

The Journey...S

Official Newsletter of Church of the Spiral Tree
an Ecumenical, Faerie Faith church

Issue 9
Yule, 1999

NEWS: CST's cover school for pagan homeschooling families in Alabama, called Sacred Grove Academy, is moving along nicely, with three families enrolled. Details on the school are on the CST web page.

CST was able recently to mail a \$120 check to the North Carolina Disaster Relief Fund. CST has created a Disaster Relief Fund of its own, in response to the devastation caused by this year's hurricanes. You can donate money (tax-deductible) to this fund, and when a natural disaster strikes an area, we'll be able to send out a donation from a Pagan church.

Last issue had some great reports from our members—let's continue this in our next issue! Please send me your articles, poetry, stories, reports, artwork, just whatever you'd like to present to our members, and I'll do my best to publish it.

For those of you who wish to form a local group or become ordained as a minister, if you're somewhere besides Alabama or Georgia, you just need to let us know a bit ahead of time. For the group and the ministership to be legal, we need to be registered in your state. This takes a little time to get the paperwork done and sent in. We will register in other states as needed, as there's a bit of expense involved. Your

membership fees and the fees for ordination (\$35) and forming a group (\$35) help pay for these costs. CST is already registered in Georgia, so anyone wishing to put together a local CST group there can do so. Full info on starting a CST grove and becoming a minister is now on the web site, < <http://www.mindspring.com/~spiraltree> > .

Faerie-Faith Link: Don't forget that you have the option of participating long-distance in our rituals, both lunar and sabbat. All you have to do is let us know that you want to do this, and tell us which rituals, either lunar, sabbat, or both, and before each of our planned rituals, we will mail, email, or FAX a copy of the ritual to you, along with the "kick-off" time and date of the ritual. This way, members who wish can do the same ritual the rest of the group is doing, at the same time, on the same day.

Let me know if you're interested in participating this way. As our rituals sometimes are not completely written till the night before, I'll need either an email address or FAX number to quickly send you the ritual. However, you will know the date and time of the ritual well enough in advance (at least 2 weeks) to make plans for it.

-Linda Kerr

Newsletter Staff:

Editor/Publisher Linda Kerr

CST Board of Directors:

President Craig Kerr

Vice President Rob Von Allmen

Secretary/Treasurer Linda Kerr

Member-at-Large Cathy Rankin

CST Staff:

Hospitality Officer Odessa Crenshaw

Church of the Spiral Tree
PO Box 186
Auburn, AL 36831-0186
334-821-4683 (Linda Kerr)
spiraltree@mindspring.com
<http://www.mindspring.com/~spiraltree>

Who Are We?

The Church of the Spiral Tree (CST) is a non-profit, volunteer-staffed, ecumenical pagan/wiccan church, designed to foster a sense of community and family among pagans, both locally and in other regions of the country/world. It is an ecumenical church in that it encompasses all traditions, and is non-exclusive. It welcomes all who revere the Earth Mother and adhere to the tenets of the Wiccan Rede ("An it harm none, do as you will"), regardless of which tradition one is affiliated with. CST is also a Faerie Faith church, in that it has a goal of spreading the teachings of the Faerie Faith to all who are interested, and giving people better access to this ancient and beautiful Irish belief system. The Faerie Faith itself is a non-exclusive faith; one who is studying the Faerie Faith is always free to study other traditions or join other organizations.

If you would like to help with any of our projects, have any further ideas for the church, or have any resources which would be of benefit, please contact us. CST is also seeking volunteers to help with various parts of the church. Call us with ideas!

CONTACTS:

Remember, you get a free listing with your paid membership. You may also submit your listing at any later time.

Amy Blount: I wish to correspond with all members. Contact Amy c/o CST, P.O. Box 186, Auburn, AL 36831.
<rhab@netzero.net>

Cassandra Lee: <Cll19@hotmail> .

Cliff Landis: I'm a laid-back kitchen witch interested in sharing knowledge and fun. Harper 109, Auburn, AL, 36849,
<wiccadog@yahoo.com> .

Coven of Nocturnal Flight: HP: William (Gwalchmai) Moore; HPS: Pelayah Moore. <Pelayah@hotmail.com>

Frank Palmer: #546776, 2101 FM 369N, Iowa Park, TX, 76367-6568. Eclectic Druid student (nearly full Druid priest), male, feminist, seeking anyone who wishes to correspond. I study Ayurudic Healing, plus any other healing methods. I'm knowledgeable in several forms of magic and divination. Please write? I practice a zoomorphic form of Druidism and am a 2nd year Shaman student.

Norna Kat Steingraber: 1373 Dunbarton Rd., Montgomery, AL 36117, 334-279-6071.

Laurel Silverlion: email: <laurel113@aol.com> .

