



Fall Equinox Issue
Year of the Reform "LI"
September 29, 2013 c.e.
Volume 30 Issue 6

Editor's Note

Again, apologies for the lateness of the Equinox issue. As usual, my life is a bit out of balance as I bid on my next overseas assignment. All should be clear in a week or two.

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News from Oakdale Grove (and News from Carleton)

"Druidic Inscriptions of Foundational Ephemera"

CHAPTER THE FIRST

1: Salutations, O friends of the Earth-Mother.

2: I, John the Verbose, have been ambitiously productive as of late,

3: for I have drafted several scrolls that may serve our spiritual and pragmatic needs.

4: These scrolls are the Book of Liberties, a bill of rights based on that of Digitalis Grove;

5: the Oakdale Grove Constitution, a grove charter which we can ratify together and send copies to the Archive of the Mother Grove, and to Mike the Fool;

6: a summer liturgical programme, designed like that of a druidic church pamphlet to help new Reformed Druids or curious observers learn or interpret our rituals;

7: and a winter liturgical programme, serving the purpose of its namesake insofar that it corresponds respectively to its variant in verse six.

8: Both programmes are designed to be inscribed both on obverse and reverse sides of two separate leaves of parchment, which would then be folded in half.

9: Some of ye may have already received some of these scrolls,

10: do not fret,

11: for I am aspiring for consistency so that all may receive this epistle,

12: to so either understand the same or be confused the same, but hopefully the former.

13: Some of these scrolls are already put to parchment and can be given unto thee when next we meet.

CHAPTER THE SECOND

1: Regarding the ratification of a grove constitution, an amicable reminder:

2: The Reformed Druids of North America allows cross-memberships in other groves.

3: Furthermore, the Reformed Druids of North America also allows cross-memberships in organizations beyond itself.

4: For any druid who participates in the ratification of a grove constitution, they shall be under no obligation nor binding oath of entrapment to remain with said grove if they do not wish to be.

5: The elected Arch-Druid, however, in answering the call to serve their community of the spiritual as decreed by Dalon Ap Landu, should be expected to be bound to the grove, for the duration of their elected term at the very least,

6: but who is to say that an Arch-Druid of one grove may not also be Arch-Druid of another grove?

7: For there has been no written restriction to forbid it.

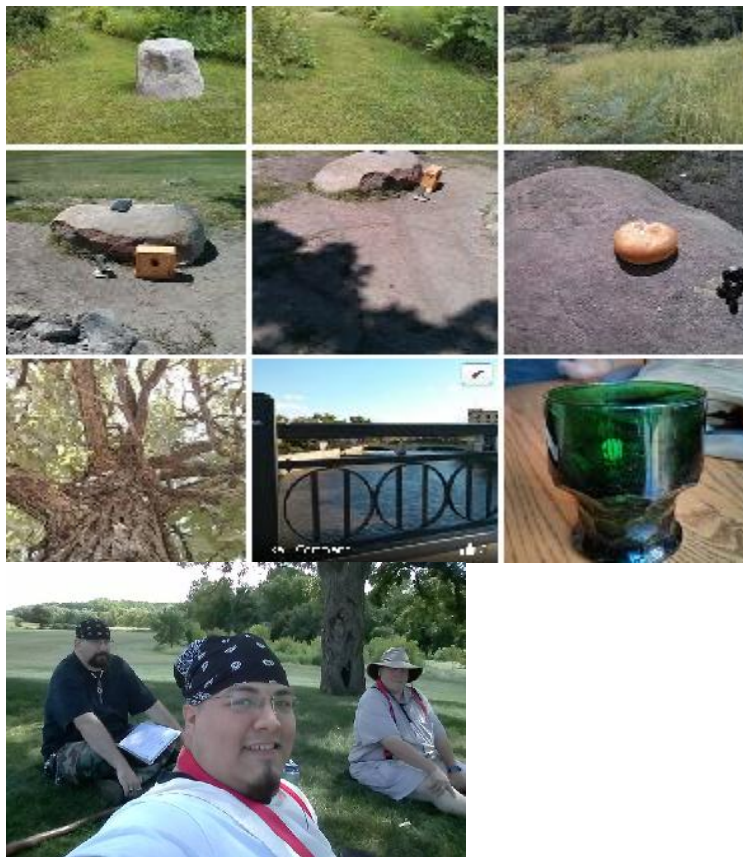
8: Verily, such a druid of Dalon Ap Landu shall serve where they are called.

CHAPTER THE THIRD



- 1: As of the time of this epistle being written, there is a regularly recurring gathering of Nature-minded individuals that even Reformed Druids are welcome to attend.
- 2: This event is called Coffee Cauldron, and is presided over by Earth House.
- 3: The Coffee Cauldron meets every first and third Wednesday of each month at Caribou Coffee at 1127 Larpenteur Avenue, in the Village of the Rose [Roseville] of Minnesota.
- 4: For the first time in five months will I be able to attend, like I once did regularly.
- 5: It would be a great opportunity to discuss the content of the scrolls you have received with this epistle!
- 6: Not to worry if you are unable to attend the caffeinated Coffee Cauldron at Caribou Coffee,
- 7: for we can still meet at noon on the Saturday closest to the Autumnal Equinox.
- 8: If you have questions, always feel at liberty to ask or write them down, lest ye forget as I oft do.
- 9: Though verily, it is okay if ye doth not have yet a question,
- 10: for thus ye may be in search of a question,
- 11: and how noble and mystical a pursuit that must be!
- 12: Huh?
- 13: Behold,
- 14: verse twelve is but a divine springboard to Awareness!
- 15: So be it.

John Martens AKA John the Verbose
Four days before Autumnal Equinox, 51 YR



We didn't take any photos, but we gathered at Clifton E. French Regional Park, some of us had had a picnic with the friendly hive of yellowjackets, signed our grove constitution, held service upon a knoll in an irregular circle of stone surrounded by two arcs of mostly young oak & a couple of ash trees.

Earl Drake, Paul Senske, & "Wolf" entered the First Order, (Congratulations!) and our sacrifice almost turned us from RDNA to literally just "DNA!" I was stabbed a few times by thorns while gathering a sacrifice of thistle flowers.

The group split and reconvened, and we held a properly disorganized democratic election of grove officers and ratified our grove constitution/charter and applied a wax seal of the Oakdale Grove of the Reformed Druids of North America. I'll mail a copy to the Archive at Carleton College soon. Attached is a scan of our ratified constitution.

