

COVENANT OF THE GODDESS



Samhain by Iren Horrors

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As is consistent with the values and beliefs of our religion, the Covenant affirms our belief in the spiritual and social wisdom of peace in the world. We aspire to stand in fellowship with the people of all religions, cultures, and ethnicities in our shared desire for peace. We do this for the sake of our shared love of the Earth and all living things that dwell upon it.





MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE AT YULE

Yule renewals are due on **December 21, 2021**. The Drop-dead date is **December 31, 2021** after which your membership will lapse and you will need to reapply. Renewal forms are emailed to the email address on file from your last renewal. If you have NOT received this form, please contact the National Membership Officer immediately (membership@cog.org).

CHAMISA LOCAL COUNCIL:

- ❖ Dru

EVERGLADES MOON LOCAL COUNCIL: NONE

HILLS AND RIVERS LOCAL COUNCIL: NONE

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LOCAL COUNCIL: NONE

ORANGE COUNTY LOCAL COUNCIL:

- ❖ Rt. Reverend Denise Dumars

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LOCAL COUNCIL: NONE

TEXAS LOCAL COUNCIL:

- ❖ Circle of the Blood Moon
- ❖ Circle of the Moon and Sun
- ❖ Freyja

TOUCHSTONE LOCAL COUNCIL:

- ❖ Zenah

NATIONAL COVENS:

- ❖ Circle of the Lavender Dragons
- ❖ Coven of The Mystical Merkabah
- ❖ Prodea

NATIONAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:

- ❖ Bryce Woyak
- ❖ Gus diZerega
- ❖ Orion Foxwood

FRIENDS OF CoG:

- ❖ Morrigan Proctor-Greene
- ❖ Olivia Briggs
- ❖ Silvermist

OUR GOVERNING BOARD

- National First Officer – Lord Verderius
- National Purse Warden – Manny
- Calafia Representative – Catherine
- Chamisa – Tiffany B.
- Everglades Moon – Raven
- Hills & Rivers – Lauren T.
- Northern California – Thea Bristlebroom
- Orange County – Janine
- Southern California – Monica / Lady Mariah
- Texas – Orin
- Touchstone – Lord Soec
- National Covens – Lord Solandrin
- National Individual Members – Grace Moonhawk
- Governing Board Recorder - Bonnie

LETTER FROM THE FIRST OFFICER

Auspicious Greetings CoG Members,

The hallowed time is now upon us once again, and we pause to remember the people who have passed beyond the veil, and we give thanks for all they have share with us in life. As we celebrate with them in fond remembrance, we know we will see them again when we make our final journey to the Summerland. May this blessed season bring us peace, joy and happiness, as we move towards brighter days ahead.

This is the final harvest of 2021, and we take this time to review the accomplishments we have made during this past year. CoG continues to grow and add new members to our magickal organization. Additionally, we are getting some positive feedback from the Local Councils and national members, and your voices are being equally heard for the things you wish to see transpire in CoG. We hope that this growth will continue well beyond the tenure of the current board of national officers.

As I have reported previously that the Governing Board has been operating in the leadership role of the Covenant. They are working diligently to formulate plans for the continued growth and development of CoG. We hope to share the future mentorship program we make available to interested persons who are seeking membership in CoG.

Additionally, in the Spring of 2022 we will be hosting an "Youth Summit" for the younger folks in our Wicca and Witchcraft community. Our main goal is to dialog with them and encourage them in ways that assist them to seek to become future members of CoG.

On a more somber note, I am now in my final year of serving as the National First Officer. I will not be seeking an additional term in this office. It has been an honor serving the Covenant of the





Goddess. Therefore, I am putting out the call to any individual who feels a calling to serve the CoG in this important position. More importantly, it would be nice to have a few candidates that might want to take up this role, who could shadow me during my final year of as NFO. Please let me know if you have an interest in being a future NFO of CoG.

Additionally, I will be happy to remain semi-active in the following year of 2023, if needed as an Emeritus first officer. That way I can offer my continued assistance and support to the incoming National First Officer. We need a future leader who wishes to serve and fill this important role for the Covenant of the Goddess.

In closing, I wish you all abundant Harvest Blessings and Sacred Samhain Rites!

In Loving Service,
 Lord Verderius
 National First Officer

NATIONAL COMBINED BOARD MINUTES

~October 10, 2021~

Invocation: Lord Verderius invoked Coventina to open the meeting.

Roll Call – (Quorum is two-thirds present): 6 of 9 Officers present and 8 of 10 Constituencies present – We have met quorum.

National Officers:

- ✓ First Officer – Lord Verderius – Present
- ✓ Second Officer – Morgana – Present
- ✓ Membership Officer – Lady K/Thea – Thea present
- ✓ Publications Officer – Lord Soec – Present
- Pursewarden – Qabal – Absent
- ✓ Public Information Officer – Janine N. – Present
- Outreach Officer – Brandon P. – **On Sabbatical**
- Correspondence Officer – Grace Moonhawk – Absent
- ✓ Records – Bonnie Mote/Faelind – Both Present

Governing Board Representatives:

- Chamisa LC – Polaris / Alt: Lady K – Absent
- ✓ Everglades Moon LC – Raven (Debby) / Alt: Lord Rieken – Lord Rieken and Raven
- ✓ Hills & Rivers LC – Lauren / Alt: Jamie D. – Lauren
- ✓ Northern California LC – Deborah B. / Alt: Linnea – Deborah and Linnea
- ✓ Orange County LC – Janine / Alt: Morgana – Janine and Morgana
- ✓ Southern California LC – Lady Mariah / Alt: Lisa M. – Lady Mariah
- ✓ Texas LC – Orin / Alt: Willow McKenna – Orin
- ✓ Touchstone LC – Lord Soec – Lord Soec
- ✓ National Covens – Lord Solandrin – Lord Solandrin

- National Individual Members – Grace Moonhawk – Absent

Visitors:

- ✓ Mary Stuart – incoming Second Officer

Officer Reports:

First Officer – (Please see full report on page 6). Lord Verderius read his FO Report he plans to send to the newsletter. We have a new NetCo – Orin from Texas LC will begin at Samhain. Thank you, Orin. Lord Verderius also wanted to thank those volunteers who set up Groups.io which has already enabled communication for the membership.

Second Officer – Morgana has nothing new to report. Lord Verderius asked Mary if she had anything to share. Mary stated the hotel has sent a draft contract and OCLC is working through it.

Membership Officer – Lady K is absent. Lord Verderius and Thea spoke about Lady K’s recent non-communication. Lord Verderius asked Thea about stepping in again.

Thea needs to find out if she is still on the membership@coq.org. Orin needs access to C-Panel (the back-end of the website/server) to determine. Lord Verderius will contact Canu to get Orin access quickly.

Publications Officer – (Please see full report on page 7). Lord Soec has also not received a response from Lady K and they need the membership list to be able to send out the Newsletters. He encouraged everyone to check out the website as there have been many updates.

Pursewarden – Qabal – Absent. (Please see full report on page 6).

Public Information Officer – Janine N. sent out a written Marketing and Outreach report which Faelind forwarded to the combined board. Janine spoke about the wonderful guest speaker, Orion Foxwood at the October Wednesday with Witches, and encouraged everyone to attend the members-only WwW on October 20, 2021. The November WwW meetings will be about Self-Care.

She noted that the Witch with Me (<https://witchwithme.com/>) census form seemed focused on retail, but they reached the 18 to 35 age range in responses which is much younger than the age range of 40 to 70 that she sees in CoG from facebook and Instagram.

Janine needs access to YouTube to upload her recordings and asked Orin for a new Groups.io sub-group for the Marketing and Outreach Team.

Thea asked whether we would have any online parties around Samhain this year. Janine said for this year, we will not be doing an online CoG Party.



Outreach Officer – Brandon P. – *On Sabbatical*

Lord Verderius related that Brandon has taken a Sabbatical until the first of the New Year.

Correspondence Officer – Grace Moonhawk Absent.

Recorders – Faelind/Bonnie – (*Please see full report on page 7*). Faelind sent the completed Grand Council Minutes to Publications on October 1st and will have the Bylaws and Policy Manual to Lord Soec within a few days of this meeting.

Governing Board Rep Reports:

Lord Verderius asked the Governing Board Representatives if they wanted to give any updates:

Chamisa LC – No representation.

Everglades Moon LC – EMLC met and held elections. Their new FO is Coyote Morningstar. They discussed Turning the Tide and are looking at January dates. Raven will no longer be the Governing Board Rep. Lord Reiken will be the GB Rep with Dennis as the alternate.

Thea reminded all that after LC elections, the FO should send the new LC Officers to the Newsletter, Membership, and the First Officer.

Hills & Rivers LC – HRLC held Grove of Gaia Fest hosted by Hecate's Wheel. They are working with a group in Reading, PA to join CoG. They are also working with a group known as the Pagan Awareness Coalition to host a Witches Ball on November 4th. Their new FO is Lady Annabelle.

Northern California LC – NCLC met and held elections. Glenn Turner is FO.

Orange County LC – OCLC will meet next week for elections. They are planning for Pagan Pride in early November and a Psychic Faire in early December.

Southern California LC – SCLC said they have not had officer elections yet.

Texas LC – Texas did their first in-person Sabbat since they are outside. They plan an in-person Samhain but decided to cancel the Samhain Children's Carnival and the Witches' Ball due to COVID concerns. Gaelen is still FO. Guinevere will take over as GB Rep with Orin as alternate.

Touchstone LC – Touchstone met via Zoom and discussed a public Yule.

National Covens – Lord Solandrin asked whether there was a CoG Zoom he could send out to the other National Covens to meet. Lord Verderius said he would get with Lord Solandrin about the CoG Zoom. Lord Verderius asked Thea if there was a National Covens Sub-Group that is populated with the National Covens to allow them a way to communicate. Thea will get with Lord Solandrin to get that sub-group populated.

National Individual Members – Grace Moonhawk – Absent

Old Business:

- **Survey** – Survey to poll the membership to identify people who might want to become active in certain areas they are interested in or might be currently doing in their communities (*was to go out to the membership in August from last minutes*). Lady Mariah working with Manny on the Survey Monkey account. **Lady Mariah was hoping to have it done by now, but schedules have not permitted this.**

New Business:

- Deborah proposed that if there are any decisions that must be made regarding Membership Officer non communication that we handle them in this meeting and not wait another month for the Governing Board to meet. – The Boards agreed and made the following plans:
 - Enable Thea to do the full functions of the NMO which means getting a copy of the database, ensuring she has access to emails, and determining where the NMO is in the process. (This requires getting a hold of Lady K immediately.)
 - Set up a Groups.io sub-group for Membership with access and ownership for only the Co-Membership Officers, Lady K and Thea, and make the sub-group private.
 - Orin will forward the membership@coq.org email to the new groups.io sub-group so there is a record of all communications.
 - Further actions to be determined at the upcoming Governing Board Meeting on November 14, 2021.
- **Board Meeting Schedule for 2021/2022** (lists the recorder who will take minutes). All Board meetings are on Sunday's at 3 PM Pacific, 4 PM Mountain, 5 PM Central, 6 PM Eastern time. Deborah Bender asked that meeting schedules in the future be set in consultation with the Speaker of the Governing Board.
 - **2021:**
 - **October 10** – Combined Board – Faelind
 - **November 14** – Governing Board – Bonnie



- **December 12** – Executive Board – Faelind
- **2022:**
 - **January 9** – Combined Board – Bonnie
 - **February 13** – Governing Board – Bonnie
 - **March 13** – Executive Board – Faelind
 - **April 10** – Combined Board – Faelind
 - **May 8** – Governing Board – Bonnie (Morgana noted that this is Mother’s Day)
 - **June 5** – Executive Board – Faelind
 - **July 17** – Combined Board – Bonnie
 - *July TBD* for additional meetings of the Executive Board to plan Grand Council
 - *August 12-14 – Grand Council*
 - **August 21** – Governing Board – Bonnie
 - **September 18** – Executive Board – Faelind
 - **October 16** – Combined Board – Bonnie (old Executive Officer’s last meeting and all new officers will be in attendance)
 - **November 13** – Governing Board – Bonnie

• **Working Format for ongoing Combined Board Meetings –**

The Combined Board allows both the National Officers and the Governing Board to be able to get to know each other, work together, and clarify and or update any work being done. Some feel the Combined Board Meeting is the most valuable meeting we have. Reports do not give you an understanding of the people you are working with. It allows people to talk with each other.

- There are twelve meetings a year, with one each month. First, the Governing Board meets to bring issues from their constituencies and review the National Officer reports, then the National Officers meet to review any instructions or feedback from the GB, then the Combined Board meets to clarify or resolve any issues.
- A good practice going forward is to send any written reports to the Combined Board group in Groups.io so that both boards can see them in plenty of time prior to the

meetings. There was discussion about the old Summoner role, and Thea suggested that Groups.io can send an automatic reminder prior to the meeting dates. All agreed that would be a great idea.

Call for Additions to the Agenda:

- Deborah proposed we discuss how the agenda is put together for the meetings and read a passage from the Policy Manual that highlighted how the Agenda should be sent to the membership. There was discussion by the boards on the benefits to send to the membership.
- Agenda Item for the November 14 Governing Board Meeting – from Thea
 - Begin planning for the CoG 50th Anniversary!
- Lord Verderius noted that we don’t have any more CoG patches. Lord Verderius will reach out to Amber K to see whether she has a source. He still has pins. Lord Soec and Thea suggested that selling CoG pins and paperweight/medallions be added to our marketing plan.

Action Items:

1. Lord Verderius to contact Canu to get Orin access to C-Panel.
2. Thea to create a new, private sub-group for membership where she and Lady K are co-owners and Orin as Net-Co or Lord Verderius as FO have access in case it is needed.
3. Orin to forward membership@coq.org to a new, private membership sub-group on Groups.io.
4. Lord Verderius and Thea to contact Lady K using all means to have a conversation with her regarding membership data.
5. Bonnie to add an agenda item to the GB meeting to discuss Membership Officer communication.
6. Thea to add reminders to Groups.io to remind National Officers to send in reports prior to meetings and to remind membership about Newsletter deadlines.
7. Bonnie to add an agenda item to the GB meeting to begin planning for CoG’s 50th anniversary.
8. Lord Verderius to contact Amber K about CoG patches.
9. Janine to add marketing CoG items to marketing and outreach plan.
10. Lady Mariah to schedule time with Manny about the Survey Monkey distribution.



- 11. Bonnie to update GB Reps on GB Meeting Agenda Template.
- 12. Lord Verderius to meet with Lord Solandrin on holding Zoom National Coven calls.
- 13. Thea to meet with Lord Solandrin to populate the National Covens sub-group.

Meeting Adjourned:

The inspirational quote of the day is, "Progress is not possible without deviation". – Lord Reiken

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

FIRST OFFICER

Wow, it's October! There has been a lot things going on in life these past several weeks. I have held two board meetings since our Grand Council proceedings. More importantly, and I am happy to announce that we will have a new NetCo rep: Orin, who will take up reins and will head tech issues starting at Samhain. Thank you Orin!

We all send out a heartfelt thanks to Canu for all his hard work on migrating our old server archives and website onto our new server with our new hosting company. This was a major undertaking for the Covenant of the Goddess and we could not have done it without the caring hand and technical expertise of Canu. Thank you very much for all your care and hard work Canu. **We all appreciate it!**

Also, I would like to send out a special thank you to all the folks who headed up our tech conversion to the Groups.io platform for easier email communication of the members of CoG. This has been a amazing change to see members communicating more often with greater simplicity and ease. This was a great accomplishment for CoG and done in a very expeditious manner. Thank you!

The Governing Board will be working on the future vision for CoG. They will make decision on how to implement new ways of developing growth and viability for the future of the organization. I know they are eager to take the lead in managing the needs and cares of the Covenant. Additionally, this will allow the National Officers an opportunity to fine tune the things we are working on collectively.

This will be my final year as the NFO of CoG and it has been a great pleasure working with all of you on both national board of officers and the with the Governing Board Reps too. I am sure we will accomplish many important and exciting new things in the coming year ahead. I appreciate everyone coming together to work collectively for the betterment of CoG. Great things are in store for CoG in this new year.

Wish Samhain just a few weeks away, I hope you all have great ceremonial celebrations. We have a lot of work ahead of us this coming year, and I know we are up to the challenge! Prepare properly for our future labors on behalf of the Covenant. Wishing you all many Harvest Blessings!!

In continued service,
Lord Verderius
National First Officer

SECOND OFFICER

See Combined Board minutes

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

See Combined Board minutes

PURSEWARDEN

Fiscal Year End Report

Our total National assets at the time of writing are:

- In our Primary Account: \$ 90,526.09 (as of 10/28/21).
- In our Interfaith Account: \$5,585.62 (as of 10/28/21).
- In our PayPal Account: \$10,757.93. These funds will be transferred to our Primary account just before midnight Samhain.

The above represent out total and current liquid assets of \$106,869.64 of which \$20,000 is restricted (via Deborah Ann Light's gift for the 'future of the Covenant').

We have an annually renewed CD at Synchrony with a current value of \$33,113.52 (as of 6/30/2021). The maturity date is 8/11/21, and it will renew automatically.

Our current total assets are \$139,983.20

Blessed Samhain may your Ancestors speak with you often.

Blessed Be
Manny

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

See Combined Board minutes

PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

As we enter the season of Samhain remembering those who have crossed the rainbow



bridge, we reflect on the impact each and every one of them has had on us. Be it father, son, daughter, wife, mother, or those that touched us in this life, we will remember them for what is remembered lives. May all our ancestors deep in our past and those who have passed us in life be blessed with our memories and granted the love and the comfort of the Lord in Lady until we meet again either in the Summerlands or in our next step on our path.

As always, please send any articles, poetry or minutes to newsletter@cog.org. If you have an obituary for Beyond the Veil, training material, or past MerryMeet rituals for the website (or anything else really) please send it to cogweb@cog.org.

CORRESPONDENCE OFFICER

See Combined Board minutes

NATIONAL RECORDER

Merry Meet CoG-kin,

I am very happy to have a Co-Recorder for this last year of my term as Recorder. As most of you know, Bonnie Mote from the Texas Local Council raised her hand to serve as Co-Recorder if I would serve just one more year. Though the Recorder position is a Two-Year term now as are most Officer positions except for the Second Officer, I was unwilling to serve another two years. I agreed to be her Co-Recorder for the next year and then she would take over the role for 2022/2023. I appreciate her innovative suggestion and look forward to serving with her through this next year.

I have enjoyed working with the National Officers and seeing the Governing Board grow into their new roles leading the Covenant.

I am very happy to report that you will find the completed 2021 Grand Council Minutes along with the updated 2021 Bylaws and 2021 Policy Manual within the Samhain newsletter. Enjoy!

Here's to a productive next year!
Faelind

NATIONAL OUTREACH OFFICER

See Combined Board minutes

WELCOME TO CoG



Please welcome:
❖ Minos Lassar to Everglades Moon AoIM

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

NONE AT THIS TIME

TRANSITIONING FROM COVEN TO SOLITARY

NONE AT THIS TIME

LOCAL COUNCILS



CHAMISA

~ Sept. 19, 2021

This was a live meeting at the Mabon festival site near Ruidoso NM. There was intent to also have Zoom so secretary Carole McWilliams could take notes from home in SW Colorado. But there was no wifi. Brandon Proctor took these notes, edited by Carole, then reviewed by Brandon.

Present - Our Lady of the Woods, Circle of the Silver Moon, Amberisis (Sylvia Webb Koehler as solitary), Circle of the Cauldron, Ardantane, Dru as solitary. Guests Donna, Gaia, Pyramid, Jayven and Hazel (got their letters of recommendation), Jude as solitary.

Brandon's notes show a recommendation to expedite membership for our new friends interested in apprenticeship to be treasurer.

Sylvia will continue as pursewarden, but needs to train someone for treasurer. She will e-mail the financial report. She recommends 3 signatories on the checking account. We need to decide if we want to switch to Chase Bank.

Pursewarden report. Sylvia posted the 3rd quarter report. We paid \$270 for guest presenter Oberon Zell's lodging. Another \$150 for toilets. We need to decide Oberon's honorarium. We can afford \$1,000. We expect to have made over \$2100 from Mabon.

Rowan is our 2nd officer. Dru will continue work on the Mabon jobs and procedures manual.

Mabon 2022 - Dru stated we should think about suggestions for guest speaker for next year. Azrael volunteered to be guest liaison. There was a suggestion to consider people close by as featured presenter. Amber suggested maybe using our own community. If anyone has suggestions send them to Rowan. David suggested Ashleen O'Gaia who writes a lot of Pagan children's books; maybe have parenting workshop. Also explore theme of inner child, mentorship, expand the idea of "family" plus



offerings for participants who may not relate to the topic.

Donna suggested a Pagan author surrounding this topic as well. Online free pagan magazines. Pooka pages. Donna will email Rowan. Preparing next generation to be stewards of the earth. Encourage the kids to be a part of ritual. Treat everyone as family.

We need a guest speaker feeding schedule for next Mabon. Where and who? It was a last minute issue this year. A guest liaison could introduce the guest(s) to the campsites so they know. Rules need to be known ahead of time, not just at open ritual.

Location for Mabon 2022? The Poleza USFS campground near Jemez Pueblo? Maximum attendance there is 150 people. David said table it to Yule. The other could be Donna's land near Ruidoso where the 2021 festival was held. There was a suggestion for smaller gatherings like the CLC Litha retreat. Pyramid recommended moving the date. Albuquerque Pagan Pride may conflict. Last Sunday in September? We need to know when next year's PPD is. Rowan will communicate with Michelle Casella and let us know at Yule.

There was discussion of what to do with the new canopies (bought for Mabon). They need to be stored. Should we sell them? We may need them. Look into an affordable storage unit. We could rent the canopies to people. What do we do if we rent them to someone and they get damaged? Inspection sheet, contract. Brandon will coordinate with Sylvia. Include Rowan in correspondence so she is aware of where the stuff is going to be stored. Could have them on pallets. Pallets could be found for free somewhere. Sylvia will find a place and send to us.

We usually give Ardantane a donation. We'll revisit this at Yule. Ardantane does not need the donation now. They did well at their auction. Best auction ever. They will get the \$10,000 match for their building fund.

The Yule meeting (Sunday, Dec. 5 at noon) should be on Zoom to avoid travel and pollution. In groups io can have CLC list and contact info for others to see. Sylvia has emails in a CVS file for people who registered for Mabon. We need to have a guest email list as well. Community contact list start. Posted to secret group, be mindful of privacy. It's only for internal communication.

- Marla - SO - Assembly of Solitaries
- Raven - PW - AoS
- Diana - PIO - AoS
- Cosette - BeachFyre
- Shaylee - BeachFyre
- Canu - BeachFyre
- Coral (Coral is in Spiraling Heart Coven and Beachfyre)
- Riekin - Witch & Famous
- Coyote - AoS
- Dennis - AoS
- Bobbi Jo
- Amber
- Kasha
- Ceos - AoS

1:30 pm - Invocation to Coventina

OFFICER REPORTS:

First Officer Report (Alpandia) - It's been my honor to serve as First Officer for the 2020-2021 EMLC board. While the pandemic kept us apart, we still managed to gather, create, and enjoy each other's company. We held our first virtual Turning the Tide, and our first virtual Auction, participated in Grand Council, and interacted with our witchy community all while maintaining social distancing and practicing safe covid protocols

Second Officer (Marla) - Report is "we are having our Annual EMLC meeting! ☺"

Pursewarden (Raven) = Greetings! There hasn't been much activity in the Local Council this year, including since I took over Pursewarden duties earlier in the year. Our balances are as follows:

- PNC Bank Checking Account \$5,749.61
- Paypal Account \$3,553.88

Our monthly expenses are still \$15.00 monthly to Liberated Syndication for hosting the podcast, and \$25.00 monthly to The Wild Hunt.

The totals for our charitable funds are as follows:

- Fyre Dancer \$140.00
- Grace of the Goddess \$205.00
- Circe's Veil \$605.00

Membership Officer (Lady Bridget) - Our wonderful local council is thriving even during these times of separation. We have 7 member covens, and 12 individual members. That will soon be 13 individual members as we will be welcoming in Minos Lassar as a new member very soon. One of our other members, Minos Ceos, is getting paperwork together to have his coven join as a coven member, and so we expect to expand again.

I know the podcast is in the purview of the Publications Officer, but since I am it's host and editor, and publisher, I can give you some stats on that as well. Our podcast consists of 62 episodes,



EVERGLADES MOON

~ Sept. 25, 2021 ~

In attendance:

- Alpandia - FO - Dragon

Whisper



with the latest one being released 9-18-21, (4 days ago writing this) and already has 169 downloads. The statistics I can give you are from Nov 2017 on, but our first podcast was released for Imbolc 2013 and that has 1060 downloads. So since Nov 2017, we have 54,979 downloads of our different shows, with 35,760 of those being unique downloads. What does that mean? That means that we have reached over 35,000 different people since 2017. Those are folks that listened to at least one of our shows, and many of them listened to more than one. If you are not subscribed to the podcast, it's called "Reaching for the Moon" and it's available on iTunes and on our Website. You'll hear a lot of familiar voices!

It has been my pleasure to serve our local council as membership officer these past four years now, but it is more than time for me to turn over this position to another person. I am most happy to do that at Samhain this year, and will of course make myself available for any questions or help that they might need.

We should be proud of what we have accomplished and done this year, even with Covid keeping us apart. Remember kindness is the key to keeping friendships alive with love.

Publication Officer – not here: [see notes from report of Membership Officer, Lady Bridget, above].

Public Information Officer (Diana) – No additional Report

Recorder (Ben) – minutes are current with local and national

LC Representative to National Board and Alternate: No discussion

OLD BUSINESS

What EMLC'ers Are Doing: Mystic South Festival – July 15 – 17, 2022 in Atlanta, GA. Tickets are on sale. EMLC has a block of rooms. Workshops and papers opening soon. our site is <https://www.mystic-south.com>

Summer Magick Fest, inaugural festival. June 9-12, 2022. Orlando, FL. Hosted by Triple Butterfly Enterprises.

<https://www.summermagickfest.org/>

The Center in Palm Bay is doing great even with Covid and we have a thriving Pagan Meetup going on! We have a tentative date for Pagan Pride Day of Oct 15, 2022

Canu – I have taken lead for Faery Leadership online. It is anticipated that we will get a starter Seership Training going. If interested please contact Canu. Original group did many activities: breathwork workshops, etc. It is an interesting and exciting time to be working in Florida.

Please make donations to the Wild Hunt (Alpandia)...thank you.

FPG is happening (Bobbi Jo). Florida Pagan Gathering is a "go", in a new location, Oct 27 – 31...at a Kiawani's Club.

Report from LC Reps to the National Board (Raven) – At our last meeting we spoke about Grand Council.

Discussion: there was a national discussion about having local councils to have their exceptions variances brought into line with national. There was some discussion / discontent. National Council let go of it.

Turning the Tide 2021 (Manny / Shaylee) – There was a meeting yesterday (9/24/21) with a rep from Greynolds Park (Natasha), which did not go well.

Multiple attempts to reach Greynolds Park staff, a meeting occurred in person. Manny went in person.

Staff cancelled EMLC dates and gave them to a Catholic Church. Natasha called in a manger, Christopher Kendrick. Manny has already spoke with his supervisor and the Mayor's office and 311 was called. C. Kendrick: "its been cancelled, it's a done deal". Paperwork disappeared, was found on manager's desk. Justin Rabb had initially approved it. C. Kendrick refused to give information (his supervisor's name). Manny contacted Justin Rabb's office and will follow up.

Bottom line...this is still in process.

Manny reviewing alternatives.

Whyasa, in South Dade...much more expensive than Greynolds. No fire, all activities close at 10pm.

Various Broward County Parks....group camping (Markum, TY Park, others, Quiet Waters) has it. Quiet Waters have RV sites separate from cabins. Cabins are designed for kids.

Other spaces are not separate. (Lori and Penny Thompson). We would not be isolated, no common meal, no common ritual space.

Vitambi Springs.....very active in LGBT...primarily for bears / BDSM, but open. South side is clothing optional, north side is pool. We would have to create a space. They have not allowed open fires for long, they are closed during the week due to Covid.

Pine Crest Campground for Group Camping – completely private. 8 miles into the Big Cypress. No power, no water. You are by yourself. Primitive Camping (\$45 / per night as many people).

Questions: how far do we want to be from ocean / water? Where in Florida do we want to be?

Ideas / Brainstorming: Look at hotels?



This guy Christopher also refused to give EMLC the keys two years ago. He may be a rogue actor and someone not in sync with park policy.

OTHER IDEA: Riekin: Maybe create a new type of event?

What is a drop dead date to close this out? Oct 21 – next planning meeting

We have a contract for 2021, which they seemed to ignore.

We need to wait for Justin’s response before reacting.

Oct 21 – next planning meeting.

IDEAS IF WE GET GREYNOLDS: Video tape everything before we start. We do everything in pairs. Ask not to interact with Christopher or if we have to interact with him that he be accompanied by another.

Still looking for Ritual Host for TTT.

Fundraising and Outreach (Alpandia) – No updates on a potential psychic house party. More later.

NEW BUSINESS

Grand Council 2021 Report: General Discussion of the Grand Council.

Reports from any Pagan Pride Day (PPD) Celebrations: There was attendance at these Pagan Prides: Jacksonville, Puget Sound is going on now (online), Fort Lauderdale (still virtual).

Annual Membership Variance Approval: A Coven or Individual Member that applies to Everglades Moon Local Council for membership needs two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a member of the Local Council. – Move: Ceos. 2nd All Consented to this.

Any person who is a former member of an EMLC member coven, needs to have one of their letters of recommendation be from their former HP or HPS or designated CoG coven contact. This does not apply to a solitary member of a member coven who wishes to hold dual status as a solitary member also. The Local Council Board can waive this requirement on a case by case basis at the Board’s discretion. – Discussion. Move: Ceos. 2nd All Consented to this.

New applicants must attend 3 EMLC meetings or events, one of which must be in person*, before membership application materials will be forwarded for National publication. – Discussion, Move: Ceos, 2nd, All Consented to this.

NEW WORDING TO THIS VARIANCE: New applicants must attend 3 EMLC meetings or events, one of which must be in person*, the Local Council Board can waive this requirement in times

of crisis before membership application materials will be forwarded for National publication

* - amended, the Local Council Board can waive this requirement in times of crisis. Discussion: Move: Ceos, 2nd, All Consented to this.

Election of LC Officers:

- First Officer (currently running: Coyote) - unanimous
- Second Officer (currently running: Rayna) - unanimous
- Membership Officer (Bobbi Jo) - unanimous
- Publication Officer (currently running: Cosette) - unanimous
- Public Information Officer (currently running: Diana) - unanimous
- Recorder (currently running: Mino Ceos with Shaylee) - unanimous
- LC Representative to National Board and Alternate – Nominated: Riekin (primary), Dennis (alternate). - unanimous

Focus on activities for upcoming year (Rayna): Suggestion: Separating the Retreat from the Annual Meeting....like on Memorial Day.

Annual Donations: Discussed.

Community Announcements: Thanks to the members of the outgoing Board and welcome to the incoming Board.

Next Meeting Date: Tentative Oct 23 or 24.

New FO – at Samhain – look to schedule the next 6 meetings. FO will send out email.

Meeting closed at 3:20 pm with invocation.



HILLS AND RIVERS

~No Report~

Last published minutes in the Mabon 2021 edition.



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

~ No report

Last published minutes in the Ostara 2021 edition.



ORANGE COUNTY

~Sept. 9, 2021~

Invocation: Rev. Dee opened the meeting with the invocation.

Roll Call:



Covens/Solitaires:

- Bran Faol Reannag (BFR) – represented by Janine
- Celtic Circle of Wisdom – represented by Mary
- Dream Walkers of Delos – represented by Ravenhawk
- Ghostwheel – represented by Morgana RavenTree
- Greenwood Glen – represented by Camille
- Lyceum of Aset Hauhet – represented by Rev. Dee

Approval of Minutes: August minutes were circulated for review approved

Officer Reports:

First Officer – Pam: not present

Second Officer – Camille: 8 new check ins for Lilith’s workshop on the 29th, but only 2 have made donations; should remind them about registering on the website.

Facebook updates:

- 6 new page likes
- 6 New Page Followers
- 2, 637 Post Reach
- 636 Post Engagements
- Most Engaging Posts
- Tarot Tricks 1.3K Reach, Engagements 104
- Passing Along, 551 Reach, Engagements 71
- Write your own, 381 Reach, Engagements 45, 8 Event Responses
- Discovery 2,645 page
- Reach 97page views
- Audience 2,986 total likes

Membership Officer - (Pam Acting): not present

Pursewarden – Mary: there has been no change in our accounts since last month (bank account has a balance of \$4,334.16. We have \$95.00 in petty cash and our PayPal account has a balance of 400.87 for a total of \$4830.03).

Public Information Officer – (Ravenhawk) 2 people registered for Witch’s Pantry; no one yet for Rev. Dee’s workshop.

Recorder – Morgana sent the May, June and July minutes to the newsletter immediately after Grand Council and the National Publications Officer acknowledged receipt; Morgana will send the August 2021 to the Newsletter after this meeting.

Governing Board Representative Report – Janine: For further details, please see the minutes of the Combined Executive Board/Governing Board meeting on August 29, 2021 published in the Covenant of the Goddess newsletter.

Old Business:

- Zoom workshops - Mary has set up the Zoom links for the workshops and attached them to the Facebook events and registration on the website. We should share the Facebook events on our individual news feeds
- Wednesday September 29th 7:00pm – 9:00pm **Witch’s Pantry** with Lilith;
- Thursday November 18th 7:00pm – 9:00pm **Gris Gris/Mojo Bags** with Rev. Dee;
- Ravenhawk: Need to make sure that people sign up on website, not just FB
- Psychic Faire is scheduled for the first Saturday in December. Mary spoke with Mystic Connections and they put it on their calendar and will promote it. We need to do “save the date” postcards. Ravenhawk has a base for the postcards. He will send the final version to Mary for printing. Camille will set up a Facebook event. At the August meeting, Ravenhawk proposed letting customers use the website to preorder time slots for Psychic Faire, but after further discussion OCLC decided to table it for the Summer event, instead. New readers/presenters can contact Mary

Grand Council/MerryMeet 2022:

- As of November 1st, Mary will take over as National Second Officer
- Confirm dates for GC/MM 2022 with hotel
- Mary and Augusta are going to discuss the Children’s Programming
- (Eventually) need to confirm the workshop presenters from 2020 will still be available to present workshops in 2022
- (Eventually) need to confirm entertainment still available for 2022
- Morgana will send Mary a draft of the opening ritual (but Mary is free to decline and go with a different idea)

Costs have changed since 2019. Mary visited hotel yesterday. Reviewed rooms. Discussed meal options (buffets might not be available); they have our lists and banquet manager will work off of them.

New Business:

- Pagan Pride Day – Mary has everything for COG booth except table. Camille will check with Pam about the table. We should each



ask the members of our groups for specific time blocks and report back at October meeting.

- Candidates for officer positions (voting in October)
 - First Officer – Morgana
 - Second Officer - Mary
 - Pursewarden - Lilith
 - PIO -
 - Recorder –
 - Gov. Board Rep. – Janine/Morgana
 - Membership - Camillej

Meeting Adjourned: There being no further business Rev. Dee gave the closing blessing and the meeting was adjourned.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

~ No Report~

Last published minutes in the Mabon 2021 edition.



TEXAS LOCAL COUNCIL

~ No Report~

Last published minutes in the Mabon 2021 edition.



TOUCHSTONE

~ August 2, 2021~

In attendance:

- Circle of the Emerald Forest: Joanne was not present but Val had proxy.
- Circle of the Obsidian Oak: Chad and Lari were present.
- Ecclasian Fellowship: Jack & Stachia and Val were present.
- AoIM; Zenah

Announcements:

Ecclasian Fellowship: No announcements but we are trying to put something together for Samhain.

Circle of the Obsidian Oak: Our online classes continue to be a success; we are still learning and now we currently have 6 students. Everything is running smoothly and we are continuing to grow.

Circle of the Emerald Forest: No announcement.

Officer Reports:

First Officer (Val): Nothing to report.

Second Officer: (Lari) No report.

Membership Officer (Joanne): Not present and no report.

PIO (Chad): Not report.

Pursewarden (Jack): no change.

Recorder (Val): Will send minutes to National ASAP.

Governing Board Rep (Jack): No report.

Old Business:

Online teaching classes by The Circle of the Obsidian Oak continue to grow and everything is running smoothly. This will be an ongoing item.

New Business:

Chad will call on Corky's and Sizzler in Banning along with several other potential places also where we can meet.

Closing: Short and sweet by Val.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 4th, 2021

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND COG

WEDNESDAY WITH WITCHES

Wednesday, Nov 3 and Nov 17th 5:30 PM PST

Come and join us for Wednesday with Witches! We meet on the first Wednesday of the month for the public and every third Wednesday for CoG members only. BYOB (bring your own brew) and snacks and join us for a spell!

Topics are announced on the CoG calendar

- <https://cog.org/whats-happening-around-cog>
- <https://members.cog.org/cog-calendar/>

ONLINE PAGAN 101 CLASSES

**Animal Guides
Geomancy**

**Nov. 10, 2021
Dec. 8, 2021**

Texas Local Council presents a wide variety of Pagan Classes for the public. Our teachers primarily come from several different traditions among the many member covens and individuals in our Local Council and provide a new perspective on Pagan teachings so even long-time practitioners can learn something new!





CRAFTING GRIS GRIS/MOJO BAGS

Thursday, Nov. 18, 2021 7-9 PM PST

Join Rev. Dee in crafting your own Gris Gris for protection, luck, love, or money! Learn the history of this essential element of any New Orleans-style practice and create one for yourself. Understand the essential herbal, magickal, and spiritual point of view of this practice of New Orleans Voodoo practitioners, Cajun healers, and Hoodoo root doctors.

<https://oclc-cog.org/workshops-and-classes/gris-gris-mojo-bags-with-rev-dee-november-18th-2021>

BLAST FROM THE PAST

THE HELMS AMENDMENT

Vol 10, No 8 Samhain 1985

Written by Amber K

The Helms Amendment

Many of you have heard by now that the US Senate unanimously passed an amendment to the Postal Services Appropriations bill, aimed at denying tax exemption to organizations "promoting satanism or witchcraft."

The amendment, #705, was sponsored by Sen. Jess Helms and passed on a voice vote. It reads as follows:

"No funds appropriated under this Act shall be used to grant, maintain, or allow tax-exemption to any cult, organization, or other group that has a purpose, or that has interest in, the promoting of satanism or witchcraft: Provided that for the purposes of this section, "Satanism" is defined as the worship of Satan or the powers of evil and Witchcraft" is defined as the use of powers derived from evil spirits, the use of sorcery, of the use of supernatural powers with malicious intent"

This is clearly unconstitutional, but into it might In take the years and a very great amount of money to prove it, if it is signed into law.

In the meantime those of us with tax exempt status could be in the position of having to prove that the powers we use are not derived from evil spirits*** or that our intent is working magick is not malicious.

At the this time writing the bill is about to go into conference committee (best guess: Oct. 21); by the time you read this newsletter it may be on Reagan's desk, or it may be defeated.

WHAT HAVE COG MEMBERS BEEN DOING?

The amendment was passed on Thursday, Sept.26. On Friday all local council First Officers

were alerted, and asked to spread the word, in time for the Full Moon. Many covens were reached in time to work on the issue in circle, when Her power was at its peak.

I and others contacted American Civil Liberties Union's Washington office, where we established contact with Rev. Barry Lynn, who was assigned to work on this legislation. We exchanged information and offered to serve as a resource for their efforts; Meanwhile Rev. Lynn gave us advice on the best way to proceed, and supplied a list of probable conference committee members to target with phone calls etc.

Pete Pathfinder, our Public Information Officer, had determined while CoG is generally not permitted to lobby under the law, we are allowed to lobby on issues affecting our existence and our tax-exempt status.

The National Board and Local Council officers continued to spread information as we received it and to encourage letters, telegrams and phone calls to key legislators; and Circle sent out a special mailing top a large part of their network, explaining the situation and urging action

I contacted the National Council of Churches, the Unitarian Universalist Association, the Jewish Synagogue National Council of America, and the N.A.A.C.P, explained the amendment, and asked for them to act in opposition to it. Responses to ranged from the very supportive of our position(the Unitarians) to cautious promises to consider the issue.

National Officers are keeping a close watch on this and Rep. Walker's bill in the House (HR 3389) and will keep you informed

Amber K

ARTICLES FROM OUR MEMBERS

A WILD GOD DOES NOT LAY DOWN QUIETLY TO DIE

By Andrea Joy

A wild god does not lay down quietly to die. When its' time approaches it opens the doors that we are told should stay closed.

A wild god does not lay down quietly to die. It shows you the bleached bones and remains of your ancestors – both feared and cherished.

A wild god does not lay down quietly to die. Its' blood drips yellow, and orange, and appears with grinning lit faces on our neighbors homes.



A wild god does not lay down quietly to die.
Its' glowing red eyes fall out to play
in the corners of our imaginations.

A wild god does not lay down quietly to die.
The children run with it through the night
screaming and laughing – trick or treat?

A wild god does not lay down quietly to die.
It dances uninhibited and unafraid
and makes love with death.

A wild god does not lay down quietly to die.
When its' time comes it falls through the worlds
dragging you with it into the realm of dead.

A wild god does not lay down quietly to die.
On the other side of the veil it smiles at you
with yellowed and browned teeth.

A wild god does not lay down quietly to die.
Having introduced you to your fate
it prepares to release you to the land of the living.

A wild god does not lay down quietly to die.
Before releasing you from its' grip
it whispers in your ear that it will live again. This
Coming Month

SUMMONING THE ANCESTORS

M. Macha NightMare
© Samhain 2005 C.E.

Oh, mighty, many, myriad Ancestors, as we
spiral in and out of time, we call to you.

You who first stood upright and walked the
savannahs of Africa.

You who explored the inland waters of all
the continents in curragh, canoe and kayak.

You who ventured out onto the open sea in
triremes, galleons and long ships.

You who crossed the middle passage in the
bellies of slave ships.

You who learned to read the stars, to
harness the trade winds, to ride the oceans' currents.

You who followed the reindeer and caribou
beneath the Northern Lights.

You who swept across the Great Plains with
the thundering bison.

You who climbed mountains with goats,
hunted with dogs, worshipped cat and crocodile,
monkey, ibis, bear and eagle.

You who rode great distances on the backs
of animal allies – the horse, the camel, the
elephant.

You who gathered in the wild rice.

You who planted wheat and corn, beans
and squash, orchards of olives and apples.

You who found the precious seeds that give
us chocolate, dark and rich.

You who kened the healing properties of
vines in the Amazon jungle, of roots and barks and
mushrooms in the deep, dark forests, and of the
flesh of cactus in the burning desert.

You who spun flax and wool, gifts of field
and sheep, into garments both cool and warm.

You who shaped clay into pots; dug ore
from Earth's depths and pounded metal into tools;
painted cave walls.

You who clustered in the Fertile Crescent, in
Sumer and Akkadia, erected cities and wrote laws.

You who built the Great Wall of China, the
great pyramids along the Nile, the great passage
graves in the Boyne Valley.

You who fashioned flutes from reeds, and
drums from skins. You who danced and
rhapsodized.

You who brought us every gift, it is your
DNA that thrives within our bodies tonight. We
thank you, dear Ancestors, and we bid you
welcome.

LOCAL COUNCIL VARIENCES

EVERGLADES MOON

A Coven or Individual Member that applies
to Everglades Moon Local Council for membership
needs two letters of recommendation, one of which
must be from a member of the Local Council.

Any person who is a former member of an
EMLC member coven, needs to have one of their
letters of recommendation be from their former HP
or HPS or designated CoG coven contact. This does
not apply to a solitary member of a member coven
who wishes to hold dual status as a solitary
member also. The Local Council Board can waive
this requirement on a case by case basis at the
Board's discretion.

New applicants must attend 3 EMLC
meetings or events, one of which must be in
person*, the Local Council Board can waive this
requirement in times of crisis before membership
application materials will be forwarded for National
publication

* - amended, the Local Council Board can waive
this requirement in times of crisis.



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

MEMBERSHIP POLICIES: We conduct all business through consensus decision of the Membership, not by executive action of a limited group. The Local Council Membership Officer’s actions consist of bringing new applications and transfer requests to the Membership for consideration and helping the applicants to assemble the paperwork and to negotiate the process.

PROCEDURES FOR JOINING THE COVENANT OF THE GODDESS THROUGH THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LOCAL COUNCIL: To join Covenant of the Goddess through the Northern California Local Council, the prospective coven representative(s) or individual must:

- 1) Come to a Local Council meeting to introduce the Coven or individual applying.
- 2) Become familiar with the Local Council and allow the Local Council to become familiar with the applicant.
- 3) Present the application to the Local Council, with completed application form, tithes, statement of practice, and two letters of recommendation. Ideally, at least one recommendation should come from a member of our Local Council. This is a preference, rather than a requirement.
- 4) Current annual national tithes are \$110-170 per coven, or \$50-90 per individual. Local Council annual tithes are \$25 per coven or \$10 per individual. If the tithes are a hardship, it is possible to arrange for them to be reduced or waived, or to apply for National or Local "Grace of the Goddess" funds. Tithes cover the expenses of CoG projects.
- 5) Await a discussion of your application at subsequent LC meeting(s) until an opinion is formed. The decision on your application must take place at a meeting following the meeting at which you applied, once your paperwork is completed. Admission takes, at a minimum, about 3 meetings. There have been a few applications where discussions went on for several meetings, or applicants were asked further questions. We understand that some meetings will be quite distant for some prospective members and would not ask you to be present at all of them. We prefer physical presence at least one meeting, but exceptions will be considered, and virtual attendance may substitute on a case-by-case basis. There are rare admissions where application occurred at one meeting and admission at the next, but in practice, this is rare, partly because paperwork takes time to gather. This paragraph is intended to allow prospective applicants to understand that admission (and subsequent credentialing) is not possible in just a few days.

PROCEDURES FOR TRANSFERRING INTO THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LOCAL COUNCIL:

Requirements to Request to Transfer to NCLC: The following are not eligible to transfer to NCLC and must use the New Application process:

An individual or Coven Membership which voluntarily lapsed more than a year and a day prior to the transfer request, or which was canceled by CoG for any reason.

A Coven hived from a member Coven.

A sub-group of a member Coven (some BTW traditions have sub-groups run by 2nd degrees, prior to hiving at 3rd degree).

As soon as the applicant knows that they need to transfer to NCLC in order to continue their CoG Membership, but no later than a year and a day from date of their Membership lapse, they shall submit to the NCLC Membership Officer

1. Their most recent Renewal Form with updated information as needed, with new date and signature, or a New Application Form with a note explaining where they are transferring from.
2. A Statement of Practice (SoP). A previously published SoP, updated to reflect the current situation may be used.
3. The following recommendation for their specific type of transfer:

Transfer from within NCLC

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF NCLC MEMBER COVEN TRANSFERRING INTO THE NCLC ASSEMBLY OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS (AoIM):

- a written and signed Letter of Recommendation (LoR) from either their Coven leadership (strongly preferred), or
- a written and signed LoR from a person known to CoG who has personal knowledge of the person requesting the transfer, or
- a verbal recommendation from a member of NCLC at a meeting and recorded in the meeting minutes.
- Transfer from another Local Council
- MEMBER COVEN FROM ANOTHER LOCAL COUNCIL TRANSFERRING INTO NCLC:
- a written and signed LoR from either the leadership of a different Coven in the previous Local Council (strongly preferred), or
- from someone known to CoG who has personal knowledge of the person requesting the transfer.
- INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF A MEMBER COVEN FROM ANOTHER LOCAL COUNCIL TRANSFERRING INTO THE



NCLC ASSEMBLY OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS (AoIM):

- a written and signed LoR from either from their Coven leadership in the previous Local Council (strongly preferred), or
- from someone known to CoG who has personal knowledge of the Coven leadership requesting the transfer.
- AoIM MEMBER FROM ANOTHER LOCAL COUNCIL TRANSFERRING INTO THE NCLC AoIM:
 - a written and signed LoR from someone in the previous Local Council (strongly preferred), or
 - from someone known to CoG who has personal knowledge of the person requesting the transfer.
- Transfer from National
- NATIONAL COVEN TRANSFERRING TO NCLC:
 - a written and signed LoR either from another Coven's leadership (strongly preferred), or
 - from someone known to CoG who has personal knowledge of the Coven leadership requesting the transfer.
- INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF A NATIONAL COVEN TRANSFERRING TO NCLC AoIM:
 - a written and signed LoR from either their Coven leadership (strongly preferred), or
 - from someone known to CoG who has personal knowledge of the person requesting the transfer.

MEMBER OF NATIONAL AoIM TRANSFERRING TO NCLC AoIM:

- a written and signed LoR from someone known to CoG who has personal knowledge of the person requesting the transfer.

Upon receipt of a completed transfer request, the Membership Officer will confirm previous/current CoG Membership with either the Coven's leadership, the Local Council Membership Officer, or the National Membership Officer as needed, including the date the membership would have ceased had a transfer request not been made (to keep to the year and a day time-frame for transfers).

The MO will then add the request to the agenda for the next meeting, and publish the transfer request, including the SoP and LoR, to NCLC's elist. The MO will also bring the SoP and the LoR to the next meeting so the Membership may review them.

Additionally, to allow time for the NCLC Membership to become aware of the request, to ask questions of the applicant, and to submit written objections, the applicant must attend at least one meeting prior to the meeting when the decision on their transfer request will be made. Physical presence at this meeting is preferred, but requests for virtual attendance instead will be considered for reasons such as being out of the local area at the time of the meeting, physical disability, or illness.

In order to meet this requirement, the applicant may attend the meeting announcing the transfer request or a future meeting. At whichever meeting the applicant attends, a future meeting date will be chosen for the Membership to decide the transfer request in the same manner as new membership applications are decided.

If the transfer request is approved, a short note to that effect shall be added to the meeting minutes for publication, and the Membership Officer shall forward one set of the completed application materials to the National Membership Officer for publication in the newsletter as called for in the ByLaws. The transfer request is not final until after the 45-day period for objections is complete and the NMO announces the transfer and its effective date in the Newsletter.

If the transfer request is denied, a short note to that effect shall be added to the meeting minutes for publication, and the Membership Officer shall notify the applicant and the National Membership Officer within 15 days of the decision.

TOUCHSTONE

1. For All New Applicants Touchstone Local Council requires that:
 - a) One of the letters of recommendation be from a current member of Touchstone Local Council; and
 - b) Prospective applicants attend a minimum of three council meetings in a nine month period prior to the submission of their application. The purpose of this requirement is to provide the prospective applicant an opportunity to become familiar with the Council and vice versa.
2. Current members who are in good standing with CoG at either the National level or who belong to another local council within the Covenant may apply for membership in Touchstone Local Council by:
 - a) Providing a letter of recommendation from a member of TLC;
 - b) Submitting a letter of intent detailing the reasons for joining TLC;



- c) Attending three TLC meetings; and
 - d) Making an effort to engage as a member of the local community by socializing or attending local council events. When the above criteria are met, TLC will then endeavor to come to consensus concerning the applicant's request for membership within Touchstone Local Council.
3. Touchstone local council allows member covens and Assembly of Individual Members to assign their proxy verbally or by electronic means.
 4. Current members of Touchstone Local Council who are in good standing may transfer their membership from Coven to Individual Member by:
 - a) Attending three TLC meetings; and

Making an effort to engage as a member of the local community by socializing or attending local council events if they have not already been doing so. TLC will then endeavor to come to consensus concerning the applicant's request for Individual Membership within Touchstone Local Council.

BEST ESSENTIAL OILS FOR HALLOWEEN

Sweet Halloween Diffuser Blends

Candy Corn: You've got to try this one to believe it. It seems odd at first glance, but mixing lemon, orange, and wintergreen together really does smell like candy corn. It's amazing!

2 drops lemon + 2 drops orange + 2 drops wintergreen

Trick or Treat: The joyful smell of walking house to house with your friends on Halloween night in your costumes, collecting way, way too much candy for any one person to eat.

3 drops copaiba + 2 drops bergamot + 1 drop grapefruit + 1 drop cedarwood

Cotton Candy: All the sweetness of spun sugar, without the sticky fingers or calories.

3 drops grapefruit + 3 drops ylang ylang + 2 drops vanilla

Friendly Ghost: Who says all ghosts have to be scary? This friendly ghost blend is all treat and no trick. It has just the right amount of sweetness but also the warmth of vanilla and the freshness of spearmint.

2 drops spearmint + 2 drops lemon + 2 drops orange + 2 drops vanilla

Frankinfruit: Inspired by the famous Halloween monster, Frankenstein, this blend has a clever mash-up of a name, FRANKINcense + grapeFRUIT= Frankinfruit. But not only does it have a clever name, this essential oil blend smells fantastic!

3 drops frankincense + 3 drops grapefruit + 2 drops lime

Warm & Spicy Halloween Diffuser Blends

Pumpkin Spice Latte: Look no further for your perfect autumn morning blend. Put this PSL blend in your diffuser for a boost of energy plus the quintessential smell of fall.

3 drops coffee + 2 drops cinnamon bark + 1 drop clove + 1 drop ginger + 1 drop orange + 1 drop cardamom

Haunted House: Set the mood for a spooky evening with this warm and woody blend.

2 drops orange + 2 drops cedarwood + 2 drops frankincense + 1 drop ginger + 2 drops clove

Graveyard: Going to be up late conjuring spirits or other Halloween party games? Put this blend in the diffuser to keep everyone going all night long.

3 drops coffee + 3 drops orange + 1 drop cinnamon bark + 1 drop clove

Spooktacular!: Hosting a Halloween party? Set the tone with this Spooktacular blend of autumn scents that reminds me of warm apple cider.

1 drop frankincense + 1 drop cedarwood + 1 drop sandalwood + 1 drop ginger + 1 drop clove + 2 drops orange

Spooky Halloween Diffuser Blends

Hocus Pocus: There's just something mystical about patchouli. Diffuse it and something magical is bound to happen.

2 drops frankincense + 2 drops patchouli + 3 drops orange

Enchanted Forest: Transport yourself deep into the magical woods where anything can happen with this blend of earthy, woody essential oils.

2 drops spruce + 1 drop pine + 2 drops patchouli + 2 drops lavender + 1 drop frankincense + 1 drop cedarwood

Black Cat: This essential oil blend aims to keep you in good fortune even if a black cat crosses your path.

2 drops black pepper + 2 drops orange + 2 drops tangerine + 1 drop cedarwood

Witch's Brew: Double double toil and trouble. Welcome to the spooky side of aromatherapy!

1 drop ylang ylang + 2 drops eucalyptus + 2 drops lavender + 2 drops spearmint