

The Journey S

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

Issue 15
Summer Solstice, 2001

NEWS

CST Party: The CST party held at Moondance went very well. It was extremely well-attended, and a great drumming circle got started. We had grass skirts, tiki torches, deli meats and cheeses, breads, chips, dip, and veggies. We'll most likely have another party at FallFling later this year.

Address Changes: Please let us know as soon as possible if your address changes, or your email changes, or if you get email after not having it. Most of our notices are sent out by email, and having your current email address is very important.

- Linda Kerr

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!

Newsletter Staff:

Editor/Publisher Linda Kerr

CST Board of Directors:

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Vice President Rob Von Allmen
334-826-3953; < skippy_the_witch@yahoo.com >

Secretary/Treasurer Linda Kerr
334-821-4683; < cst@spiraltree.org >

Member-at-Large Cathy Rankin
706-596-0052; < tabbatcat@yahoo.com >

Church of the Spiral Tree

PO Box 186

Auburn, AL 36831-0186

334-821-4683 (Linda Kerr)

cst@spiraltree.org

http://www.spiraltree.org

Info About Our Services:

Ministers: CST, being a church, may ordain any member over the age of 18 a minister. The fee for this is \$35.00, and you must also be a paid member. This ordination is for life; you do not have to maintain your membership to continue to be a CST minister, but we would really appreciate it. Each year we have to renew our "Registered" status in various states in order for our ministers to be legal, and your continued membership fees help pay for this. Ministers are entitled to perform legal weddings, baptisms, and funerals. Ordination as a minister does not automatically confer "Elder" or "High Priest/ess" status upon anyone.

Subordinate Organizations: The main form of a local CST group is a Grove. This can be formed by at least three paid church members, who apply to CST for a charter. If you are interested in forming a Grove, simply find two other like-minded friends, and encourage them to send in their membership to CST, then apply to us for a Grove charter. The application and first year's fee is \$35.00. Note that whomever forms a Grove and runs it, including writing and performing rituals and teaching mysteries, does not automatically become a "High Priest/ess."

Note on Ministers and Groups: 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.spiraltree.org> > .

Ritual Link: You have the option of participating long-distance in our rituals. All you have to do is let us know that you want to do this, 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 us know if you're interested in participating this way. As our rituals sometimes are not completely written till the night before, we need either an email address or FAX number to quickly send you the ritual.

Natural Family Planning: Cathy, a health services professional, is offering counseling on natural methods of family planning, both fertility and contraception. For more info, email her at tabbatcat@yahoo.com.



MINUTES

CST Board of Directors

April 27, 2001

The meeting was called to order by Craig Kerr at 7:20 pm, at Auburn, Alabama, with the following Directors and members present:

Craig Kerr, President; Rob Von Allmen (Skippy), Vice-President; Linda C. Kerr, Secretary-Treasurer; Cathy Rankin, Member-at-Large; Dave Troupe, member, Cliff Landis, member, and Carol Perkins.

Old Business

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Cathy reported that no one showed up for the CST Spring Equinox ritual at her house in Columbus, GA, except for some friends of hers from the area.

On the CST checking account, Sherlock was removed, and Skippy was added. Craig still needs to go to the bank and sign the signature card. Skippy will get a Certificate of Deposit for us soon.

Upcoming Events

We will have a May Day ritual after all, tomorrow, April 28. CST is co-hosting with Pantheon.

Talked some more on the CST party to be held at Moondance. Discussed moving it to Saturday night instead of Friday night. Maybe have a luau theme, with grass skirts. It will definitely be BYOB - CST will not supply alcohol. It was finally decided to do it Friday night at 9:00 pm in the Weyr. We'll have an on-line chat about it one night with Christi.

The CST Annual Membership Meeting is planned for the Sunday of Moondance. Reminders were sent out in the last newsletter about it, along with ballots for members who cannot be there in person.

Ideas & Things to Do

Skippy needs to work on the CST portable display. He has an idea for it - 4 bulletin boards with hinges, so it will fold, and stand up as a display. Need to get this done by May Day.

We have ordered the cards for birthdays and sabbats. They should be in soon. Some samples which had been sent were passed around.

We still need to get a subscription to Circle Network News.

There was some discussion about getting buttons made by Tess, the person who is making the greeting cards. These buttons would be for CST students, or new members, or possibly CST BOD members. In this case, it was suggested they read "CST-Jump My BOD!"

Ongoing

Linda sent out postcards as reminders to members whose membership had lapsed. We will remind former members this way once after memberships have been lapsed for over 2 months, and after they've been sent a letter of reminder.

Other Business

The next two meetings were scheduled to be held August 4, 2001, in Auburn, AL, and November 10, 2001 in Auburn, AL.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

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MINUTES

CHURCH OF THE SPIRAL TREE

Annual Membership Meeting

May 27, 2001

The meeting was called to order by Linda Kerr at 12:00 pm, at Moondance, Dragon Hills, Carrollton, GA, with the following Directors and members present:

Craig Kerr, President; Rob Von Allmen (Skippy), Vice-President; Linda C. Kerr, Secretary/Treasurer; Jim Bryant, Ray Rankin, Dave Troupe, and Don Mikovitz.