Tuatha De Danann Grove: News from California

Tuatha De Danann Grove N.R.D.N.A. had a splendid Fall Equinox festival. We now have a new 2nd Order, and between the ritual, the feast, and the copious Druid Fluid, there is no doubt that we are preserving our noble traditions. <https://www.facebook.com/jeffrey.sommer1>

Koad Grove: News from Michigan



4 new and happy 1st order druids via the waters-of-life administered by Jon Drum (left of center) thanks, Jon! - from Kirk

THREE QUOTES

1. When you become hard to understand, they make you a bard. When you become so hard to understand that only druids can understand you, they make you a druid. And when you get to the point where nobody can understand you at all, they make you an arch-druid!
--Emmon Bodfish attributed.
2. There are many ways to empty one's mind, but meditation brings out my monkey thoughts, and they hurl poo with abandon. - Mike the Fool
3. "Reality is but an Omelet with too many Cooks" TDK

POEMS



The Bard and the Bark first Oak of Life's Ark

Being a Druid Bard the Craeftgemot
Witancoveyne way!

I am from time to time ask how to be a
Druid Bard?

And yes there are so many books, so many
tales and poems to read and ponder.

So many tools of Old and New
Psycholinguistic Art and Science to learn.

Yet in my Order I share a way that is simple,
Heart and Hearth felt and connects us back
to the ancient spirit and ancients of our old
way.

How long does this take pray tell?
Just a turn of the Moon or so.
So here it so you may know.

Find a few live healthy acorns, if you can
put them in a small bag or even cut off
sock.

As the Moon starts wane, carry these
Children of the Forrest everywhere you go.

Talk to them any time you can, touch and
hold them in your hand.

Tell them of the Dark, of first damp soil in
the Forest.
Of struggle and unbelieved metamorphosing
that awaits them in the lonely Dark.

Of Roots first drink and shouts first Sun.

Of being young and oh so vulnerable.

Of growing in the Sun and singing with the
wind and the Moon.

Of how their life will be, the changing of the
seasons great wheel.

Of the Times the Druids will come to them
in honor Sun or Moon Wheel as it turns.

Of growing strong and giving comfort and
shelter both the small and the great that may
come their way.

Of being a home to those that will fly and
sing in your strong arms.

Of giving up your leaves to the seasons and
renewal from saved food in your roots.

Of sky lighting and storm of the greatest
danger that is Man.

Of growing many Acorns and understanding
all will not make the change .

That You are the Sky Candles great gift, a
way to feed the many that live and die so
quick.

Of growing and breaking down of giving
back to Mother Gala's forever earth and
womb.

Of being born anew from efforts you have
sown.

Of so many things to tell the Children of the
Forest.

Now as the New Moon starts to wax, write
down your words you have told. Of acorns
beginning till old Oaks end.

Boil it in cauldron and loom of the mind till
it is but a few minutes Rhyme.

Now on the night of the new Full Moon,
take the children to a spot that needs the Oak
and where it can grow strong and Tall.

Tear up you speech put a bit in each hole
you dig.

Plant the Children of the Forest for they are
not mere acorns but the Future.

Now under Full Moon tell your True Bard's
tale to the Children and the sweet Moon's
night

Spun straight from your Heart's own Loom.

Welcome Bard Druid and before you go
home be sure and kiss the Moon.

The Lughnasadh Lammas Moon Rising
TDK (c) George King August 1, 2013
Lughnasadh

The Woodcutter's Song

Oak logs will warm you well
That are old and dry
Logs of pine will sweetly smell
But the sparks will fly
Birchs long will burn too fast
Chestnut scarce at all sir
Hawthorn logs are good to last
That are cut well in the fall sir

Surely you will find
There's no compare with the hard wood logs
That's cut in the winter time

Holly logs will burn like wax
You could burn them green
Elm logs burn like smouldering flax
With no flame to be seen
Beech logs for winter time
Yew logs as well sir
Green elder logs it is a crime
For any man to sell sir

Surely you will find
There's no compare with the hard wood logs
That's cut in the winter time

Pear logs and apple logs
They will scent your room
and cherry logs across the dogs
They smell like flowers of broom
But ash logs smooth and grey
Buy them green or old, sir
and buy up all that come your way
They're worth their weight in gold sir



https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=h7HiPFnyoac

'Mint'

It looked like a clump of small dusty nettles
Growing wild at the gable of our house
Beyond where we dumped our refuse and
old bottles:
Unverdant ever, almost beneath notice.

But, to be fair, it also spelled promise
And newness in the back yard of our life
As if something callow yet tenacious
Sauntered in green alleys and grew rife.

The snip of scissor blades, the light of
Sunday
Mornings when the mint was cut and loved:
My last things will be first things slipping
from me.
Yet let all things go free that have survived.

Let the smell of mint go heady and
defenseless
Like inmates liberated in the yard.
Like the disregarded ones we turned against
Because we failed them in our disregard.

Seamus Heaney
Submitted by Mary.

Mine and Ours
mine is the spark
ours is the light

mine is the meal
ours is the food

mine is the drink
ours is the water

and all are Nature
and God/dess
-by Henney

The Fae's Promise

the Fae left me at noon
to be back real soon
She promised me at heart

this Sidhe are absent of mind
though mostly fairly kind
not easily do they part

from the Human which they follow
never keen, never hollow
do their words linger long

Faeries promise she kept
into my lap she leapt
at dusk, when we continued our song
- By Henney

OVER, OVER and OUT

over, over and out
out of this world
this world of love

love of life
life in everything
everything One

One humanity
humanity fighting
fighting for none

none to kill
to kill over,
over, over and out
-By Henney

DRUID MUSINGS

Tree Climbing, by Henney

I only discovered the joy of tree-climbing when I was already 10 years of age. I saw beautiful, lonely Oak, really big. I couldn't reach its lowest branches. But, the boys with whom I was and I carried a long rope. So, we threw the rope over the lowest branch and worked our way up.

I was about 2 meters above the ground and that was high, but.. the real work had just to begin. We could grab the branches easily now and I could stand on them. We climbed, branch after branch, 10 meters high, some boys stay behind because they think this high enough. 15 meters high, and I was the only one still climbing. Higher and higher it had to go. I pushed myself against the trunk, that had become rather small and stood on branches that creaked under my weight. One branch, still another branch and then it was enough. I could feel the wind on my face and through my hair, the trunk was just slowly moving left, right. Overjoyed!



Later, when I was much older, I learnt that there are Russian peoples of which their Shaman climbs a high tree, mostly a Birch, to get information over a tough situation from the tree and the spirits and the gods of heaven. Yes, what else?

Walking in the Woods

For many of us, a walk in the woods is a common and powerful spiritual practice. Trees speak to us spiritually – showing us solidity, growth, patience, and calm. Their summer leaves weave together providing a cool shadowy protection from the sun.

A related common Pagan practice is the tree meditation (either led or self-guided), where we imagine our toes reaching into the ground as roots, our solid trunk stiffening and lengthening, and our arms becoming branches reaching up into the sky. Our roots anchor us to the past. Our branches reach out to the future connecting us to others and the world.



Recently, while feeling that experience, I thought about how far, in actual generations, we'd need to go back to our common Ancestor with trees, then forward from there to trees. It's pretty far back – at least 1,200 million years, and from my calculated estimate, around 10,000 million generations. OK, that's pretty far – but then I wondered – what was our most recent Ancestor who was immobile – rooted in place? It turns out that this much more recent Ancestor was like today's "sea squirts", around 570 million years ago, or 270 million generations (a 270 million greats grandmother). A sea squirt mom squirts the swimming, tadpole-like babies into the ocean. Then, they find a rock to attach to, and live out their lives as sponges live. By keeping that baby, tadpole like stage throughout life, our Ancestors evolved into free-swimming fish, then to us. Yep, all us vertebrates started out as a baby-dispersal strategy, somewhat like maple tree seeds! The next time you walk in the woods, maybe the trees will remind you of our real-life immobile Ancestors, who lived patient lives rooted in place.

MYNT! From Ellis

Druid Videos



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wux_rR9znAM

A fun, mildly offensive (maybe to Catholics?) video that I forgot I made back in my college days. And these things really did transpire! - From **John**



https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=mbyzgeee2mg



Mary: Here is a beautiful and very moving song, known as, “The Wakeup Song,” from the Doctor Who episode, “The Rings of Aknaten.” This particular video includes the lyrics, and has had The Doctor’s speech removed. You can find other youtube videos that include his speech, which are really great, also. I hope that you enjoy this.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=qb3vsqy4NJg



Worth watching. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdvBePlmxAg>



Where Did The Earth Come From?

www.youtube.com

Do we take the Earth for granted? It gives us life and sustains us in the manner we're accustomed to, but we don't know the first thing about it: like

Why we are all made of star dust

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=zuMjnP1YbPw



IDTIMWYTIM: Equinox (Stupid Latin!)

In this edition of IDTIMWYTIM, Hank explains why the common understanding of "equinox" is wrong, what the equinox actually is, then rages a little agains...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=43dOrs6d4FU

Why the equinox isn't exactly equal lengths, although the difference is tiny.



Extra History 01 - The Punic Wars

This video may be used freely in its original unaltered state for educational purposes! Big thanks to Creative Assembly for making this happen! If you wa...

The background story on why the Punic wars in 221bce made the Romans so paranoid and cruel to all their neighbors for centuries to come. In four parts.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=EbBhk_zLTmY



RITUALISTIC SACRIFICE (Do's and Don'ts #10)

Subscribe to Shut Up! Cartoons: <http://smo.sh/SubToShutUp> The Do's and Don'ts of ritualistic sacrifice. Get more wildly inappropriate advice for impressionab...

Really bad advice on ritual sacrifice.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=lyXoFWSVDQk

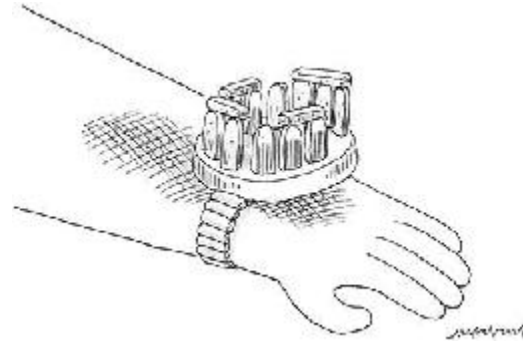
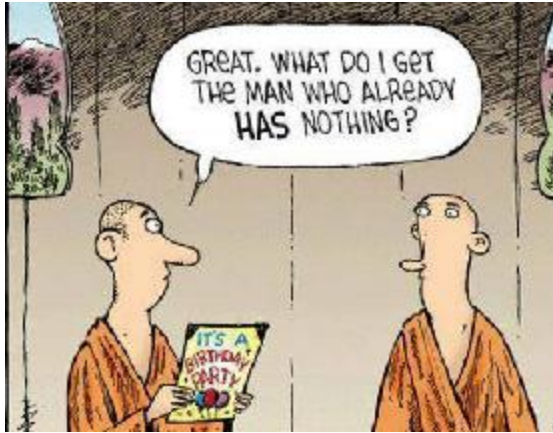
Druid Photos



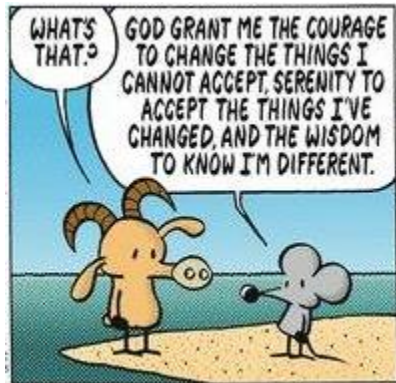
Long long ago on Salisbury Plain - a lively discussion ensues amongst the members of the Stonehenge Planning Committee.



Third-eye exams

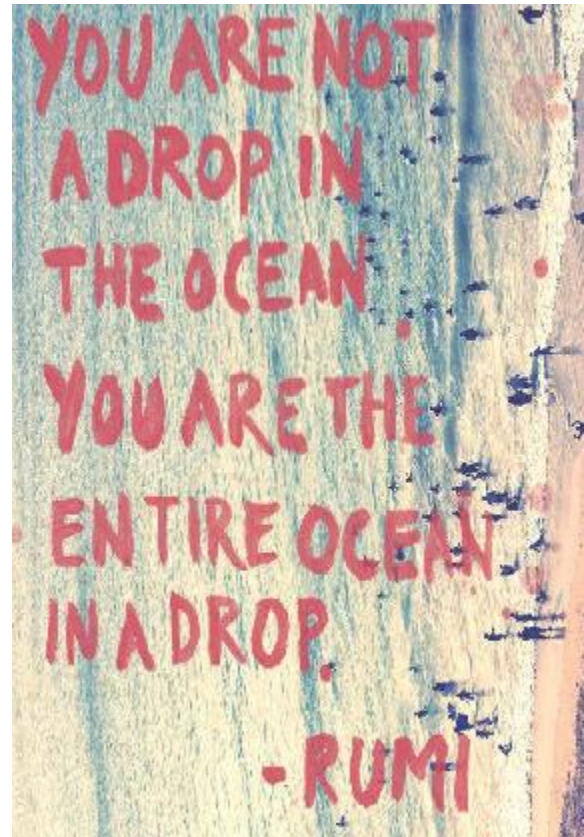


P.S. This sundial works at night too, just use a flashlight.



"When did I realize I was God? Well, I was praying and I suddenly realized I was talking to myself."

Peter O'Toole



Druid Debates



GETTING STARTED DIALOGUE

Jim Amy

1. Nature is good. 2. Likewise, Nature is good. OK. I'm pretty sure that I'm a First Order Druid of the RDNA now. Cheers.

Stacey J. Have you partaken of the Waters-of-Life consecrated by a Third Order priest? That's the missing piece!

Baron Crap, I never got the waters of life myself by said that years ago!

Baron How do I get them?

Rusty Acorn...what all things spring from.

Rusty I think a 3rd. should go to ALL the major distilleries, and consecrate the whole place. Story over. No need for the wandering 3rds. who only wander as far as the liquor store on their corner.

Mike TheFool I have considered blessing the pacific ocean, but I think consecrated waters-of-life have a shelf life of only a week or so.

Dhara It was originally Nature is Groovy. Nature is very groovy. I like olde school. Cheers Brother!

Rusty Well, if the Ocean was Uisge, and I was a Drunk...but it is salt water. I am sure of it. Salt water has quite a long shelf-life.

Stacey J. Not really. The RDNA formed before groovy became a popular term in the vernacular. Read the Druid Chronicles in the ARDA.

Dhara OMS chose to say Groovy. I dig it. Remember its all cool.

Stacey J. That's fine, but it's not what was originally.

John I do recognize Jim as a First Order Druid, in accordance with The Book of Customs Chapter 1, verse 2:

"2. Now they who subscribe to the Basic Tenets of Reformed Druidism, as prescribed in the Book of the Law, they are accepted into the body of Druidism which is the organizational body of Druidism only."

but Customs 1:3-4 help sort out the technical differences:

"3. But, they who partake of the Waters-Of-Life in communion with the congregation, they are accepted into the great body of Druidism which is the spiritual body of Druidism only.

4. But the whole and complete body of Druidism is consisted neither of the organizational body only nor of the spiritual body only, but of the both of them, which are then in whole and complete union."

Now on a side note related to some other aspects of the discussion above, if the President of the most powerful country in North America can sign a bill into law with an electronic AutoPen, couldn't an ordained priest in the Reformed Druids of the same North America consecrate the Waters of Life via Skype or something?

Stacey J. I think it would have to be done in person. Physically, not electronically. You could consecrate the waters and then mail them to Jim.

Mike TheFool There are some workarounds, but one can also do roadtrips and visit. All things come with patience and ingenuity.

Vivian Remember when my time comes, I live in paradise (FL) and have a spare room.

Stacey J. Waiting is.

Mike TheFool people's paths cross more frequently than you suspect. "druids passing on their flights, exchanging glances"

Stacey J. "Druids in the night...."

Rusty Everybody is a Chief, and they have the special mail-order magic feather to prove it! Nobody wants to be a worker anymore (when have they ever!)

Rusty I would just love to see all the new "3rd. Orders" conduct a Ritual, without cheat-sheets. And the new "1st. Orders" do Ritual without prompting.

Stacey J. I'm not new but I can do a service without a cheat sheet. I've loved being Preceptor by the way.

Vivian I am new, but I been doing Pagan rituals for about 10 years and leading some for about 5. When comes to rituals I find Murphy's law applies. Cheats sheet at night can useless by fire light. At the last big public ritual I was in after getting my part right at every practice I mess it up during the ritual in front of about 60 people. Got a big laugh. Took a bow.

Rusty I invented the "Spirit of Light" who dances around with a light-globe, and when it comes to your turn to read at night, she dances up behind you, and shines the light over your shoulder.

Rusty Of course, I also "invented" something called a "scroll", so one does not have to flip through sheets of print-outs, but just unroll to the part (print-outs taped together in a scroll)

Vivian That is a good idea, but at a big rituals best to either do it from the heart or memory if you can. My friends put on at least 4 festivals a year so rituals can turn in to a big dog and pony show. Doesn't seem to matter if I am in it or not I end up with filling in for no shows.

George Still Dear Vivian one should listen close to any messup to is if it is an Echo from the Past across the Veils of Lives. TDK

John I had my little weather ritual last night to beseech Taranis to mitigate the severity of Tropical Storm Chantal as requested by George King, and it was in the dark. The prayer was improvised, and I did have my liturgical book, though I have most of that memorized. I held up my candle lantern a couple times to check, only to realize that I wouldn't have needed to check which liturgical step was next. So all one really needs to do to realize how much they've already memorized is to have ritual in the dark

George Thanks Druid John All efforts help and are blessed. This is one way Druids can help save lives and in Miss Chantal's case moving her a bit East does not endanger other areas .

Vivian The storm seems to want to brake up, That would be the best. Florida is now in the cone of influence. I used to living under the Mayan God, Hurricane. I fear my Ghost Orchid Grove meet up might get rained out, though.

Mike TheFool I think FLorida needs to move further inland.

Vivian I figure in 10 yrs I'll have beach front.



PERSECUTED DRUID DIALOGUE

Dudley: Brother and Sisters - I am in no way official but I really do want to be a druid very badly. This video below is from my front yard. I've been the target of anger and bias in the community due to my honesty over my orientation and religious affiliation.

Normally I would never post like this but it's at a point where I cannot go to work. The churches have organized a massive volunteer effort to silently protest me without tangible proof - they glare - follow me - walk in circles around me - even where I work.

I had to pause because a large motorcycle just pulled in outside. The angry motorcade has been constant. All I ask for is to be in your hearts and your love. I refuse to profess to something i am not. I'm a druid. I'm a druid. I'm a druid.

Steve What?! Lemme at em. LEMME AT EM. If you'd like to talk, add me and message me. There's gotta be something you can do. They CANNOT break you. I'm with you, friend.

Ken that was a bit random???

John It might be beneficial to meet with the spiritual leaders of your community, and address the issue directly. Granted there are some Christians that do not behave very Christlike, if the spiritual leaders have any sense of humility, they may be able to herd their sheeple and instruct them not to harass or terrorize those not of their flock. Was Christ ever said to have discriminated against anyone? (Well, other than that one time that he flipped out because people set up market in the temple, hehe)

John ...As for being open and honest about feeling a pull down the Druid's path, kudos to you! It is a brave thing to be open and honest about it, which shows a lot of integrity. I know in some people's situations, they may feel too unsafe to be open about their spirituality.

It is safe for me, so I am "out of the broom closet" and open with my spirituality to create Awareness and inspire tolerance, to make it a safer place for those who cannot speak their hearts for fear of prejudice or violence. The same applies for my orientation as well.

As for your status as a Druid, what does druidry mean to you? You mentioned how your worldview has affected your druidry, but here's a question to the inverse: how does druidry affect your worldview? Have you adapted existing practices & rituals into your spirituality? Have you created your own practices in

accordance with what feels natural to you? Either and both are great. Of course, if you follow the Reformed Druids of North America model, being a druid is pretty easy

George One could try a bit of Psychological warfare. As them friending you is out of the question.

Hang or place outside small cheap mirrors from your Dollar store or craft glue the shiny reflective silver looking plastic like inside heat sealed tea bags or potato chip bags on card board, to make little unbreakable mirrors (for almost no cost) where they can see them. This is both a true and tried Magick but also a Psychological tool. They will quickly figure out that you are reflecting their hate back at them. And assume every little thing that happens is because of this.

You can be sure they are already using Prayer (spell casting) warfare against you already!

The next step would be get kids chalk and write totally made up weird words and sigils or symbols on sidewalk.

Do not use known sigils seals or Vever. You want them to waste a lot of time on the internet or library looking them up.

Hose Chalk off every other day and do new ones.

Also get two or three fake video security cameras and put the out First one easy to see and second and third harder . Then get one real one that records and have it back at the House well hidden. Or just use Real DruidDo Griss Griss.

John I feel a bit obligated to share a passage from ARDA: The Book of Opposition, excerpts from Chapter 7:

- "1. I will now tell you how to deal with Anti-Druids.
2. If you enter arguments with them, you will seem to lose, since their rules to win prevent them from accepting yours.
3. But do not wage war with them, but meet their arguments with compassion, for many a fundie is suffering from insecurity. Reasoning will not get them to abandon their only anchor, that they have found the only way, and are thus saved, and that you be damned.
4. Beware of rousing them. The Public will sympathize as long as you are not shown to be the aggressor."

Now the context of the situation might be different from the interpretation at the time this was written, but I think it has some good advice.

George Yes John it is but why be a Magical person if you are not going to use it?. The Placebo effect can work for or against you so Public view of Magical working must be carefully considered.

George So Yes not being seen as an aggressor is good, I used to enjoy years ago when someone said something like Witches or Druids are dammed etc in neighbor Putting a radio outside and tune to the most annoying religious station I could find. A weekend of that from 6am to 8PM fixed it..

George Not recommended but Bleach is a great way to burn Sigils in the grass.

Stacey J. I agree with John. Being a magical person doesn't mean you have to use it and it can backfire.

Benjamin So burning a Sigil in their grass is probably not a good idea?

Stacey J. No and not really funny.

Benjamin That would just infuriate them wouldn't it? So what should you do if they do something like that to you?

Stacey J. It's not a very druidical thing to do and no one has done that yet. All you can do is set up a camera and get evidence. Without evidence you can't build a case. I agree with John Michael on this.

Benjamin Good point. I should have made my point better. If someone is harassing you for your beliefs and they stoop to vandalism and 'silently protesting' you, what should be your course of action as a druid? Assuming it is not being organised by any larger group with a leadership you could talk to.

Benjamin Retaliation in kind would be a foolish action to take as it makes you as guilty as them. That was just an impulsive thought on my part.

Emily Dudley, please consider contacting the Lady Liberty League. If nothing else, they should have some good advice for you. They've helped many people in the past.
<https://www.circlesanctuary.org/.../lady-liberty-league.html>

Mike Can you shame individuals for their behavior? What about a sign, with a quote like "Love your neighbor."

Mike TheFool John, i frankly forgot that was in ARDA, I'm getting old and my memory is fading.

George Free Beer party always helps !

George But keep them out of the house Lol

John The Books of the Latter Day Druids are great! I read excerpts from the Book of Opposition and the Book of Vigils at the Lughnasadh gathering

Mike TheFool George has a point. Having some friends in the town "speak" to their friends might be helpful. Honestly, they are really barking up the wrong tree if they are worried for their community (assuming you aren't an axe murderer). you got roots in town?

Mike TheFool People fear what they don't understand and folks they don't know.

Mary Safety first. If you feel, in anyway, that you or your property are being threatened, then contact the local police department. If the police will not act on your behalf, document everything, and then contact the "Americans United for the Separation of Church and State" (AU) and/or the ACLU. They will likely be very happy to represent you in a lawsuit. Those organization exist to protect the civil rights of members of minority religions, as well as the nonreligious. Alternatively, if you do not feel that you or your property are being threatened, then, in my opinion, you should just suck it up, and write a letter to the editor of the local newspaper, describing your treatment at the hands of some Christian Church members, explaining how that makes you feel, as a member of a minority religion. There is no better way to blaze a trail for those who might one day find themselves in your shoes. The sword of truth exists, my friend. Never hesitate to use it.

Dudley Thank you all so much - I have had a very trying week of dealing with this - My spiritual journey is at odds with - well - THIS ENTIRE REGION - so I'm leaving my job soon - they pretty much have told me they would like for me to go by their actions - There has been a lot of action on their part - constant glares - interruption - coordinated movements to show disapproval by marching past my area constantly. I wrote the topic because i really do desperately need help. I'm going to use what resources I have to pack up our home and go SOMEWHERE - if you know someone who has rental homes and is friendly towards our spiritual journeys (and not like it is here in the south) then please PM me that information. I am under constant scrutiny here and whenever I leave my home I'm escorted by unhappy community members. I tried to address this issue directly with them and spoke honestly and sincerely about how i feel - their reaction was to basically form an angry mob that follows me 24/7 and wherever i go - I even drove to Virginia to visit family and it was present with me the entire way - I wish - WISH!!! I were misleading you on that fact - - We don't know where to go - just anywhere but here - I need kindness and love towards someone of my sexual orientation - as well as this spiritual journey - I hope I'm making sense - in case my comments are seen outside of this group I don't want to make my situation any worse than it already is. Mike TheFool I will send you a pm as well as John

Mary I recommend California.

Dudley What part?

Mary Coastal cities. Too close to the ocean, and it can be more expensive. Too far from the coast, and the communities are often less liberal. Humboldt Co. would be good.

Stacey J. I'm sorry you're going through this. These people aren't behaving in a very Christian way. What areas are you looing to move to? In the South I'd recommend Austin and Asheville NC.

Mary Asheville is very nice!

Emily There are many more liberal/open areas of the midwest. St. Louis, Chicago, Champaign IL, Ann Arbor MI, Minneapolis. Look for cities with a big public university, that will be a more open area. If you're going to make a big move and are having any difficulty with jobs I recommend contacting a temp or staffing agency in the intended city!

Benjamin Those people remind me of a quote I heard somewhere. "I like your Christ. I do not like your Christians." They are so unlike your Christ." Supposedly by Gandhi.

Dudley Thank you so much. It's appreciated.

John And me being a Minnesotan, I would have to recommend Minneapolis (if you like/love snow)... every now and then, you might hear some local pagans refer to this as "Paganistan" for its diverse alternative spiritualities

Steve John, that's good to know

Dudley Does anyone in here know of someone who has a rental or even needs a roommate because I really want to leave this area ASAP

Steve I don't to either unfortunately. Check Craigslist and other crowd sourcing sites. Is it just you?

Dudley I believe so for now - I'm going to work out some arrangements for my 19 yr old daughter in the interim. They do not target her or my other daughter at all - it is just me.

Steve Ill message you.

Dudley I sent a request to the Lady Liberty League as well - and let me repeat - I'm so sorry to even ask this but the opposition I'm facing is massive and overwhelmingly larger than I am

Helgaleena Dear Dudley, i notice you are a vet. Have you tried for any solidarity from the American Legion or VFW locally? or even nationally? I should think religious affiliation is not a big deal among most vets groups.



DRUID SIGIL DISCUSSION

John: I recently switched to 64 bit Windows 7 from 32 bit, so I had to install 64 bit drivers for my old scanner. The buttons on the scanner don't seem to work anymore, but I was able to make it scan from the computer, which is fine.

For fun I did a test scan of my carved Labradorite sigil necklace, and I used the LED light on my phone to backlight the stone. The white LED washed out the greens and blues of the Labradorite, but it is still a really neat effect. I need to dust the glass!

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Stacey J. Ooooo!

Sébastien For which 3rd druid is it for? Good idea, but where can I get the traditional metal one?

Sébastien Mike? Do you have any idea?

Stacey J. <http://www.amuletsbyme.com/.../Isaacs-Druid-Sigil.html>



Isaac's Druid Sigil

www.amuletsbyme.com

A wreath of leaves with two staves passing through, a symbol of Druidism and the Earth Mother

Sébastien ya... it Issac's... lol

Stacey J. Mine is like that. Mike gifted it to me when I made Third.

Sébastien wow... mine that Mike gave me most have been much older version... lol

Stacey J. Mine is from 2000.

Sébastien This one is mine



Sébastien I will need get one for someone at some point.

Stacey J. Is someone thinking about pursuing Thirds?

Sébastien yup... but not before next Beltane...

Stacey J. Of course!

Sébastien I tell them to choose properly their time of the year and not do what I did... lol

Sébastien They still have time before Samhain (even on the eve of Samhain) Not recommended lol

Sébastien Especially in Canada!

Stacey J. And it makes for a loooong night, says the person who vigiled in October...

Sébastien yes.... Some say that you may experience rain, snow, cold winds and freezing rain all in one night. In the morning, You can be covered in 2 inch of snow.

Sébastien Wet and damp wood is hard to burn... lol

Stacey J. The night I vigiled it was the windiest night in 40 years and I couldn't have a fire. Vigils are...challenging, are they not?

John Ok, you showed me yours, I'll show you mine
John Michael Martens's photo.

Jeffrey I did mine in October. Fortunately, the AD had a huge, warm cloak to wrap me in.

Mike TheFool Isaac's druid sigil with the wreath and two staves is from the late 1980s on amuletsbymerlin. My version is about twice as large, weighs one ounce and John has a photo of it, being made in st. Cloud in 1995, and then I asked amuletsbynerlin to make a batch in 2002. Isaac's doesn't lie flat as well as mine, but his has more ornate style.

Sébastien Well Jeffrey, you had it well.... hehehehehehe

NEWS from MOCC

News from MOCC



The MOCC, Tulsa Convocationry, anxiously awaits the forthcoming Act of the Archdruid. Not much has thus far been released to the local populace concerning the Act, but suspicions are

aroused when questions of whether or not to use the term 'diocese' or 'bishoprick' uniformly in the document, and whether or not people wish to make use of a standard, but adaptable, lectionary. Old debates over the Ecumenical Rule of 1994 arise, once thought to be laid to rest decades ago, and in anticipation of the Act, some Christian theologians in the tribe are discussing the comparative rights and wrongs of Trinitarianism vs. 'Oneness' Pentecostal theology in such a way that one is reminded of debates that were ongoing at both Nicea and Trent.

Act of the Archdruid, Tulsa Convocationry September 15, 2013

This Act is subject to veto, amendment or ratification either as a whole or by line-item at Samhain Convocation 2013.

The MOCC hereby affirms it's historic Druid background, and does not veer from it. It is as a point of justice, however, that we acknowledge to a fuller degree those of other Faith Traditions among us that have been in our body for a considerable time as their place of sanctuary

and safe haven, and to provide for the spiritual needs of those persons. None of the additions herein supplants the previous usage of the MOCC, but adds to the richness of our Tradition, Tribe and Order.

The MOCC hereby affirms that there have been matters of usage in the body corporate that have not heretofore been either addressed sufficiently, nor have they been written down in a form that makes the communication of their existence common knowledge. Also, there are issues of usage and governance that need to be set forward for the betterment of our body corporate.

To these ends, this Act of the Archdruid is hereby set forth:

As concerns the Christian, Neo-Christian, Christic and Culdee community within the MOCC, while the MOCC is outside of denominational alignment, the usage of the MOCC Culdee Rite shall defer, when it may, to the Old Catholic usage, in the tradition of the hedge-priests and hedge-bishops upon whose foundation we have been established.

To prevent from promotion of every odd, mischievous, novel or bizzare doctrine or interpretation of Scripture in our community, we shall make use of a lectionary recognized by other Christian bodies, historic or contemporary, providing standardized readings to be used on Sundays in context of the Eucharist or in absence of the Eucharist, in the congregation, omitting no reading in the lectionary except where alternate readings are given as an option. Other readings, however, may be added to the list in adaptation per the Ecumenical Rule of 1994.

For the Tulsa Convocationry and Seminole Convocationry, this shall be The Revised Common Lectionary compiled by the Consultation on Common Texts, Abingdon Press, 1992.

Where other days and times of prayer, study and worship are set forward, they shall use the Daily Office or Divine Office (Anglican Catholic and Roman Catholic names, respectively, for the rite and readings of the Liturgy of the Hours), adaptable by the addition of appropriate texts, but not by omission of any text required in the original manuscript used as the resource.

We reaffirm all portions of the Basic Rite required in our Rule. Thus, a distinctive MOCC Culdee Rite shall be made present by combination with more mainstream liturgy, including canticles, collects, invocations, testimonials, confessions, prayers of the people, benedictions, creeds, and 'altar calls' customarily observed by the local population.

The local Archdruidic Office (ADO) shall have added an Abbot or a Bishop to the lesser offices of the local Convocationry, elected by acclaim of the community in the case of the bishop, and by secret ballot in the case of the Abbot, per ancient observance. These shall be allowed to seek ordination in the Apostolic Succession, but it shall not be required, and they shall owe no fealty to any other bishop or abbot inside or outside of the MOCC, which constitutes by Convocationry, separate Communion and we are therefore exempt from such allegiance or fealty according to the Council of Constantinople.

We shall allow for the creation of study groups, houses, chapels, congregations, synagogues, temples, shrines, mosques and other bodies grove-cognate within the borders of our Convocationries as appropriate to local culture and to the Tenets and Rule, and other canons, of the MOCC. No body organized or affiliated with the MOCC shall be allowed to retain its affiliation with our institutions if it violates the Tenets and the Rule or other canons and codes governing the local Convocationry (or in the case of aberrant Convocationries, Convocationries neighboring a violating Convocationry).

We shall allow for the creation of monastic cells of the First, Second and Third Orders basing themselves on the Rule of St. Benedict or the Rule of St. Francis, and shall encourage these and our Culdees (these last, according to some academics, being the revivals of the suppressed pre-Synod of Whitby Celtic Rite) to be active in one or more local Christian houses of worship to provide for volunteer work, charity, upkeep and other adjunct related duties to assist the community and houses of worship in both spiritual and secular matters and labor.

We have, in our Body Corporate, brought together many backgrounds into one agreeable and cooperative Institution. No canon, ordinance, by-law, Act, Rule nor proclamation, agreement, nor writ shall be enacted, enforced or be interpreted to mean that any member of the MOCC or her clergy or her affiliates shall in anywise way be prohibited from attending, participating in, ministering in or to, or being employed in another house of worship of any religion, or any benefice of any such religion, nor prevent dual membership in our Body Corporate and any other congregation or religion, provided they do not themselves violate the Tenets and Rule of the MOCC, nor any customs, nor violate their oaths to either group.

We shall not require of our Christian, Neo-Christian, Christic or Culdee members any test of doctrine beyond the Apostolic Creed and the Nicene Creed.

To accommodate the new provisions set forth, the local clergy shall add to the numbers of the clergy the fields of presbytery and diaconate, with priests and deacons assisting in the work of the local MOCC clergy as a whole. These shall not be exempt from study in the fields of Ovate, Bard and Druid—these having much needed abilities that benefit the clergy of any Tradition—but shall preserve in them and in prior items of this Act the traditional Christian offices of bishop, priest and deacon.

Neither the Abbot, the Bishop, the presbytery, the diaconate nor any part of the Christian, Neo-Christian, Christic or Culdee community within the MOCC shall be allowed to discriminate nor act with prejudice against any in entrance, ministry, or ordination based upon gender, age having attained the majority of the local culture, ethnicity, national origin, creed not in violation of our Rule, color, handicap or sexual orientation. The same requirement of openness shall be exacted of all groups and Faith Traditions wishing to affiliate with the MOCC or any institution under the banner of our Tradition, Tribe and Order.

The ADO shall add to the lower offices of the Convocationry:
Hospitaller
Brehon
Parliamentarian
Herald
Crier
Guardian of Children
Guardian of the Elderly
Guardian of Labor and Commerce
Guardian of Housing and Transportation

Guardian of Agriculture and Energy Development

We declare renewed the MOCC—Kingman, AZ Grove and place as her Titular Archdruid J. Carlier II, pending ratification or veto as Archdruid by the next regular Convocation in her jurisdiction.

Usage of Title and Privilege

In Usage, Gorsedd shall be considered cognate, firstly, with the Archdruidic Chair, and second, with the local Convocatory in an extended sense

In Usage, the term diocese and bishopric shall be interchangeable for the Christian, Neo-Christian, Christic and Culdee membership of the Convocationry. The term See shall refer to the Chair of the Bishop or Abbot.

Convocationries of the MOCC shall always be designated as "MOCC (Name of City, State, or geographic designation) Convocationry".

Titles of Knight and Squire shall be heritable through lines of descent and adoption on an honorary basis, but full title shall only be granted to those who actively pursue that work and receive the accolade.

Title of Knight shall be inherited by that Knight's squires upon death of the Knight, and be confirmed by accolade.

Honorary membership in the MOCC's Tribe shall be heritable by lines of descent, marriage, nearest relatives, and by adoption. Tribal membership is extended to the families of the MOCC Order and Associate Membership upon statement identifying themselves as such as part of our Tribe in the Outer Court.

Titles of Druid, Ovate, Bard and Archdruid shall not be heritable.

Regardless of the Faith of the elected representative of the executive position on the ADO, that person will always be titled the Archdruid.

The following heraldic privilege is hereby granted to the appropriate persons in particular, and where appropriate, to the whole tribe in common usage under the Lesser Auspices of the College:

Livery—Upon a livery, vert and argent (also the reverse of the banner or flag), or on a pennant, quarterly vert and argent.

Upon a metal disk, the MOCC corporate arms may either be enamelled or indicated by hatching, with vert being a multiple marks bendy, and argent being blank, according to the Perta Sancta system of 1634.

The Corporate Arms of the MOCC are "vert, a Celtic Cross displayed overall".

The reverse of any MOCC pennant, emblazon, or ensign is always a livery of vert and or.

Badge Pennant-- upon a livery, vert and argent, a roundel, vert charged with a Celtic Cross, argent.

Mourning Flag-- Sable, inescutcheon vesica, vert, a Celtic Cross, argent.

Archdruid's Ensign-- According to custom found in Ecclesiastical heraldry, per pale, the MOCC arms and the personal arms or livery of the Archdruid or the local area. In lieu of a personal arms, the Archdruid's personal sigil may be displayed upon the local livery.

The Archdruid's Ensign for Bowlegs, OK would be the MOCC arms and a livery of azure and or, while the same Archdruid, having an ensign on display in Seminole, OK—also within the same Convocationry-- would be per pale the MOCC arms and a livery of argent and vert.

The Archdruid of Tulsa is "per pale, vert, a Celtic cross, argent, displayed overall, and a livery, paly, of sable, or and azure with the letter "T", argent, displayed overall (a variant of the Seal of Tulsa), alternately, the MOCC arms marshalled with their personal arms.

Local Ensign—Quarterly, the MOCC arms in 1 and 4, and local arms or livery in 2 and 3.
Badge: a livery of the local arms

Pennant of the Knights of the Silver Circlet—sable, an annulet, argent
Badge: a roundel, sable, an annulet, argent.
In personal armorial displays, a black garter, charged with an annulet, argent

Pennant of the Knights of the Black Rose of Sharaye-- per pale argent, a rose,sable, leaved and seeded, and azure.
Badge: A roundel, per pale argent and azure, a rose, sable, leaved and seeded, displayed overall.
In personal armorial displays: A garter, Azure, five roundels, argent, charged with black roses corresponding to the points of a five-pointed mullet.

Pennant of the Defenders of the Celtic Cross—vert, a Celtic Cross, or
Badge: a roundel, vert, a Celtic Cross, or, displayed overall
In personal armorial displays: a garter, vert, five clover leaves, or, corresponding to the points of a five pointed mullet.

Pennant of the MOCC Templar Guard—argent, a cross partee, gules
Badge: a roundel, argent, a cross partee, gules, displayed overall
In personal armorial displays: a garter, argent, with five crosses partee, gules, corresponding to the points of a five pointed mullet.

The following also shall be able to represent the MOCC:
A white bear
A white stag
A white mantle or cloak
Crossed staves, or in the case of the Culdee and Christian parts of our body, crossed croziers and a processional Celtic Cross arranged as a Chi-Rho.
An Oak wreath, seeded.

This, by my hand,
Thomas Lee Harris, Jr.
Archdruid, Tulsa Convocationry
Archdruid, Seminole Convocationry

9/15/2013

NEWS

Laois ‘bog body’ said to be world’s oldest

4,000-year-old remains were discovered on Bord na Móna land in Co Laois in 2011

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/laois-bog-body-said-to-be-world-s-oldest-1.1483171>

The bog body found by Jason Phelan at the Bord Na Mona Cashel Bog, in Co Laois. The body is estimated to be over 4,000 years old, and is possibly the result of a human sacrifice.

Photograph: Alan Betson/The Irish Times.

Fri, Aug 2, 2013, 17:44

Druid Inquirer Editor: As such, all is speculation, and this precedes Druidry by 1000 years.



The mummified remains of a body found in a Laois bog two years ago have been found to date back to 2,000BC, making it the oldest “bog body” discovered anywhere in the world.

The 4,000-year-old remains, which predate the famed Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun by nearly 700 years, are those of a young adult male.

He is believed to have met a violent death in some sort of ritual sacrifice.

The body was unearthed in the Cúl na Móna bog in Cashel in 2011 by a Bord na Móna worker operating a milling machine.

Initially, experts thought it dated from the Iron Age period (500BC-400AD), placing it on a par with similar finds in other Irish bogs.

However, radiocarbon tests on the body; the peat on which the body was lying; and a wooden stake found with the body, date the body to the early Bronze Age, around 2,000BC.

The discovery promises to open a new chapter in the archaeological record of Bronze Age burial in Ireland.

Eamonn Kelly, keeper of Irish antiquities at the National Museum of Ireland, said previously the earliest bog body discovered in Ireland dated to around 1,300BC but “Cashel man” substantially predates this period, making one of the most significant finds in recent times.

He said the remains are those of a young adult male which were placed in a crouched position and covered by peat, probably on the surface of the bog.

The man’s arm was broken by a blow and there were deep cuts to his back which appear to have been inflicted by a blade, which indicate a violent death, Mr Kelly said.

Unfortunately, the areas that would typically be targeted in a violent assault, namely the head, neck and chest, were damaged by the milling machine when the body was discovered, making it impossible to determine the exact cause of death.

Nonetheless, Mr Kelly believes the wounds on the body, combined with the fact that it was marked by wooden stakes and placed in proximity to an inauguration site, point to the individual being the victim of a ritual sacrifice.

“It seems to be same type of ritual that we’ve observed in later Iron Age finds. What’s surprising here is that it’s so much earlier.”

Because of the lack of calluses on the hands and the well-groomed fingernails observed in other finds, though not this one as the hands were not recoverable, Mr Kelly suggests the victims were most likely “high-born”.

“We believe that the victims of these ritual killings are kings that have failed in their kingship and have been sacrificed as a consequence.”

The museum is awaiting further test results on samples taken from the man’s bowel which should reveal the contents of the meal he was likely to have consumed before he died.

The chemical composition of bogs can preserve human bodies for thousands of years.

Archaeologists have discovered more than 100 ancient bodies in Irish bogs but few as well-preserved as “Cashel man”.

DRUID INQUIRER INFO

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Submissions Policy: Give it to me! If you have news about your grove, written a little essay, like to write up a book or move, have a poem, saw an interesting news article in the paper, or have a cartoon, send it in to mikerdna@hotmail.com or send by Facebook message to [mike.thefool](#) I'll try to give credit to whoever the original author is, and they retain the copyright to their works, and we'll reprint it one day in a future binding also. Nasty works will not be published. Although my standards are not skyhigh, incomplete works will be nurtured towards a publish-able form. Submissions are accepted from other publications and organizations, so you need not be a formal member of the RDNA to have your items published.