Lora Melendez: 35 yr. old Scorpio, divorced, Celtic solitary practitioner, interested in candles, incense, crystals, and meditating, looking for like-minded pagans in Dothan or Panama City area. 110 Colonial Ave., Dothan, AL 36304.

Melody Pettus: I would welcome meeting or writing to any like-minded Faery trained folks in the Atlanta area. 2347 Melinda Dr., Atlanta, GA 30345-1914, or email to <mpettus@telco.com> or <mpettus@atl.mediaone.net> .

Morgain: 40 yr. Old eclectic witch (bi). Enjoys the outdoors, tarot, Pathway cards, children, crystals, and stone people. Open minded to all the universe has to offer. Seeking pagan/metaphysical friends. P.O. Box 16536, Panama City, FL 32406.

"Skippy" Rob Von Allmen: Tired? Bored? Wanting to find true love and happiness? Well, what are you doing talking to me?! I don't have all the questions, much less the answers. But I do have a clue (I found it in a cereal box) and am licensed to share the wisdom of the ages (answered an ad in Rolling Stone). If you also ponder such mysteries as "Is there life after death?," "Was he a man dreaming he was a butterfly...?," and "Where am I parked?," then please drop me a line at: Swann's Tr. Pk. #1, Lot 130, Auburn, AL 36863, <skippy_the_witch@yahoo.com> , 334-826-3953.

Steven D. Richert: Celtic shaman, still new t this path, is seeking any others of like mind to correspond with while I'm in prison and out. Steven D. Richert #17987, W/D-225-T, U.S.P., P.O. Box 250, Draper, UT, 84020.

Stormy: <stormycloud@mindspring.com> , <earthdance@mindspring.com> , <http://www.mindspring.com/~stormycloud/>.

Willow Blue: <willowblue21@hotmail.com> .

CST Calendar:

Church of the Spiral Tree welcomes church members, beginners, newcomers, solitaries, and anyone else interested in participating in rituals honoring the full moons and the eight Sabbats. You need no experience or knowledge to participate, but we do request you come with an open mind and heart, and show respect for your fellow participants. Email us for directions. We share a potluck dinner after each Sabbat (no gathering after Full Moons, however), so those who come are asked to bring some type of food to share; beverages, paper plates, and forks are also needed.

Please wear something comfortable and appropriate for outdoors. Ritual robes are welcome but not necessary. Plan for sitting on cold and/or wet ground. Children of all ages are welcome. Donations to the Church are entirely optional but appreciated.

About the Lunar Rituals:

CST has rituals to celebrate the Sabbats and the Esbats or full moons. We will no longer be doing the Faerie Faith lunar rituals in 2000. Instead, we will let interested people in the Church write and perform the full-moon rituals, and possibly the new-moon rituals, so we will get to experience esbats of other traditions. If you would like to do one or more of the full-moon or new-moon rituals, please email us!

These full-moon rituals, regardless of who does them, are working and learning rituals; there is no gathering or pot-luck afterwards, and the rituals may even be done in someone's back yard to make the whole thing easier to set up and clean up. Full-moon rituals will be on the Saturday closest to the full moon; if the date coincides with a sabbat, we will combine the two rituals.

Note: the schedule below is subject to change! Check back for updates and more details. Firmer times and locations of all rituals will be available closer to the date of the ritual.

January:

Full Moon ritual, January 22, 7:00 pm.

February:

Imbolc celebration, February 5, at Waverly, AL. We will meet at 6:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards. Weekend of Board of Director's meeting.

Full Moon ritual, February 19, 7:00 pm.

March:

Spring Equinox celebration and Full Moon ritual, March 18, at Waverly, AL. We will meet at 6:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards.

April:

Full Moon ritual, April 15, 7:00 pm.

May:

May Day celebration, April 29 or May 6, at Waverly, AL. 9:00 am! Weekend of Board of Director's meeting.

Full Moon ritual, May 20, 7:00 pm.

Moondance, May 25-29, Dragon Hills, Carrollton, GA.

June:

Full Moon ritual, June 17, 8:00 pm.

Summer Solstice celebration, June 24, at Waverly, AL. We will meet at 7:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards.

July:

Full Moon ritual, July 15, 8:00 pm.

August:

Lammas celebration, August 5, at Waverly, AL. We will meet at 7:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards. Weekend of Board of Director's meeting.

Full Moon ritual, August 12, 8:00 pm.

September:

Full Moon ritual, September 16, at 7:00 pm.

Fall Equinox celebration, September 23, at Waverly, AL. We will meet at 6:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards.

October:

Ivy Moon ritual, October 14, 7:00 pm.

November:

Samhain celebration, November 4 (date subject to change), at Waverly, AL. We will meet at 6:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards. Weekend of Board of Director's meeting.

Full Moon ritual, November 11, 7:00 pm.

December:

Full Moon ritual, December 9, 7:00 pm.

Yule celebration, December 22 (Friday) or 23 (Saturday), at Waverly, AL. We will meet at 6:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards.

