

COVENANT OF THE GODDESS



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BELTANE 2024

VOLUME 49

NUMBER 4

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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 LITHA

Litha renewals are due on **June 21, 2024**. The Drop-dead date is **July 1, 2024** 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).

EVERGLADES MOON LOCAL COUNCIL:

- ❖ DRAGONWHISPER COVEN
- ❖ LORD GWYDION
- ❖ SILVER SANCTUARY COVEN
- ❖ SPIRALING HEART COVEN

HILLS AND RIVERS LOCAL COUNCIL:

- ❖ CIRCLE OF DIANA
- ❖ GROVE OF THE ANCIENT RIVER

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LOCAL COUNCIL: NONE

ORANGE COUNTY LOCAL COUNCIL: NONE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LOCAL COUNCIL: NONE

TEXAS LOCAL COUNCIL:

- ❖ KEALA DATURA

TOUCHSTONE LOCAL COUNCIL: NONE

NATIONAL COVENS:

- ❖ TEMPLE OF THE RISING PHOENIX

NATIONAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:

- ❖ BRYCE WOYAK
- ❖ FRODO
- ❖ SUSANNAH FAITH

FRIENDS OF CoG: NONE



OUR GOVERNING BOARD

- National First Officer – Morgana RavenTree
- National Purse Warden – Qabal
- Everglades Moon – Marla
- Hills & Rivers – Lady Annabelle
- Northern California – Linnea
- Orange County – Janine
- Southern California – Jenna & Lady Mariah
- Texas – Kim B
- Touchstone – Lord Soec
- National Covens – Lord V
- National Individual Members – Open
- Governing Board Recorder – Open

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

FIRST OFFICER

No report.

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

Beltane Greetings CoGkin!

Thank you to everyone that renewed at Ostara. Beltane renewals are due this month and prefilled renewal forms for those that renew at Litha will be sent this week.

I will be sending our reminders with the prefilled renewal attached to all overdue members.

Check Your SPAM Folders. Security Updates have changed some of the settings for email delivery. Please check your spam folders for messages from CoG where they may have been accidentally sorted.

Outreach is a great way for interested members of our communities to become affiliated with CoG members. If you or any members of your coven or council are interested in connecting with our Friends of CoG or perspective CoG members please send an email to our outreach officer at outreach@cog.org or the NMO at membership@cog.org.

We have a public website, www.cog.org, and a "member's only" website (link is on the public page, in the top navigation bar). You will need a password for to access the "member's only" site.

TO GET A PASSWORD TO THE COG WEBSITE: From the email address you used when you joined CoG, send an email to NetCo@cog.org and someone will respond. If no one gets back to you in a reasonable amount of time, send an email to administrators@covenantofthegoddess.groups.io, again from the same email address you joined CoG.



Do you need some help with the Groups.IO platform (elists), or getting subbed to a group? Send email to administrators@CovenantoftheGoddess.groups.io , and someone will contact you.

Elist policies reminder: When replying to a message posted to AIR, please remember to change the email address in the TO: Field to DD@covenantofthegoddess@groups.io . Groups IO does not allow replies to AIR to forward directly to DD so we have to manually change the field address to DD for replies.

Please know that there is money in the **Grace of the Goddess fund** to assist those Members who might need it, and the NMO will work with you for deferred tithe payments. As a reminder, Grace of the Goddess funds may only be used for tithes and cannot be used to pay for Credential renewals. Please consider donating to this fund or any of the other special donations on your renewal form.

If you have questions, need to update your email address, or want to join or leave an elist please feel free to contact the NMO at membership@coq.org.

- **Applications –**
 - Edward McGuire – Friend of CoG
 - Kate Rose – Friend of CoG
- **Please Welcome –**
 - None at this time
- **Transfer Requests –**
 - None at this time
- **Lapsed Members –**

MEMBERSHIP STATUS – We currently have 135 Members total (62 Covens, and 54 Individual Members); and 19 Friends of CoG. Because things can change quickly between the Newsletter publishing deadline and the actual date of publication, this may have changed by the time you read it.

In Her Service,
Lauren Testa

PURSEWARDEN

No report.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

No report.

PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

Text goes here.

As always, please send any articles, poetry or minutes to newsletter@coq.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 coqweb@coq.org.

In Her service
Stachia Ravensdottir

CORRESPONDENCE OFFICER

No report.

NATIONAL RECORDER

No report.

NATIONAL OUTREACH OFFICER

No report.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

~ March 3, 2024~

INVOCATION: Morgana RavenTree

Quorum: 71.4% Quorum is met. (Reminder, quorum is not required to hold this meeting; quorum is only required if the executive board makes any decisions by consensus or votes on any issues)

National Officers Present:

- ✓ National First Officer – Morgana RavenTree
- ✓ National Pursewarden – Elizabeth RavenFire
- ✓ National Membership Officer – Lauren T
- ✓ National Recorder – Stone
- ✓ Outreach Officer – Bastion

Absent:

- National Public Information Officer – Vacant
- National Second Officer – Vacant
- Publications Officer – Stachia Ravendottir
- National Correspondence Officer – Taffy

Old Business:

Closing fiscal year 2023 records: The pursewarden records are current through January.

National



Received \$1 Smile PayPal Giving Fund donations to CoG as a non-profit. The total balance from PayPal, Wells Fargo and Chase is \$166,035.44

The Wells Fargo account is no longer dormant. The purserwarden is in the process of closing it and requested a check be sent to Covenant of the Goddess.

Annual taxes will require a long form submission due to exceeding the \$50,000 per year limit.

Local Councils: OCLC has provided some requested financial information.

All financial information is now stored on a Google Drive for easy access by local councils.

Merry Meet: National paid \$21,259.52. National paid \$19,563.41 for unoccupied rooms.

\$440.37 was collected from the CoG bowl sales. Those funds will be sent to National.

Texas had a net gain of \$556.31 post Merrymeet 2023.

There is a vacancy for the National Public Officer since January.

Seeking Volunteers or recommendations for the position.

Hoping the local PIO's are picking up the slack.

New Business:

Grand Council is scheduled for August 10 & 11, 2024 – VIRTUAL Friday and Saturday

Leadership Institute on August 9, 2024 – OPEN for potential schedule adjustments. Seeking Theme suggestions and opinions on public participation.

Membership: Email communication issues identified, possibly affecting membership renewals for Texas members.

Adjourn.

Next meeting: Sunday, April 21, 2024 Combined Board Meeting

WELCOME TO COG



Please welcome:

- ❖ Not this issue



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

KATE ROSE

Friend of CoG
Flagstaff, Arizona

LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

Dear Covenant members,

I am applying to become a Friend/Affiliate because I have been a Witch for over 20 years, and the Goddess in Her many forms is the center of my spiritual beliefs and practices. I agree with the Code of Ethics you have supplied. I am not in a Coven; I'm a Solitary. I have done a workshop with Starhawk and read extensively about the Craft. I celebrate the Solstices, Equinoxes, and Quarter Days through prayer and ritual practice involving spoken word, dance, and music. As a player of Irish music, I have a particular attraction to Celtic divinities and practices and the Fairy Faith. I have sometimes practiced with others, and my goal is now to be part of a Coven, maybe even starting one eventually, and generally to network and exchange with others who worship the Goddess. I would like to connect more with Pagans locally and beyond.

Thank you for your work.

Blessed Be.

Kate



EDWARD MCGUIRE

Friends of CoG
Unknown City, Massachusetts

LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

Hail and Well Met to the Covenant of the Goddess and Her friends!

I am Edward McGuire and I am applying to formalize myself as a Friend of the CoG, with an eye towards future full membership.

I have been walking the Spiral Path since Imbolc of 1996 C.E. when I performed a self-dedication ritual at the age of 17. I left my former church when it became clear that as a member of the LGBTQ+ community I was neither wanted nor welcomed. I identify as an AMAB (assigned male at birth) agender nonbinary person, and my pronouns are they/them. I am pansexual, and support ethical polyfidelity.

I joined my first Wiccan coven and took my Craft Name Aspen Galbanum at 17. For years, I celebrated 13 esbats and 8 sabbats annually with my coven on the full moons, equinoxes and solstices, and the high holidays of Imbolc, Beltaine, Lughnasadh, and Samhein. I participated in calling the Airts (corners / watchtowers) in a circle setting as well as dancing the spiral, and participating in drum, rattle, and chant in a coven that practiced an eclectic combination of traditional Wicca and Native American shamanism.

When that coven disbanded, I joined a CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans)



circle, where I would teach others with a wide spiritual background of the Wiccan ways and facilitated rituals, serving in the role of High Priest. I have since also joined the Cabot-Kent Hermetic Temple based in Salem, MA. I was ordained as a minister through Universal Life Church in 2003, and registered with my home state of Massachusetts as such.

I am a life-long student and well read from Buckland and Gardner and Aradia to modern authors like Cunningham and Christopher Penczak. On my home altar are statues honoring Gaia and Pan, my patron deities of earth and nature, but I am known to and have walked with Isis and Inanna, Cerridwen, and the Morrigan.

I seek friendship with the CoG at this time because I wish to support the Work the CoG does especially as they seek to be a public and positive face of paganism. I'm interested in networking with other pagans especially through social media, and I pledge to be a dedicated, respectful adherent to Goddess. I am Aspen, and I am a witch!

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #1

This letter is to recommend Eddie McGuire to join as a Friend of CoG. While I have only known Eddie briefly through my correspondences on Facebook, they seem to be ethical and knowledgeable in the Craft. Just the kind of person that the Friends of CoG program was created for.

Andrea Joy Kendall
HPS The Circle of the Dragon & The Phoenix
CoG International Representative

TRANSITIONING FROM SOLITARY TO COVEN

NONE AT THIS TIME

TRANSITIONING FROM COVEN TO SOLITARY

NONE AT THIS TIME

LOCAL COUNCILS



EVERGLADES MOON

~ March 28, 2024t ~

Having Quorum the meeting began at 8:05 PM with an opening prayer by

Marla.

Meeting hosted: Via Zoom

In Attendance (On Zoom):

- ✓ Manny/Qabal, First Officer, AoIM
- ✓ Rayna, Second Officer, Beachfyre Coven
- ✓ Raven, Pursewarden, AoIM
- ✓ Bobbi-Jo, Co-Membership Officer, Albion's Spirit Coven
- ✓ Martha, Co-Membership Officer, AoIM
- ✓ Diana, Public Information Officer, Spiraling Heart Coven
- ✓ Cosette, Publications Officer, Beachfyre Coven
- ✓ Shaylee, Co-Recorder, Beachfyre Coven
- ✓ Rowyn, Co-Recorder, Lia Fail Coven
- ✓ Opal Luna, Abelina's Grove
- ✓ Karl, Abelina's Grove
- ✓ Marla, AoIM
- ✓ Aerik, Lia Fail Coven
- ✓ Selene, Lia Fail Coven
- ✓ Canu, Beachfyre Coven
- ✓ Nathan, AoIM
- ✓ Coyote, AoIM
- ✓ Vika, Greymoon Woods Coven, a prospective member

Officer Reports:

First Officer - Manny/Qabal: No report - I am looking for events around the state to try to get up to attend, so if anyone knows of any please let me know.

Second Officer - Rayna: We had about 15 people at Bone Creek, had great weather, met Donna, and did rituals. We had a great retreat.

Membership Officer - Bobbi Jo/Martha: It is with great pleasure that I get to say that our local Florida chapter of COG is growing by leaps and bounds. The National Membership Officer commented on our growth last year.

Hopefully we can continue.

Current Membership for EMLC COG is at 12 solitary members and 9 covens.

Coven Mystic Ash has reached out and will be seeking membership. Mystic Ash is a Gard Coven in the Melbourne area.

Oracle Hekataios has inquired about joining ELMC. I have sent him the information he needs to join.

Also interested in membership is Vika from Greymoon Woods Coven. I have contacted her and she plans to attend the retreat.

I participated in the Jacksonville Pagan Pride event in September.

I am currently working on sharing files and information with Martha.

Working with Martha to send her the files so she can co-member with her.

Pursewarden - Raven: PNC Bank Balance is \$7,284.47. We still have an automatic deduction



of \$5.00 per month to LibSyn for hosting our past Podcasts. The latest outlay was \$750.00 cash to pay for the entertainment at Turning the Tide.

PayPal Balance is \$3,395.16. Monthly outlay is a \$25.00 donation to The Wild Hunt. I don't have access to the EMLC Tithes Forms, so I don't have a current balance in our internal charities, such as the Fyredancer Fund, or Circe's Veil.

Publications Officer – Cosette: No Report

Public Information Officer – Diana: No Report

Recorders - Shaylee/Rowyn: Meeting Minutes from the last meeting have been sent to COG, but they were sent late and have not appeared in the newsletter yet, they should appear in the next.

Introduction of Guest: Vika from Greymoon Woods Coven introduced herself. She is a Gardnerian 3rd-degree High Priestess who runs a small coven on the West Coast of Florida in North Port.

Old Business:

No Old Business to Update

Special Topics:

Turning the Tide: Unless someone requests reimbursements, these are our final numbers in donations. I will have official numbers on attendance next time.

Donations for Attendance:	\$3,600.00
Our cost (w/ return of deposit)	\$2,200.00
Door Prize Donation:	\$ 550.00
Final Funds Raised:	\$1,950.00

Next Turning the Tide: After some discussion on the date we have agreed to try to reserve the park for February 7-9, 2025.

The theme for next year was discussed, with it being the 18th year, Shaylee proposed the idea of working around the Tarot 18 card - The Moon and everyone liked it. The theme of Lunar Mysteries was proposed and promptly twinkled by all. It was also noted numerologically that $1+8=9$ is an excellent Goddess #.

Other Special Topics: FL Tax exception is possibly up for renewal. Lady B is not present. Manny will look into it.

New Business:

Susi's Suggestion via Email - (continuation of Tides Discussion): After some discussion, it was agreed that the idea to keep our presenters and groups connected after Turning the Tide was a good idea, under the conditions that anyone who was to be included in any stay-connected messages agreed to be included. This could be done next year as part of our prep to Tides

and post Tides via emails, programs using links, and Facebook. For this year only an email will be sent out to presenters asking if they want to be included in our Thank You email. Next year we can expand to groups like the Miami Pagan Meet-Up and Covens

As a follow-up to Tides then we are going to Send out a Thank you Email that will hopefully include a stay connected message and links for 2023 presenters, an optional survey, and a Save the Date for next year.

No other new business to discuss

Event's, Announcements, and What EMLC'ers are doing:

Opal Luna - Abelina's Grove is hosting Beltane in the Park on May 4, 2024, the theme is May the 4th be with You!! - Star Wars themed. The event is from Noon to 7 PM. There will be a May Pole, games, food, and more

Marla - Georgian Gathering is happening at Fern House on April 12th-14th. About 20 people are planning to attend some are coming as far away as Oregon and Australia.

Marla - Mystic South is happening at the end of July this year due to scheduling conflicts with the hotel, please note for when registering.

Rayna - Summer Magick Fest - Things are coming along great and we are about to announce this year's schedule.

Shaylee - Graduated from Mt Shasta Goddess Temple's Women Shaman Priestess program and is now a Priestess of Mt. Shasta

Cosette - I am now a published witch! My essay has been published as a contributor in Sagittarius Wtich by Ivo Dominguez Jr and Enfys J. Get your copies now at <https://www.llewellyn.com/product.php?ean=9780738772882>

Opal Luna - will have an article in the next 4 Llewellyn Magical Almanacs. 2025, 26, 27, and 28. It is a 4 part journey through the wheel of the year, starting with "Into the Dark, crocheting Mabon and Samhain ". Each episode will cover two sabbaths with 3 crochet patterns. <https://www.llewellyn.com/product.php?ean=9780738771946>

All other Business and Random Mischief Planning

Upcoming Festivals:

- ❖ Florida Pagan Gathering -Beltane - April 24-28, 2024, Silver Springs, Website: flapagan.org, Facebook: facebook.com/flapagan
- ❖ Summer Magic Fest - June 6 - 9, 2024, Orlando, FL, Website: summermagickfest.org, Facebook: facebook.com/summermagickfest
- ❖ Mystic South, July 26 - 28, 2024, Atlanta, GA, Website: mystic-south.com, Facebook: facebook.com/mysticsouthcon



Next Meeting: N/A

The meeting ended with a closing prayer given by Marla



HILLS AND RIVERS

~ No Report ~

Last published minutes in the Imbolc 2024 edition



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

~ January 21, 2024 ~

Attendees:

- ✓ Glenn - Trismegiston
- ✓ Deborah – Individual member
- ✓ Macha – Individual member
- ✓ Taffy – Waxing Moon Circle
- ✓ Joanne – Waxing Moon Circle
- ✓ Anna - Trismegiston
- ✓ Don – Trismegiston
- ✓ Linnea – Owl Moon
- ✓ Annie – Dark Moon Circle
- ✓ Bill – Individual member

Officer Reports:

First Officer (Glenn): She visited Thea (pursewarden) in person, at her home. She now has her bank card, has changed the contact address for the bank and has access to statements. Thea has moved to a new house, has misplaced local membership checks and is not functioning as pursewarden.

Glenn did not attend the Yule outreach event as she had covid.

Second (co-first) Officer Linnea: Reported on Governing Board meeting (see discussion below) and reported that the Yule event (joint with NROOGD and Spiral) went off very well considering all the last minute substitutions.

Website (Deborah & Taffy): Website almost ready. They request funding of at least 3 email aliases and recommend that we move to a new host when renewal comes up next year. More discussion later.

Suggested that we set up a PayPal account for donations.

Facebook (Joanne): She is posting 2-3 items daily. Taffy highly recommends following our page.

PIO (Glenn): Nothing to report

Membership (Anna): Nothing new. She reminds us that Thea (our pursewarden) has not renewed and so is no longer a member.

Interfaith: I4CAN (Contra Costa may be becoming unfriendly to Pagans. We should reconsider our donation this year. We need to keep an eye on this.

Macha is active with Marin Interfaith Council. She is doing the opening prayer May 1. She reports there is a small UCC congregation in Sausalito doing the 8 sabbats of the year.

Taffy has been asked to be on the council of the Interfaith Council of Sonoma

Don taught an intro class last week and is working with United Religions Interfaith on the statement for peace in the Middle east.

Adocentyn Library: Adocentyn will be opening at the end of January and will send out staggered announcements so they don't get overwhelmed. The collection now has about 17,500 books plus periodicals and other items.

They are hoping to have a Witchy/Pagan yard sale this spring or summer and would welcome donations.

Deborah asked about contacts for Aiden Kelly's library. Guy Fox in Portland is handling this and someone from Cherry Hill is working on a policy for how to handle personal libraries with private or oath bound content.

Old Business:

A Yule Outreach ritual was held in Berkley on Dec 9, a combined NROOGD/Spiral event. Attendees were mostly established members of our community and were very happy to see a public event again. The event went well in spite of several last minute substitutions due to covid. There were lots of disabled folks there and the ritual involved a good deal of movement. We need to plan better for this in the future.

Joanne did a beautiful graphic for publicity that got widely shared. Thank you, Joanne.

New Business:

Groups.io issues – Macha is now on local. Taffy will assist with national since Thea is out of the picture.

Next Meetings – Sunday March 17, 2pm and Sunday May 12 at 2pm

Governing Board: Two local councils (Texas and Everglades Moon) stayed away from the last meeting. It is not clear why and Morgana is asking for clarifying information. This could very well disable the GB, which is struggling anyway. It was noted that some very heated (and rude) discussion occurred on DD especially prior to Grand Council which was offensive to the Texas folk. Is this an effect of the polarization our country is experiencing? We ask people to consider if DD is the best venue to have political discussion?



Deborah comments that the GB was created with no internal structure but supposedly large areas of responsibility. It needs more internal structure. It needs to be more pro-active, not reactive. GB speakers are not giving enough guidance and planning. Don asks us to question if the GB is a good or bad idea.

Glenn suggests that we need more interaction between the local councils and the GB. She will write a letter to GB offering NCLC assistance. There will be a meeting to discuss this Jan 28.

50th Anniversary: Glenn is on the committee. Macha suggests exploiting Janine’s CoG timeline.

Future recorder – Anna will do next meeting.

Pursewarden issues: Glenn now has her bank card and has changed address receive statements. There has been minimal activity in 2023. She requests that each person who sent a check to NCLC email the date and amount and we will get this sorted out. Linnea will write to Elizabeth (the new National Pursewarden) and ask what the last report from NCLC was. Glenn is acting Pursewarden for now with Linnea and Anna helping with the cleanup. We need a new Pursewarden – please consider stepping up for this.

Website: Taffy would like to change the website host from GoDaddy at the next renewal time. She says GoDaddy does provide good tech support and charges for lots of little things. She recommends Elementor, which provides better support.

Deborah wants funds appropriated for emails attached to the site. This was postponed because we already have NCLC4COG@gmail.com and there was some question about the cost.

Taffy shared a draft of the new homepage for computer and phone. She requests seasonal graphics, calendar events, etc from everyone.

Officer Reports:

First Officer – Mary: Mary (former Pursewarden), forwarded 2 fiscal years of bank statements to Lilith and will do the same with the PayPal statements tomorrow.

Second Officer – Camille: not present

Membership Officer – Camille: not present

Pursewarden – Lilith:

February 2024

Bank Account	6150.31
PayPal	203.99
Petty Cash	<u>94.00</u>
Total	\$6448.30

Public Information Officer – Janine: has the cards for the PF ready.

Webweaver (Camille):

Reach: 1.6K
 Engagement: 308
 Net Followers: 1
 3- Second Video Views: 14
 1- Minute Video Views: 1
 Followers
 85.5% Female
 14.9% Male

Recorder – Morgana: January minutes were approved by consensus and will be sent to the newsletter promptly.

Governing Board Representative Report – Janine/Rev Dee: next meeting April 21, 2024

Old Business:

Planning a meet & greet tentatively May 11, 2024 (day before Mother’s Day) – family-friendly event before MD. Mary will contact COMPASS about joining the meet & greet. [need update] Location will be Eisenhower Park, if available. Mary will check availability. 1-4pm. Suggested activities: short ritual, maypole dance, a workshop, maybe a singalong, make paper plate rattles. Theme: celebrating the mother that sustains us (including Mother Earth).

Public event in 2025 – possible collaboration with COMPASS. Eisenhower Park is a possible location. COMPASS is interested in participating.

June Psychic Faire – Mary met with owner of shop and she prefers we do it on the 2nd weekend so that we are part of the vendor popup weekend. We will do the raffle differently at several times during the day. Mary will need updated bios and headshots by March 1st, so she can give them to Janine by mid-March for social media promotion. She will promote Mystic Connections as well. Janine asked Camille to post a “save the date” on the OCLC



ORANGE COUNTY

~ February 8, 2024 ~

Open the Meeting and Invocation: Morgana

Roll Call (Covens/Solitaries):

- ✓ Bran Faol Reannag (BFR) – represented by Janine
- ✓ Celtic Circle of Wisdom – represented by Mary and Lilith
- ✓ Ghostwheel – represented by Morgana RavenTree
- ✓ Greenwood Glen – represented by Camille

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for January 2024 were approved by consensus



Facebook page. Janine will create an event and graphic to share. Roxanna will sell tamales.

Marketing Plan: Janine presented the Marketing Plan at the prior meeting and that is what she has been using to keep on track.

COG-National 50th Anniversary committee.

COG-National also needs volunteers to work on a Leadership Institute for this year's Grand Council in August.

New Business:

Lilith suggested and Mary proposed that OCLC make another \$500 donation to Mountain Lion Foundation (mountainlion.org). Morgana seconded. The donation was approved by consensus.

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting: March 14, 2024; Lilith will give the invocation.



~ April 11, 2024 ~

Open the Meeting: Everyone opened the meeting at 7:08pm

Invocation: Rev. Dee will present the invocation

Roll Call: Covens/Solitaires:

- ✓ Bran Faol Reannag (BFR) – represented by Janine
- ✓ Celtic Circle of Wisdom – represented by Lilith
- ✓ Ghostwheel – represented by Morgana RavenTree
- ✓ Lyceum of Auset Hauhet – represented by Rev. Dee

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of March 2024 meeting were approved by consensus

Officer Reports:

First Officer – Mary: not present

Second Officer – Camille: not present

Membership Officer – Camille: not present

Pursewarden– Lilith:

Bank Account	5,407.61
(5,475.61 – 68.00 Janine Reimbursement)	
PayPal	203.99
Petty Cash	<u>94.00</u>
Total \$	6380.30

Public Information Officer – Janine: Lilith picked up cards to promote Psychic Faire and Meet & Greet. Janine is waiting for second round of printing. Everyone should post to social media. Camille should take care of Meet & Greet, Janine will take care of Psychic Faire.

Webweaver (Camille):

Facebook Numbers:
 Reach 209K
 Content Published 188
 Engagement 15,970
 Net Followers 120
 3 Second Video Views 168
 1 Minute Video Views 4
 Followers
 Women 84.8%
 Men. 15.2%

Recorder – Morgana: March minutes will be sent to the newsletter after the meeting.

Governing Board Representative Report – Governing Board will meet on April 21st at 3:00pm.

Old Business:

Planning a meet & greet May 11, 2024 (day before Mother's Day) – It will be a family-friendly event, 1-4:00pm. Activities will include a maypole dance (Mary), maybe a singalong (Camille, others), workshop to make paper plate rattles (Morgana). Theme: Celebrating Mother Earth. See flyers discussed above.

Public event in 2025 – celebrating COG's 25th anniversary, possible collaboration with COMPASS. Eisenhower Park is a possible location. COMPASS is interested in participating.

June Psychic Faire –2nd weekend of June. We will do the raffle differently at several times during the day. Mary is still waiting for updated bios and headshots, so she can give them to Janine for social media promotion. She will promote Mystic Connections as well. Janine has created a card and graphic to share. Roxanna will sell tamales. People should send Janine photos of their raffle donations to post on social media in advance.

Marketing Plan: Janine presented the Marketing Plan at the prior meeting and that is what she has been using to keep on track.

COG-National 50th Anniversary committee – no activities.

COG-National also needs volunteers to work on a Leadership Institute for this year's Grand Council in August.

New Business:

Rev. Dee closed the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:47pm

Next meeting: May 9, 2024; Janine will give the invocation.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

~ No Report ~



Last published minutes in the Ostara 2024 edition.

she hasn't been herself since she went through the Change of Life."



TEXAS LOCAL COUNCIL

~ No Report ~

Last published minutes in the Ostara 2024 edition

Looming high over the imagination of humankind, the shadow of the Crone casts a miasma of fear and uselessness, power and casting--out, across the myths of our race and society.



TOUCHSTONE

~ November 6, 2023 ~

Last published minutes in the Ostara 2024 edition.

I have talked and talked to women who either have arrived at crone time or who are preparing themselves for this transition and we have found much to talk about. And I think that it is important that we keep right on talking after the season of Gatherings has passed for the year. I have absolutely no interest in trying to start a newsletter for Crones, nor really of founding OWL (Old Woman's League), SOW (Salty Old Women), CRONE (Clearly Rational Older Natural Energy), nor HAG (Honorable Aged Geniuses).

REMINISCENCE OF THREE CRONES

By M. Macha NightMare



Grey Cat 1940-2012

Years ago, so long ago I don't rightly remember, I met a Witch named Grey Cat. I think I may have met her by way of her little dot-matrix-printed zine called *The Crone Papers*, to which I had subscribed. There

was no Internet in those days so we became friends by way of old-fashioned letter writing. She is Crone number 1 of this writing.

However, I, no more than many of you, want to have to wait until next year to get a chance to discuss all these fascinating topics. So how about some suggestions, and perhaps some offers of help. Would we like to cooperate in an APAZine* which dispenses with an editing and layout burden, leaving some low-level bookkeeping which I don't mind doing. Does someone feel like working on a Newsletter? Do we want to form a loose organization as part of or instead of the above? Or are most of us too busy to do anything about this between gatherings?

On Lammas eve this year I happened upon this undated announcement:

CALLING ALL CRONES

by Grey Cat

Into the dark, the pale light of the waning moon brings forth shapeless shadows; bushes, a wandering stone field wall, nameless areas of blackness. Some still, some moving; no night for good folk to stray from cot or castle. Black hares a move across the moors, black cattle idly gossip together, one old woman dressed in black searches the grass for secret herbs. And there amongst the standing stones, age heavy upon their backs, three hags dare all the mercy of God's Holy Mother Church to make the magic of an older race.

"Call old Mother Piggot, she knows the proper words for warts"... "Tis Goody Nurse you'll need if it's a son ye want..." "Tis naught but an Old Wives Tale..." "Don't mind Mother,

I'll be sending this letter to people I know personally and to many Pagan publications; you'll probably see it often enough to be sick of the whole idea. But there is a lot of magick available in the Time of the Crone. There is a lot of sociological pressure to understand, combat or accept. And there is a whole lot of our lives left for us to function as Crones. If we don't figure out what it is and what to do with it, nobody else will.

So write me at the address below (SASE appreciated) and let me know what you think about the whole idea, what you might be willing to do, what insights you may have about Crone Time -- let's figure out what has been left out of all the books. We're already "Uppity Women" and we've nothing to lose but a bad rap. (Crones are assumed to be women more or less at the age of menopause or past it. Baby Crones are any who realize that this time is not far away.)

One of the crones who responded to this plea was the late Deborah Ann Light, Crone number 2 herein. Deborah helped Grey Cat to fund the production of *The Crone Papers*. (Much about DAL, another dear friend now gone, has been written many places because she was an important presence



in many cultural advances during her time on this plane of existence.)

Grey Cat's life and mine were very different, she living in rural Eastern Tennessee and I in the San Francisco Bay Area. We were of similar age, with shared experiences of and attitudes about feminism and about American politics. (I think she once told me that her father had been a speechwriter for Adlai Stevenson.) Through the medium of typewritten letters, we learned more about each other and became good friends.

She was a significant presence in the Southeastern Pagan community. She and her then-partner Serphant, if I remember correctly, created the [Northwind Tradition of American Wicca](#). Interested researchers can learn more elsewhere.

Later a mutual friend met her at a festival celebrating an anniversary of Church of All Worlds and brought greetings from her back to me in California, although at that point we'd never met in person. Later still we met, I think most likely through CoG. She served as CoG's Second Officer back in 1993 and produced MerryMeet and Grand Council at a Girl Scout camp in the Smokies near Asheville, SC. That was my first big trip to the American South, shared with fellow Californians Don Frew, Anna Korn, and Steve Rasmussen.

Some years later, when I (*Crone number 3*) was researching [Witchcraft and the Web](#), we reconnected in a big way, as she joined my co-conspirators and me in discussing early Pagan presence on the Web. Unlike me, she had spent years exploring the communication opportunities of earlier iterations of the WorldWideWeb.

When my publisher said they planned to publish a series of Pagan titles, I referred them to Grey Cat (as well as Judy Harrow and others), as a result of which they published [Deepening Witchcraft](#). Sorry to say she hated the cover, but otherwise was glad to see it in print.

In 2001, she and I and my dear late friend Sparky T. Rabbit and his pal Beal were all guests at [Heartland Pagan Festival](#) near Kansas City. The four of us shared a two-room cabin, where we awoke to the (unusual for me) sound of whip-poor-wills. We had lots of chances to talk during that festival. And boy, could Grey Cat talk!

I had a couple of long phone conversations with her in her last months. One of my colleagues at [Cherry Hill Seminary](#) interviewed her so that at least some of her legacy will be known and available to younger Pagans. (I don't remember who that was or what became of the interview. As a stalwart of Kleio, I would like to know.)

Grey Cat had a very practical approach to her passing. She said she had good meds and was not in pain, and when she felt she was ready, she'd go. She was not afraid.

Our household now are the guardians of a big silver-grey cat named Arabella who talks and talks and talks. She has come into my life at this time to remind me of my old friend Grey Cat.

* * * * *

I have sent all my collection of *The Crone Papers* to the New Alexandrian Library. It pleases me to know that the complete archives reside in three university libraries, including at Valdosta State University in Georgia [here](#).

Other commentary about Grey Cat's passing can be found [here](#) and [here](#)

- <https://www.patheos.com/blogs/wildhunt/2012/04/grey-cat-1940-2012.html>
- https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=256683831049859&id=100001247331210
- https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=337577189627189&id=100001247331210

The Crone Papers

- <https://search.library.wisc.edu/catalog/9910045868302121>
- https://archivesspace.valdosta.edu/repositories/2/archival_objects/3085
- <https://catalog.princeton.edu/catalog/99116054613506421>

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