

Welcome to the White Hart Clan

In Celtic myth, the White Hart indicates that the Otherworld is near. To experience the Otherworld, one must lose oneself and follow the White Hart into the heart of the unseen realms. In this Clan we will experience techniques of loosening our shapes through trance and shape-shifting, following the White Hart into the other realms wherein we can open ourselves to dimensions beyond the bounds of the body. The ability to create relationships with all dimensions of being is at the heart of the Celtic magical practices, and being able to shift easily between states of being allows us to bring more wisdom and understanding not only to our own lives but also to the communities of beings with whom we live.

The Celts did not seek transcendent experiences of connecting with a divinity outside of themselves. They rather began with the concept of "relatedness" and sought for the source of the stream that flows through each of us and connects us with all that is - to "trance in", rather than to "trance out".

I hope to do as much of our work as possible outside where we can form deeper experiences of relatedness with all that is, so please bring many layers of clothing for all types of weather. Some of our work will involve stillness and some will involve movement, so bring clothing and footwear appropriate for both.

For our work in our Clan Cabin, please bring extra pillows and blankets and anything to make yourselves more comfortable in both seated and supine positions. Bring a bottle of water and some nutritious snacks for grounding. This can be very important! Also bring a journal or notebook and a pen to write down any experiences you wish to remember.

For our Clan Table, please bring a candle or decoration related to the White Hart or things Celtic.

Bring or be prepared to find on-site a medium rock (about the size of a large grapefruit). You will need this for our Saturday afternoon Clan time.

Also in preparation for our work, try to read Chapter 1, "The Ecology of Magic" in David Abram's, "The Spell of the Sensuous", as this is the best description of the work of the "otherworld traveler" that I have ever seen in print. If you can't do this, don't worry. I will bring some copies with me.

Our schedule will be slightly different than the one for the other Clans, with slightly longer Clan times. I will have a specific schedule for White Hart Clan available for you at our table when you arrive. We will also be responsible for a kitchen shift and for one attunement, and these times will be on your Clan schedule. Our schedule will supersede the general schedule you will receive when you arrive to register.

Your Clan leader is Juniper Talbot. I have over 25 years of training and experience in ritual, trance and magic, having been made witch in a Celtic based witchcraft coven in the early 1980's. In Rochester, NY, I led a Welsh witchcraft coven for 6 years before moving to western Massachusetts. I am currently an Elder in Lenai Aine coven. As a professional dancer, I have traveled often to Britain and to many of its sacred sites to teach and perform. I am writing a novel based on the fourth branch of the Mabinogi (Welsh mythological cycle), and am also active in developing and performing spiritually inspired movement in natural environments. I was chosen as one of the Pagan delegates to the Parliament of World's Religions in Barcelona to present my workshop "Dances With the Earth" in 2004. I am raising my 16 year old son, Aidan, and work as a doula and childbirth educator, supporting pregnant and birthing moms and their newborns.

I look forward to meeting each of you at Twilight Covenning!

Bright Autumn Blessings,

Juniper Talbot