For info on any of the above, email Linda Kerr at <spiraltree@mindspring.com>.

Upcoming Festivals (Not CST events):

Moondance	May 25-29, 2000	Dragon Hills, Carrollton, GA
FallFling	Oct or Nov, 2000	Dragon Hills, Carrollton, GA

MINUTES
CHURCH OF THE SPIRAL TREE
Board of Directors
October 30, 1999

The meeting was called to order by Craig Kerr at 4:30 pm, at 1831 Opelika Road, Auburn, Alabama, with the following Directors and members present:

James C. Kerr, President; Rob Von Allmen, Vice-President, Linda C. Kerr, Secretary-Treasurer; and Cathy Rankin, Member-at-Large.

Old Business

Discussed the matter of the trees that were ordered in April and still haven't come in, due to unforeseeable problems on the part of the supplier. They will be coming in sometime early next year. By then we should have a well installed, so we can keep them watered.

The homeschool cover school program is doing well - Sacred Grove Academy now has three students. This gives legal coverage to pagan homeschoolers in Alabama, where in order to homeschool your kids, you either have to be a certified teacher or you must enroll them in a church cover school.

New Business

It was suggested we build a sweat lodge at Craig & Linda's land in Waverly. This will give people a chance to experience a sweat, and also learn how to build one and run one.

FallFling will have Fire Nazis along with security, in light of the fires at past festivals.

The Faerie Faith lunar rituals will be discontinued, but CST will continue to sponsor full moon rituals. They will be handled like the sabbat rituals are - open for volunteers to write and run them. They will not be Faerie Faith rituals anymore. Having the Faerie Faith rituals was a really nice idea that worked for the most part, but began to detract from learning and experience of the actual students of the Faerie Faith.

It has been decided to create a church library to be housed in a spare room at Odessa's house. Already several books and some furniture has been donated. The room still needs some finishing work, such as paneling. Skippy suggested we put an altar in the room, to be used by church and community members who need a sacred, private place at times.

There was discussion about how the church can become more visible and attract more members, and also increase the amount of donations in order to cover things such as the library or the sweat lodge. It was decided to table discussion till a later period.

The next two meetings were scheduled to be held February 5, 2000 and April 29 or May 6, 2000, in Auburn, Alabama.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

S

Church of the Spiral Tree

Membership Application

Legal Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Do you wish to be listed in the **Contacts** section of the newsletter? If so, please use the space below to write your listing exactly the way you want it published. Be sure to include a way for people to contact you. **WRITE LEGIBLY!** We are not responsible to errors due to "chicken scratch."

We have several different types of memberships available to suit your needs. All include full membership benefits, and run for one year, with a renewal notice sent to remind you next year.

_____	Individual	\$20.00	
_____	Student/Poor Person:	\$15.00	(please attach a short note demonstrating financial need)
_____	Family (includes kids):	\$35.00	(must be in immediate family only, same address)
_____	Sustaining Member:	\$50.00	(receives all benefits plus our undying thanks)
_____	Contributing Member:	\$100.00	(receives all benefits, our eternal thanks, and a listing in the newsletter once a year)
_____	Patron(ess) Member:	\$200.00	(receives all benefits, our everlasting gratitude, a yearly listing in the newsletter, and a certificate)

OTHER:

_____	Donation to CST	\$5 & up	(all donations are tax deductible; you will be sent a receipt for your records, as well as our undying thanks)
-------	-----------------	----------	--

Make checks out to: The Church of the Spiral Tree, Inc., and mail to:

Spiral Tree
P.O. Box 186
Auburn, AL 36831-0186
334-821-4683

spiraltree@mindspring.com

Visit us at our web site! <<http://www.mindspring.com/~spiraltree>>

CST Calendar:

Board of Directors' meetings:

February 5, 2000, Auburn, Alabama; April 29 or May 6, 2000, Auburn, Alabama

Annual Meeting of the General Membership:

May 28, 2000, Moondance, Dragonhills, near Carrollton, Georgia

Lunar Dates for 2000 (all subject to mundane schedules, of course):

Date of Full Moon	Date of Ritual
January 21	January 22, 2000
February 19	February 19, 2000
March 20	March 18, 2000
April 18	April 15, 2000
May 18	May 20, 2000
June 16	June 17, 2000
July 16	July 15, 2000
August 15	August 12, 2000
September 13	September 16, 2000
October 13	October 14, 2000
November 11	November 11, 2000
December 11	December 9, 2000

Sabbat Dates:

Imbolc	February 5, 2000
Spring Equinox	March 18, 2000
Beltane	April 29 or May 6, 2000
Summer Solstice	June 24, 2000
Lammas	August 5, 2000
Fall Equinox	September 23, 2000
Samhain	November 4, 2000
Yule	December 22 or 23, 2000

Church of the Spiral Tree
P.O. Box 186
Auburn, AL 36830

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED