

Event Rules

In order to ensure we have a safe gathering and also abide by the rules set by our host, the National Park Service we ask all to be aware of and follow these basic rules:

Alcohol: Alcohol is not permitted on park grounds.

Weapons: No weapons are permitted within the gathering. Blades may be used during ritual by those with designated roles.

Drugs: Illegal drugs are not permitted in compliance with national and Virginia laws.

Clothing: Clothing is required. Please feel free to wear comfortable, climate appropriate, and ritual attire throughout the event.

Smoking: Please only smoke in designated areas and use the sand-filled buckets provided to dispose of your smoking trash.

Pets: Only registered service animals are permitted.

Interaction with Wildlife: If you encounter any resident wildlife, please do your best to avoid as much contact as possible. If you feel uncomfortable or in danger, please contact a member of staff.

Violence/Conflict: Violent, rude, & inappropriate behavior will be addressed by staff as needed and *may* result in being asked to leave.

Fires: The only fires permitted are in the Feast Hall, Craft Cabins and Fire Circle. Only designated fire tenders can light, maintain & extinguish the fires for the safety of the participants and the park.

Sacred Fires: The Feast Hall and Fire Circle are designated as "Sacred Fires". Please respect them appropriately by not throwing trash in them.

Kitchen: For your safety and the safety of the Kitchen Staff, please do not enter the kitchen without permission. The kitchen is full of Hot and Sharp items – unexpected people can be hazardous to all involved.

Volunteers: Please arrive for your volunteer shift on time. If you will not be able to perform the duty you volunteered for, please check in with Registration or the coordinator of the area you are scheduled to help in.

Trash/Recycling: Please ensure all trash is deposited in designated receptacles. When you depart, please ensure all trash is deposited in the dumpsters near the Feast Hall.

Communications: If you are using an FRS radio, please use the **odd channels** only.

Identification: Please ensure your participant lanyard is visible at all times. **Staff** can be identified with "Staff" lanyards.

Please see any Staff if you have any questions.

Hallowed Homecoming: A Samhain Retreat Nov 4-6, 2016



Featured Presenter

Kirk White



Kirk White, MA, L.Ac, is a healer, teacher and author. He has been a practicing Witch since 1973, a psychotherapist for 18 years, and a licensed oriental medical practitioner for 19 years. A past president of Covenant of the Goddess (North America's oldest and largest association of Witches and Wiccans), and past director of the University of Vermont's Parapsychology Program, he also founded Cherry Hill Seminary, a professional Pagan ministry program

with faculty and students worldwide, and co-founded the National Association of Pagan Schools and Seminaries. In 2006, Wildhunt.org named him one of the "25 most influential modern living Pagans today".

In addition to working as a consultant with Pagan seminaries nationwide such as the Aquarian Tabernacle Churches' Wollston Steen Theological Seminary, he is a licensed acupuncturist/Chinese herbalist, registered psychotherapist, and legal Pagan minister. His skills and interests include traditional healing modalities, various magical and spiritual traditions, and models of Pagan leadership and ministry.

A contributor to "Exploring the Pagan Path: Wisdom from the Elders" (2005), he is also author of four books to date:

- Adept Circle of Magick: A Guide for the Advanced Wiccan Practitioner (Kensington Press, 2006)
- Advanced Circle Magick: Essential Spells and Rituals for Every Season (Kensington Press, 2008)
- rEvolutions: The Elements of Mastery (Five Gates Publishing, 2010)
- Operative Freemasonry: A Manual for Restoring Light and Vitality to the Fraternity (Five Gates Publishing, 2012)

Presenters

MaryAgnes Costello

MaryAgnes Costello has a BA in Ancient Near Eastern History and Culture from the University of Chicago, a MA in Art History and museum Training from City College of the City University of New York, and a MA in Modern East Asian History & Military History from George Washington University. She is a member of MENSA and Phi Alpha Theta, the history honors society. She has worked and studied with a number of groups over the years, notably the Nomadic Chantry of the Gramarye and was ordained a High Priestess in that tradition by its founder, the late Rev. Rosemary Kooiman. Currently, she is a solitary practitioner who nevertheless once in a while manages to celebrate a full moon or a sabbat with friends.

Michelle Stormcatcher

Michelle has been a practicing solitary Pagan since the mid-1990s and became more involved in the greater Pagan community in 2005. She started making beaded jewelry in the early 1990s and then began working with the subtle healing energies of crystals around 2002. She gains a great deal of joy from creating magical items that fit easily into the mundane world because no one should ever feel uncomfortable wearing magical items in daily life or being around those who do not hold the same beliefs.

Tanya Kelly Hurst

Tanya is a Jungian Esoteric and Ecosophist holding a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology from James Madison University with concentrations in Environment and Technologies, social Inequality & Public Policy, and Political & Global Analysis. She has worked with synchronicity, symbols, dream interpretation for over two decades. She is currently writing "Tales from a Bone Woman:", a book that will explore trauma, intuition, synchronicity, and near death experiences from an inner body perspective.

Tristian Wolfheart

Rev. Tristan has been a practicing Wiccan for over 30 years. She was first ordained as a Priestess by the Nomadic Chantry of the Gramarye by the late Rosemary Kooiman and is currently ordained as a Circle Sanctuary Minister by the Reverend Selena Fox. She has been doing genealogy work for nearly 35 years. She is a member of Mensa and is an unrepentant bibliophile.

Presenters

Crystal RedBird Rising

Crystal RedBird Rising is a 13-year veteran of the greater NoVa Pagan community. Though usually found in the background, she has been an integral part of planning and coordinating mid-sized to large Pagan events since 2008, including Fertile Ground Gathering and NoVa Pagan Pride, and has led workshops on various topics such as magical herbalism, ritual construction, and fiber arts. Called to an Earth-based spiritual path in her mid-twenties, she has studied with various teachers in both the NoVa community and nationally, and was ordained as clergy through ShadowGrove Spiritual Ministries in 2010. Though she is no longer affiliated with ShadowGrove, she continues her clergy work in the larger community and serves as chaplain for the Guardians of the Caomhnoiri Fian. Currently RedBird is following a Druid path, most recently studying as a Novice with the Order of the Sacred Nemeton, a Contemplative Druid order, and is also finishing her Bardic level work with the Order of Bards, Ovates, and Druids (OBOD). This is her second year as Kitchen Coordinator for Hallowed Homecoming.

Frank Stormcatcher

Frank Stormcatcher, Guardian, has been practicing for over two decades, specializing in various modes of protective magic and exorcism. In addition to his metaphysical training, Frank has a degree in Anthropology of Religion and the History & Philosophy of Science, of which he is rather proud and makes frequent use.

Jeanet Ewing (RedWolf)

Jeanet began her spiritual path as a Pagan in 1993. While RedWolf's practice is somewhat eclectic, her focus is on Shamanic Witchcraft and American Folk Magic. She has been leading public rituals and teaching classes in the greater Northern Virginia area since 2002 and has been on planning teams for various regional festivals and events. RedWolf is part of the Circle Sanctuary community, is a member of Circle's Military Ministry Team, Co-Coordinator of Operation Circle Care, and was ordained as a Circle Sanctuary Minister on Samhain 2011. She is also one of the founding directors of the Northern Virginia Pagan Network, a networking organization founded to connect Pagan individuals and groups in Northern Virginia and the surrounding area.

Kirk's Workshops:

Night Flight: Skrying and Traveling in the Spirit

(Friday @ 4:00pm in Dining Hall)

Historically, witches were said to "fly" on their brooms to distant locations and to send their fetch to see and do their bidding at a distance. We will explore some of these techniques of skrying and astral travel and how they can enhance our magickal and daily lives.

The Witch as Shapeshifter

(Saturday @ 11:30am in Dining Hall)

Shapeshifting has long been associated with witchcraft. It is the ability to change your shape, to become like another creature or being - a stag, a hawk, a snake, even a respectable business person! People shapeshift unconsciously every day. A witch is someone that knows that we do it and uses it. This class will talk about the theories and methods of shapeshifting and their uses in ritual, magick and in life.

Magick of the Liminal

(Sunday @ 9:15am in Dining Hall)

"In between" is a special state; pregnant with possibility. We will explore various techniques and uses of liminal states to enhance the magick in our rituals, our lives, our communities and ourselves.



Schedule

Friday, November 4, 2016:

- 1:00pm – 8:00pm: Registration Open
1:00pm – 6:00pm: Snacks Available in Feast Hall
1:00pm – 6:00pm: Socializing, connecting with the land, commune with the Ancestor Altar
4:00pm – 5:30PM: **Featured Workshop: Dining Hall (Kirk White)**
- Night Flight: Scrying and Traveling in the Spirit
6:30pm – 7:15pm: **Ritual: Dining Hall** - Welcoming and Opening Ritual
7:30pm – 10:00pm: Witches Ball / Costume Party & Dinner in Feast Hall
10:00pm – TBD: Bardic Circle in Feast Hall (start of Bardic activities may begin earlier or later depending on the Ball/Party).

Saturday, November 5, 2016:

- 7:30am – 1:00pm: Registration Open
8:00am – 10:00am: Breakfast Menu available in Dining Hall
9:00am – 11:00am: Life Readings by Kirk White – Cabin C-8
9:30am – 11:00am: **Workshop: Craft Cabin A**
- Are You My Mummy: Honoring & Worshiping the Ancestors in Ancient Egypt
Workshop: Craft Cabin C
- Meeting the Morrigan
Workshop: Craft Cabin D
- Synchronicity and the Ancient Art of I-Ching
10:00am – 12:00pm: Hot Brunch Menu in Dining Hall
11:30am – 1:00pm: **Featured Workshop: Dining Hall (Kirk White)**
- The Witch as Shapeshifter
12:00pm – 1:30pm: Quick Lunch Menu
1:30pm – 4:30pm: Life Readings by Kirk White – Cabin C-8
1:30pm – 3:00pm: **Workshop: Craft Cabin A**
- Digging up Dead Relatives & Airing Out Your Roots
Workshop: Craft Cabin C
- Spinning with the Ancestors
Workshop: Craft Cabin D
- The Thorns of the Rose: Understanding Pagan Practice Outside the Circles
2:00pm – 5:00pm: Drinks & Snacks relocated outside Dining Hall for ritual prep.
3:30pm – 5:00pm: **Workshop: Craft Cabin D**
- Guardian Panel (Just What Drives a Guardian
Craft Cabin C: Ancestor Attunement & Reflection
- Quiet place to meditate and prepare for main ritual.
5:30pm – 7:00pm: Dinner in the Dining Hall (Please gather in front of Dining Hall at 5:20pm for attunement)
8:30pm: **Main Ritual** – Gather in the Craft Cabin for your cabin area **by 8:15pm** for procession lead by Guardians. Those with mobility concerns may gather in front of the Dining Hall.
After Ritual: Snacks, warm drinks & socializing in Dining Hall.
Overnight: Set clocks back 1 hour for Daylight Saving

Workshop Descriptions

Spinning with the Ancestors

• Crystal RedBird Rising (Saturday @ 1:30pm in C)

A hands-on workshop, we will work both mind and body (and wool and drop spindles) to create yarn in ways our ancestors have done for thousands of years. Weaving together a brief history of spinning, the process of preparing fibers, and the basics of using a drop-spindle, this workshop will give you an opportunity to learn a new skill (or hone an old one). Once the basics are learned, we will focus our minds and hands to work in a meditative atmosphere, giving time for reflection and connecting with the ancestors who have passed down this basic skill through the centuries.

Synchronicity and the Ancient Art of I Ching

• Tanya Kelly Hurst (Saturday @ 9:30am in D)

Synchronicity is a term used by Swiss psychologist Carl Gustav Jung to describe the alignment of universal forces to ones' own life experience. Learn to recognize synchronicity daily, not only in your personal life but on a collective level. This workshop will explore the foundations of synchronicity, what it is and what it is not through the use of the ancient art of I Ching (how to cast, reading hexagrams, trigrams, and nuclear trigrams), Automatic Writing, Nature Ramtha and the Dream Gourd technique.

Wearable Tools: Tap in to the Power of Gemstones

• Michelle Stormcatcher (Sunday @ 11:00am in Dining Hall)

In this workshop, you will make your own stretch bracelet using genuine crystal, gemstone, and mineral beads. These bracelets have been called by many names in recent years, a popular name for them is Power Bracelet. The bracelet you will make in this workshop is suitable for any gender. No jewelry making experience is needed for this workshop – it will be a relaxed, create-at-your-own-pace environment with instruction and guidance as needed. Crystals can be an effective tool to amplify various energies, spiritual work, and personal growth. Wearing crystal jewelry can be a simple way to bolster the work you are already doing with crystal energies in alignment with that work. The work you do can be anything: connecting with those on the other side of the veil, managing physical or mental health issues, generating protective energy around yourself, and much more.

Workshop Descriptions

Are You My Mummy (Honoring & Worshiping the Ancestors in Ancient Egypt):

- **MaryAgnes Costello (Saturday @ 9:30am in A)**

This class will examine how the ancient Egyptians from all walks of life dealt with their ancestors. From writing letters to the dead asking for help in domestic matters to pharaohs compiling lists of past kings in order to provide them with offering, ancestors played a vital and continuing role in everyday Egyptian life.

Digging Up Dead Relatives and Airing Out Your Roots

- **Tristan Wolfheart (Saturday @ 1:30pm in A)**

Was Great Great Grandpa really squashed by a caboose? Was my ancestor really on the Mayflower? We're related to Who? When did my family come to the USA? We all have questions about these things and more. Rev. Tristan will help you get started on finding your own roots. She's been doing genealogy for over 35 years and can help you with yours.

Guardian Panel (Just what drives a guardian?)

- **Moderated by Rathnorian. Panelists include Guardians**
- **Saturday @ 3:30pm in D**

Guardians – you see them at festivals, large rituals, and some groups, circles, and covens even have one or more as part of their group. While they are happy to help out and talk about any number of topics (and sometimes talk your ear off), they are notably reticent when it comes to discussing the work they do and often seem to be different people entirely when they are “On Duty”. This convention-style moderated panel discussion will provide insights from the Guardians themselves, as well as provide an opportunity to ask questions you may have to help you understand better the job they do and why they do it.

Meeting the Morrigan

- **Jeanet Ewing (Saturday @ 9:30am in C)**

Like many Celtic Goddesses, the Morrigan has many faces: Goddess of war, death, sovereignty, fertility, and magic. In this workshop we will explore and connect with the Morrigan in Her triple form as the sisters Machu, Anu, and Babd. We will also create incense and oils, perform spellwork, and at the end of class have a guided meditation to connect with one of the many facets of the Morrigan.

Schedule

Sunday, November 6, 2016:

7:30am – 9:00am: Breakfast in Dining Hall

9:15am – 10:45pm: **Featured Workshop: Dining Hall (Kirk White)**

- Magick of the Liminal

11:00am – 11:45am: **Ritual: Cabin C Area – Warrior Blessing Ritual**

Workshop: Dining Hall

- Wearable Tools: Tapping into the Power of Gemstones

11:45am – 1:15pm: Lunch in Dining Hall

1:30pm – 2:00pm: **Ritual: Closing Ritual in Dining Hall**

2:00pm: Departures & Post-Event Clean-up

Notes:

Ancestor Attunement In Craft Cabin C

Craft Cabin C will be set up for quiet contemplation and time to attune to your Ancestors as we prepare for our Main Ritual later in the Evening.

Snacks & Drinks on Saturday Afternoon / Dining Hall Closed

In order to allow our Kitchen Coordinators to prepare the Dining Hall for the dinner, the Dining Hall will be closed. The snacks & drinks will be relocated to _____ to allow continued access to refreshments while the Dining Hall is closed. The Saturday Dinner is part of the ongoing ritual experience we envision for Hallowed Homecoming.

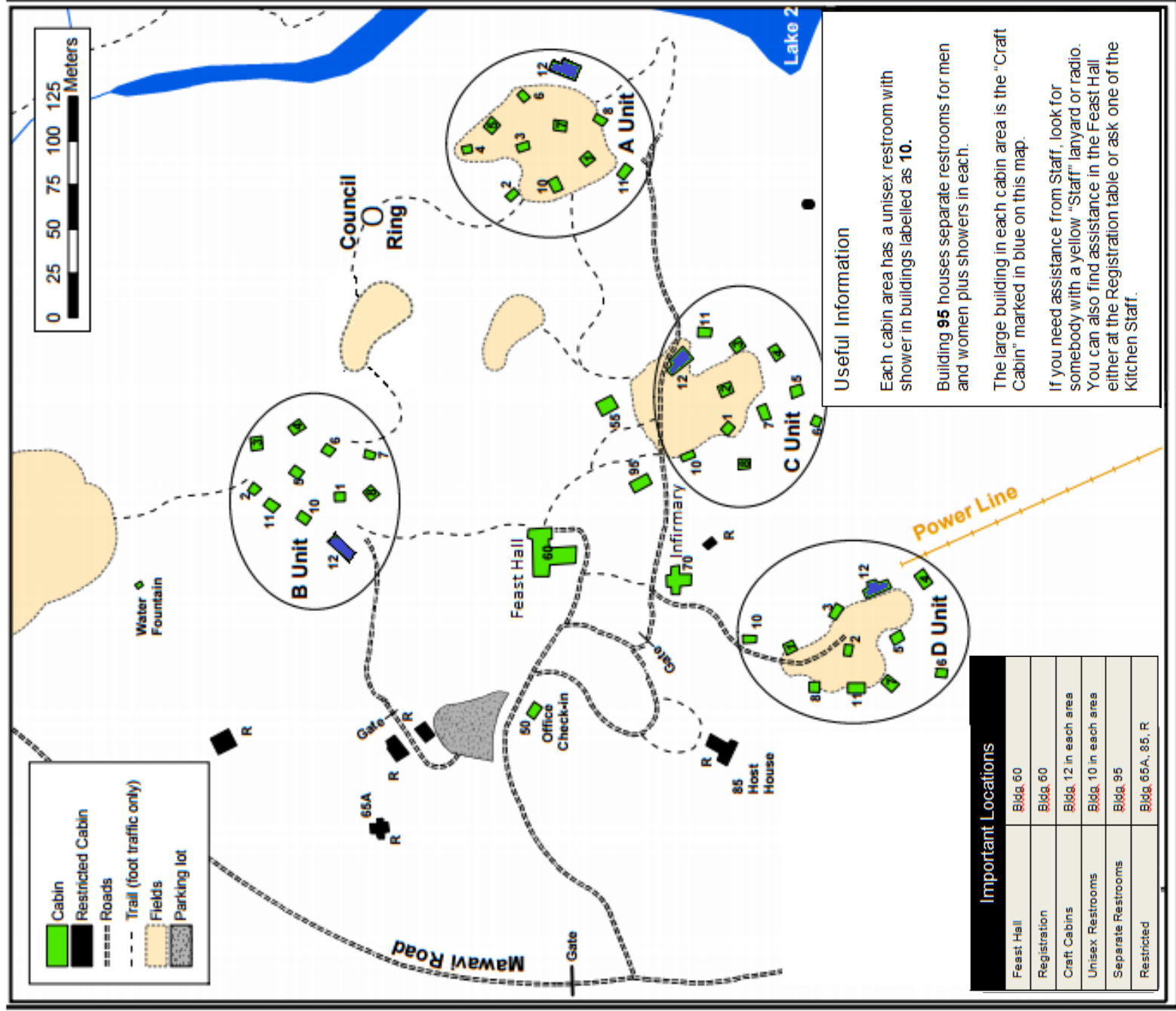
Main Ritual Information

The Main Ritual will include time to connect with a specific ancestor. This may be a genetic, filial or philosophic ancestor. While in sacred space, we will connect with this ancestor through their life (childhood, young adult, adult, etc.).

Attendees will process from their Craft Cabins, led by a Guardian, to the Ritual Space. Those who are chose to not join in the procession may gather outside the Dining Hall at 8:15am.

The last part of the ritual will include a procession to the fire circle. For those who are unable to make the journey, an adaptation of what will happen at the fire circle will be held in the Dining Hall.

If you have any questions about the above or about anything during the event, please ask our event staff. Please also let us know if you may need any accommodation or other assistance.



Important Locations	
Feast Hall	Bldg. 60
Registration	Bldg. 60
Craft Cabins	Bldg. 12 in each area
Unisex Restrooms	Bldg. 10 in each area
Separate Restrooms	Bldg. 95
Restricted	Bldg. 65A, 85, R