitions, soothsaying, prophecies, omens, maybe a Celtic horoscope for the range of a month.

## Submission by John the Verbose

### Methodology: Acorns!

## Meanings

You can use acorns or any found objects with a distinct pointy end, such as broken pieces of small tree branches, pebbles, seashells, bolts or screws for the urban druid, or lumps of hastily sculpted clay. There's a prescribed methodology to utilize here for those who want to learn it, and it ain't palmistry, but follow your intuition!

## Interpretation

You may be headed for a confrontation, but maybe not here and not yet. You don't have to face it alone; you still have time to build up a support network.



# Calendar of Events

## Overview

This section is for contributors to 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

1 Samradh (May 1) **Beltane**

16 Samradh (May 16) **Full Moon** and **Total Lunar Eclipse**

30 Samradh (May 30) **New Moon**

45 Samradh (June 14) **Full Moon**

52 Samradh (June 21) **Midsummer Solstice**

## Shared Open to Public events

**Place:** RDNA “Recharge” Spiritual Retreat, sponsored by Oakdale Grove. Contact editor for details.

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

- 18 Samradh (May 18) **Feast of Cernunnos** – Engage in the wild hunt. The rest of the SDNA description of this holiday is trash.
- 24 Samradh (May 24) **Feast of the Dark Goddess** – Celebrate Babh, the Morrigan, Macha, and other divine feminine foe-slayers, meditating upon their beauty.
- 25 Samradh (May 25) **Feast of the Two Ladies** – Celebrate the maiden and the mother, meditate on your feminine side and your concepts of womanhood.
- 44 Samradh (June 13) **Feast of Epona** – Go horseback riding and spend the day appreciating your equine friends. Give your kids ponies or horse books.
- 49 Samradh (June 18) **Festival of Bards** – Hold a big bardic revel with as much song and dance as possible.

## Long-term notice for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RDNA

6 Samradh, 61 Y.R. (Saturday, May 6, 2023) is the day of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion of the foundation of the Reformed Druids of North America at Carleton College! More details to follow as the event approaches.

# Blogs & Social Media Links

## 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](#)

# Artisan Promo Page

## 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!



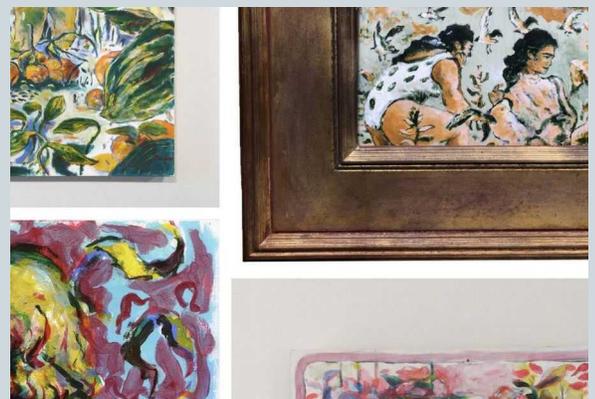
## Reannag Teine Pottery

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](http://www.ReannagTeine.com)!



## Jeremiah Soup's [art gallery](#)

All he wanted to do was subscribe to the newsletter but I was stunned by the art gallery when I clicked through the link in his email signature out of curiosity. I actually asked if I could share this here on his behalf, and I'm glad he agreed to it.



**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



# 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, and unfortunately we don't have a mentorship or official training program, 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 Finder spreadsheet](#). 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 59<sup>th</sup> 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](#), 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](#) complete (**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

## 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 with contributions is 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!

## 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

1. 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.
2. Or simply copy and fill the form below when emailing contributions to my Gmail: **MNdruids**

Hello,  
I would like to share the following/attached content for the next C.O.R.D. article.  
**I hereby consent and attest that I (the sender) hold the rights or permission to share it.**  
[Exception for memes, public YouTube video links, certain other content types.]

- I wish to be credited under the name: \_\_\_\_
- Subscribe me to the newsletter mailing list? \_\_\_\_
- Other comments/suggestions if applicable: \_\_\_\_
- [Input your content you wish to share below the line, and/or attach files]

## 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!



Whitetail “button buck” fawn, Oakdale Nature Preserve