

A Feast of Lights 2017 – Anticipated Schedule (still subject to minor changes)

12:00 Noon: Arrivals / Registration opens

Friday 3:45-5:15 PM

Bob Greeney

Clay Collective Castle Creation/Construction 1

In this workshop participants will construct a clay piece that will later be fired, perhaps glazed, and assembled into an imaginative structure that could be considered a castle of our collective imaginations. This communal creation might be displayed at a later gathering or event. Clay and simple tools will be provided. Participants may come to one or more sessions.

Orion Foxwood

Stones of Sorcery: The Spectral Life of Gems and Minerals

Stones and gems have a long-standing relationship with traditional magic. Many say it is because they embody the principle of permanence. Old lore says something different. These enduring beings are alive, ancient and wise and they are Elders. They dream for Millions of years co-mingling the star-pulse of the falling heavens with earth-pulse of the rising light. Join Orion as he shares old lore and new findings, introductions to powerful stone teachers and, a path to the "Star within the Stone"

Susan Arthen

Tarot: Telling a Good Story

Scholarly views about the origin of Tarot are many. However, it is clear that Tarot was originally an oral tradition combining verbal skills, insight into human nature and intuition. These are abilities that require learning and practice but almost eliminate the need to memorize the meanings of cards, which is what most people find challenging. Learn some helpful tips in how to strengthen these abilities and more importantly, that you already have them available to you. Fun will be had by all

Friday 5:30-6:00 PM – Welcome and Opening Ritual

Friday 6:00-7:30 PM - Dinner Break

Friday 7:30-9:00 PM

Art Salon

Martin Bridge and community artists

Please join us as members of our community display and talk about works of art that are inspired by our spiritual lives and practices. Artist will share how the process of creation relates to their personal exploration and contemplation as well as how they can be an active part of ritual and magical practice. Come, listen, and discuss as a part of what is always an inspiring event!

Juniper Talbot

Imbolg Traditions, Lore and Ritual

Imbolg is a Celtic winter holiday in early February, marking the halfway point between Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox. It is a time to gather and celebrate the deep winter and await the warmth of spring. In this workshop, we will hear tales and lore associated with this holiday, share music, poems and crafts. We will participate in a simple ritual to honor Brighid, the patroness of smithcraft healing and poetry. Families welcome.

Friday 7:30-9:00 PM, cont.

Jane Sibley

Lust, Love, and Marriage in the Norse world

Pagans as well as Christians used spellcraft, among a variety of other ploys and traditions, to win the affection of another. Men's grimoires are rich with accounts and recipes; women's grimoires tend to focus more on healing, visioning one's future sweetie, etc. Note: Since some of this material is a bit racy, children should probably not attend this class.

Friday 9:00-10:30 PM

Songs of Change, Power, and Passion

A round robin and participatory concert of songs for right now with: Will and Lynn Rowan, Sam Long and Isobel Arthen, Sarah Stockwell Arthen and Andras Corban Arthen

Melissa Bee

The Sacred Isle of Bees

It is time to bring back the Hum of Love in this world, the Unstruck Sound before creation. Take a spiral journey to connect with the wisdom of the honey bee and connect to the ancient medicine that bees have provided for millions of years. Taste the nectar of pure love before your Melissae-led journey to the sacred Womb of the bees. If you are ready for a rebirth of divine love, then follow the hum of your heart to this workshop and get ready to be filled with light.

Trevor Wentworth

Queer Heathens

Sociologically, the concept of Homosexuality arose in the 1800's, and other terms such as Queer and LGBT are even more recent. But ancient cultures often describe persons that today we would call Queer. What about Heathenry? From cross-dressing gods and priests to shapeshifting to marriage laws, we will talk about concepts in ancient Germanic practice that point to the sacred role of these in-between people in the Heathen tradition.

Friday 10:30-11:30 PM

Sarah Rosehill

Anamanta for Experienced Practitioners

Let's take time to connect, discuss our practices and challenges, and practice together at A Feast of Lights! This meeting is appropriate for those who have completed a year-long training in Anamanta at any time in the past.

Saturday 9:00-10:45 AM, Plenary Session

Deirdre Pulgram Arthen (and many more)

Walking on Uneven Ground - finding power and purpose in a shifting world.

Our world is constantly changing, but at this moment in time, in this country, we are confronted with a clash that has shaken many of us to the core, leaving us with feelings of anger, confusion, fear or even despair. It is hard, but each of us needs to develop our own response that can carry us forward. As a spiritual community, what tools can we offer to one another that can help? This plenary session will bring together several core EarthSpirit members to share the different ways they are tapping into our earth-centered spiritual paths to find their own sources of power and continue working to make the

Earth a better place.

Saturday 11:00 AM-12:30 PM

Gwendolyn Reece

Magick for the Good of the Polis

Hellenic Paganism has a rich history of ritual and magick. Although, as with every culture, some of the practices were devoted to the pursuit of good for the individual, Hellenic Paganism put the Good of the collective, the Polis, at its center. This workshop discusses the role of political magick and teaches about specific magickal *techne* from ancient Greece, how it was used for the collective good, and how it might be applied to our current situations.

Sarah Stockwell-Arthen

Reviving Wassail!

The ancient visiting traditions of England beg to be revived. With joy and revelry, food and blessings, wassail is largely joyous, but this lighthearted overlay hides deeper meanings, including the possibility of "bad luck" if we don't respond where and when we should. It's as if our ancestors are knowing whether we share our efforts and goods of value properly -- whether we give respect and aid in the deepest Earth- and society-healing ways. We'll learn a song for the Masque to express this.

Juniper Talbot

Sacred Circle Dancing

Join us in dancing the simple, joyful and spiritual dances of the circle. Founded by members of the Findhorn Community in Scotland, Sacred Circle Dances draw on the spiritual and community-based traditional dances of many cultures. In this workshop, we will learn and dance Circle Dances designed to warm the spirit and welcome back the light! These dances are simple and easily learned by all abilities.

Chris LaFond

The Sky Tonight

What does the sky look like this season, and in particular, tonight? What constellations are dancing across the heavens to tell their stories to us? These are the same ones that have guided us for thousands of years. This planetarium-like presentation includes sky maps and images of stars, constellations, and planets, as well as the stories that are hidden in the characters that watch over us this evening. Appropriate for all ages who are comfortable being attentive in a darkened room.

Saturday 12:30-2:00 PM - Clothing Swap and Lunch Break (Sat)

Saturday 2:00-3:30 PM

Sarah Rosehill

Anamanta for Beginners

Rooted in the animist traditions of the Scottish Highlands, Anamanta is both a set of spiritual practices and a pagan worldview, deeply rooted in an intimate connection to the land and the beings we share it with. It's also a core part of EarthSpirit, informing our community rituals and our work in the world. This workshop will cover the foundations of Anamanta through discussion and practice, and is appropriate for all levels of experience.

Saturday 2:00-3:30 PM, cont.

Asherah Allen, R.Y.T., Lic. Ac.

Partner Yoga

Come enjoy connection with other through Partner Yoga. You do not need to bring a partner to attend this class. Suitable for all levels of yoga experience. Please wear comfortable clothes you can easily move in, your willingness to play, consensually touch, and an open heart. Partner Yoga nourishes our connections to each other, increasing our humanity and sensitivity, as well as honing our communication....all of which is deeply needed in these times.

Carrie Barraco

Plant Spirit Gifts: DIY for the Body and Soul

We will have a fun and casual vibe as we play magical chemists making luxurious items using high-quality all-natural ingredients. I'm ever-learning about essential oils, and will be teaching things my family and I have experienced, as well as accessing resources to support your particular needs. We will have materials for lotions/body butters, lip balms, sugar scrubs, roller balls and more. We will craft recipes with highest-quality essential oils to personalize your blends.

Vinnie Russo

Sicilian-American Craft re-membered

Religio-magical Traditions in Sicily are numerous. The most visible are post-Christian or have become blended with peasant Christianity. Immigrants created a synchronous culture - not quite Italic or American yet possessing hallmarks of both. Stregoneria is called the Old Religion because it is a Mystery Tradition from which flows the religious impulse. How can we as contemporary Streghe in the USA do the same with the re-enlivening of ancestral magical traditions? Come with your questions.

Saturday 3:45-5:15 PM

Angelica Stuart

Chakra Animals; A Natural World Oracle System

The Yogis teach that we humans have only four natural instincts: food, sleep, sex and self-preservation. So it is in the animal world. Chakra Animals is an oracle system that connects animal attributes to the seven main human chakras. In this workshop, after a brief introductory talk, we will split off into a few smaller groups and share readings with each other using the oracle system I have created that includes a reading cloth, 49 tokens and the book.

Bob Greeney

Clay Collective Castle Creation/Construction 2

In this workshop participants will construct a clay piece that will later be fired, perhaps glazed, and assembled into a into an imaginative structure that could be considered a castle of our collective imaginations. This communal creation might be displayed at a later gathering or event. Clay and simple tools will be provided. Participants may come to one or more sessions.

Moira Ashleigh and Duncan Eagleson

Other Shapes, Other Beings: a discussion of Guising and Shapeshifting

Shapeshifter, Guiser, Skinwalker, Were... many terms have been used for human beings, who morph and shift into other shapes: animal, fey, or otherwise. Changing shape has been a part of spiritual and magical paths for centuries. Join us to share experiences, tools, techniques, and best practices for shifting our mental and psychic shapes. Let us explore new and old ideas on how to give voice and body to beings, who are Other than our conscious day-to-day selves. Together we deepen the magic.

Saturday 3:45-5:15 PM, cont.

Lanna Lee Maheux

Spiritual Cleansing and Covering and the Washer Women

What do you do for purification & protection? As we dive deep into spiritual work, it's necessary to protect ourselves through cleansing & covering. We'll discuss daily practices of cleansing (cleaning out negative energies that don't serve) & covering (protecting afterward), as well as spiritual baths & house cleaning. We will learn about the Washer women, who in visualization, will prepare us by cleansing & attuning us to the work we need to do. Draws on elements of Faery Seership & conjure.

Saturday 5:30-7:00 PM

Miriam Klamkin

Astrology Salon: Special Edition, Looking Four Years Ahead

From a distance There is harmony And it echoes through the land Its the voice of hope Its the voice of peace Its the voice of every man - Julie Gold What's ahead for America and Americans? How do we navigate the challenges to come? From a distance, the stars give us the long view. This will be an astrological perspective on the next four years, closing with a brief ritual of affirmation and hope.

Jane Sibley

Birthing and Midwifery in the Norse world

The *hjelpekone* (helping woman) was a critical member of society, and it was she who would magically, as well as physically, help the mother bring forth a healthy child. She would provide advice during pregnancy so that the child would be healthy, and also during early infancy. She could recognize magical attacks and deal with them.

Lanna Lee Maheux Quinn, host

Poetry Jam

Come and share your writing or others'.

Deb Banks

Tween/Teen Board Gaming

Come find a *Munchkin* in a dungeon, fight a *Pandemic*, compare *Apples to Apples*, build cities of *Carcassonne*, live in *Fluxx*, be *Lord of the Fries* and much more! Games will be provided and feel free to bring your favorites. See you there!

Saturday 7:30-9:00 PM - Winter Feast

Saturday 9:00 PM-12:00 AM - Stag King's Masque

Sunday 9:30-10:00 AM - Morning Gathering

Sunday 10:00-11:30 AM

Vinnie Russo

Borsa Portafortuna - Sicilian "mojo bag"

The Brevi or "borsa portafortuna" can be thought of as an Italic/Sicilian "mojo bag". Originally constructed as a personal amulet to repel the evil eye (malocchio) and to attract the Fey and good luck. The borsa is tailored to the specific person/goal but there are some universal techniques and materials used. Brevi are frequently consecrated to a specific Saint, divinity, or guardian spirit. Bring a goal to either attract or repel and your willingness to do some energy work. Limited attendance.

Joss Price

Gahu - Dance and Drumming for Community

Gahu is a social dance from the Volta Region of Ghana, performed for both festivals and funerals. It is one of a group of dance-drumming traditions that carry an expectation of community participation (via dancing, singing, or playing the instruments.) This workshop will feature an exploration of how dance-drumming is a mechanism for social and community unity in Ghana, with field video and whole-body participation by learning the steps and some of the songs, as well. We will also discuss how dancing and drumming plays a role in bonding and identity in our own communities.

Gwendolyn Reece

The Hellenic Oracles

The Oracle of Delphi is, rightfully, the most famous oracle of the Ancient Greek world, but there were quite a number of other oracular cults in ancient Hellas as well. As part of her work as a priestess of Apollon, Gwendolyn is working with Him to found an oracle in the nation's capital. As part of her preparatory work, she has conducted extensive research on Hellenic oracles. This workshop provides a summary of the historical research with commentary on her experiences as "mantis".

Sunday 11:30-12:30 PM: Lunch Break and hotel check out (Sun)

Sunday 12:45-2:15 PM

Andras Corban Arthen

Lessons from the European Indigenous Survivals

Our lives today are complex, fast paced and often anxiety provoking. Most of us live in relative isolation within our communities and quite separated from the natural world or any deep spirituality. All over Europe however, there are still small groups of people who, despite more than 1,500 years of Christianization, continue to adhere to their ancestral, indigenous spiritual traditions, preserving ethnic cultures which are quite different from the secular values and intellectualized patterns of the modern Western world that surrounds them. Andras has spent over 40 years trying to find some of those peoples, and in this session he will share with us several important lessons we can learn from their practices and their lives, to provide us with an alternative model for how to be in the world.

Sunday 12:45-2:15 PM, cont.

Isobel Arthen

Carry it out on the Street

The recent political climate has inspired many people to take to the streets and actively champion a variety of causes. It is crucial that as we take action and show up for these movements we do so in a way that reflects the future we are trying to build. This workshop will be aimed at the recently activated. It will offer some tools to get you going and will explore concepts like intersectionality, allyship and anti-oppression.

Andrew Watermountain

Introduction to Geomancy

Geomancy is a method of divination that uses simple sticks or lines drawn in the dirt to provide advice. In this workshop, Andrew will show you how to generate the figures and read the meanings of the sixteen signs of geomancy, and then use these figures as a means of giving advice, guessing at the future, or understanding a tricky situation. The basic tools for interpreting a single geomantic figure will be given; along with some instruction in how to read the more-elaborate 'shield chart'.

Sunday 2:30-4:00 PM

Orion Foxwood

Boats of Flesh on the River of Blood: Becoming the Answer

We are mediators of an ancestral past through an embodied present into the unknown future. A such, we hold the emergent place, a bridge between all that has been and what could be. For nothing dies, it enters the underbelly of life where it rises, blooming roses or unfurling stinkweed. How do we heal and redeem the past and garden its growth? How do we doctor the stream? Come ready to dive into your power to be the answer. Lets clean and clear the stream of ancestry as it moves through us...NOW.

Lorelei Greenwood-Jones

Hestia's Way: Creating a Magickal Home

For those of you with a deep connection to Home or who want to develop it, join me in learning about the Greek Goddess Hestia. You'll learn of Her history and discover practices that you can include in your own household to make everyday living more sacred. A notebook and pen are suggested.

Will Rowan

Sutartinės: Lithuanian Musical Meditation

The ancient tradition of singing Sutartinės (literally, "singing in agreement"), comes from Lithuania's pagan past. It has been taken up by members of Romuva, Lithuania's growing pagan revival, as a way of reinforcing the ancient value of harmony within community. Many see this repetitive ritualistic music as a form of meditation. The music is drawn from the sounds of flocks of birds and overlaps on itself, creating a physical experience from the voices moving with and against each other.

Sunday 4:15-5:00 PM: Closing Ritual