

Welcome to the Reindeer Clan! This weekend we will spend time immersing ourselves in the traditional workings and lore of the Norse. Our time will include working with the runes, learning how to incorporate them into our everyday waking consciousness, developing insight and foresight. We will tell the tales of our ancestors, finding echoes of our own inner selves: including our strengths, our weaknesses, and our innate wisdom. We will journey with the shaman's drum seeking visions, answers, receiving gifts, and perhaps giving them as well.

In order to make this experience as full as possible, we invite you to release anything that ties you emotionally or mentally to your everyday world — entering fully into the ritual that is Twilight Convening and letting go of the need to discuss current events and politics to the greatest extent possible — being mindful of our own and others' desire to enter into a magical space. During the course of the weekend, we will weave back and forth between Clan time and community time through the larger rituals of the gathering including the Opening Circle and Releasing Fire on Friday night, Dream Circle, Trance Dance, and Clear Space on Saturday evening, the Visioning Ritual on Sunday, and finally, the Closing Circle on Monday. Each of these community rituals is designed to bring you back into the larger community that is Twilight Convening, enriching and flavoring the larger gathering with our work as a Clan.

A few important and practical considerations: Weather in the mountains in October is nothing if not unpredictable — plan for anything! Wearing layers is a very good idea, since you can shed them or add to them as the weather changes. Rain gear is also important, as are sturdy waterproof shoes and warm socks (bring extra just in case you get wet). We encourage you to wear period garb to help you indulge your inner Norse person, but long cumbersome cloaks do not work for the visioning ritual, so keep this in mind when planning your wardrobe.

Things to bring for you:

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Blankets/pillows/towels
- Rain gear (poncho/umbrella)
- Personal toiletries
- A drinking vessel for hot or cold beverages
- Snacks for post-journey work — hard cheeses, nuts, dried fruit, and chocolate all work quite well — but be sure to have a secure way to store them as the wee creatures enjoy them too!
- A journal or other place to take notes and record visions and dreams

Things to bring for rituals:

- Harvest vegetable for Opening Ritual
- Jar with a candle (an empty mayonnaise jar with a votive works well)
- Blindfold
- A token (something small, please, and preferably not toxic when it burns) to place into the releasing fire. You can also make and charge something from the site when you get there, like a bit of wood, a beautiful leaf....
- A token to help decorate our Clan table in the dining hall and something small for the clan altar space if desired

We look forward to sharing this time with you. Safe journeys — and we'll see you Friday.

Ulfr and Starwind