New Business

Nominations for election of officers and directors of the church: President: Craig Kerr; Vice-President: Robert von Allmen; Secretary/Treasurer: Linda Kerr; Member-at-Large: Cathy Rankin. No absentee or mail-in ballots were sent in by anyone. Craig gave a rousing campaign speech.

Results of election: Votes received are unanimous for President: Craig Kerr; Vice-President: Robert von Allmen; Secretary/Treasurer: Linda Kerr; and Member-at-Large: Cathy Rankin.

Current Business

The CST party at Moondance on Friday night went really well - we'll probably do it again at FallFling, but with a different theme.

Skippy STILL hasn't made the CST display. It was decided that Skippy is great at coming up with ideas, but not so great at implementing them. He's also late. Craig moved that we create a new office - Solicitor General, and nominated Skippy for the post. Skippy was unanimously elected.

Upcoming Things

Our next CST ritual is Summer Solstice on June 23. Kat is thinking of getting handfasted there. We still don't have anyone to write and run the ritual, so Linda may wind up doing it.

The cards that we ordered have come in. Christi will be in charge of sending them out for special occasions and birthdays.

We talked about needing a storage shed, but we can't afford one. The stuff we have collected so far for Jay and Alice will be given to them soon. Their new house is just about finished and ready to move into. In July, the storage shed we've rented will be emptied and let go.

Some possible fund-raising ideas were discussed. We need to find some things to raffle. Linda is getting a drawing from David Damke, and maybe we could get some pottery from William Edwards.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

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CST Calendar:

Church of the Spiral Tree welcomes church members, beginners, newcomers, solitaires, and anyone else interested in participating in rituals honoring the 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, so those who come are asked to bring some type of food to share.

Please wear something comfortable and appropriate for outdoors. Ritual robes are welcome but not necessary. Children of all ages are welcome. Donations to the Church are entirely optional but appreciated.

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

2001

June:

Summer Solstice ritual, June 23, at Waverly, AL. We will meet at 6:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards.

Serpentstone's Solstice, June 29-July 3, Dragon Hills.

July:

No ritual scheduled.

August:

Lammas ritual, August 4, at Linda & Craig's house in Auburn, AL. We will meet at 6:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards. Weekend of Board of Directors' meeting.

September:

Pagan Pride Day and Fall Equinox ritual, September 22, at the Arboretum, Auburn University campus. Noon till 8:00, ritual at 6:00.

Dragon Harvest, September 27-30, Dragon Hills.

October:

FallFling, October 4-7, at Dragon Hills.

Earthdance, October 12-14, at Dragon Hills.

Serpentstone's Samhain, October 25-28, Dragon Hills.

November:

Samhain ritual, date and locations TBA. We will meet at 6:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards. Weekend of Board of Directors' meeting.

December:

Yule ritual, December 22, at Waverly, AL. We will meet at 6:00 pm, with a pot-luck and party afterwards. Also CST's 2nd annual General Membership meeting.

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

Upcoming Festivals (Not CST events):

Moondance	May 24-28, 2001	Dragon Hills, Carrollton, GA
FallFling	Oct. 4-7, 2001	Dragon Hills, Carrollton, GA
Earthdance	Oct. 12-14, 2001	Hard Labor Creek St Pk, Athens, GA



Contacts:

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

Curtis Fuller: Male, 60 yrs of age, interests: Paganism in general, Wicca, runes, and hexcraft in particular. Seek contact with male and female, any age. P.O. Box 1023, Aberdeen, MS 39730-1023.

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 Ayurvedic 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.

James Pesci: Youthful prisoner desires correspondence for spiritual support and friendship. James R. Pesci, #270633, B.K.C.C., P.O. Box 430, Dillwyn, VA 23936.

Laura J. Arendall: 170 Co. Rd. 1130, Cullman, AL 35057, email <larendall@hotmail.com>

Lori Irei (Magickal Name: Reverend-Priestess Aradia): Practice Avalonian and Druidic Mysteries, located in the Orlando, FL area. Contact info: ireytribe@mindspring.com

"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.

Stacy Bandura: sbandura@tuckercapital.com

Steven D. Richert: Celtic shaman, still new to 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.

(NOT CURRENT) Tony Jackson: Seeker desiring contact with those of the Green Path who would enjoy sharing their knowledge as well as testimony of its role in their life. Tony Curtis Jackson EF183981 D-2, CSP, 4600 Fulton Mill Rd., Macon, GA 31208.

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)
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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

cst@spiraltree.org

Visit us at our web site! <<http://www.spiraltree.org>>

Important Dates

Board of Directors' Meetings:

August 4, 2001, Auburn, Alabama; November 10, 2001, Auburn, Alabama

Annual Meetings of the General Membership:

December 22, 2001, Yule Ritual, Waverly, AL

CST Sabbat Dates:

Lammas	August 4, 2001
Fall Equinox/PPD	September 22, 2001
Samhain	November 3 or 10, 2001
Yule	December 22, 2001

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED