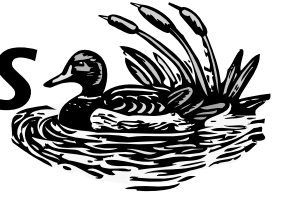




# Shining Lakes News

A Newsletter for Shining Lakes Grove, A.D.F.



Summer Solstice 2009

Vol. 16, No. 3

## Bel's Bright Blanket

Some years ago, I wrote of Danu's blanket made of snow  
That told us wintertime was here, and best to take it slow  
That later in the year, the sun would rip the snow apart,  
And 'til that time, to focus on the home and hearth and heart.

And now the wheel's come halfway round its yearly circlly spin.  
The cold's long gone, replaced by leafy green and birdy din.  
So now we venture out of doors, like seedlings sprouting shoots  
To bask in Bel's bright blanket, sunlight cov'ring trunks and roots.

Yes, yellow light is everywhere, on every field and brook,  
And warmth is in the air, and life is everywhere you look.  
The joyous play of animals, the verdant pride of plants,  
The happiness of humans who now get to wear short pants!

And yet, although I know Bel's blanket covers us each year,  
I feel a tad of worry, and I feel a touch of fear.  
For other folks, the summer sun does comfort and inspire,  
But me, if I take too much sun, I burn like a vampire.

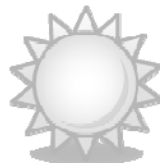
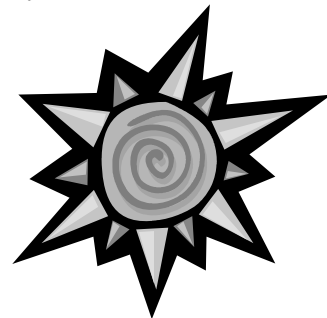
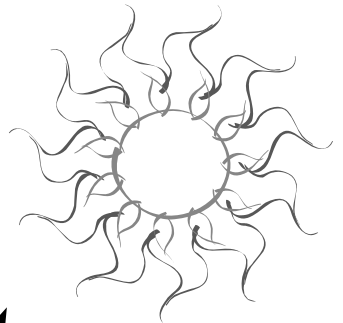
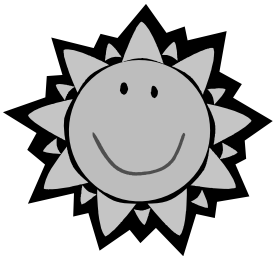
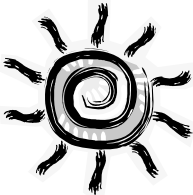
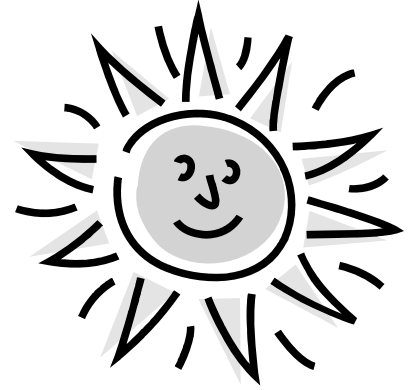
A pity, since so many of my very favorite things  
Can only be performed when summer Bel's bright blanket brings.  
No baseball game can be enjoyed in late November's chill,  
And Cedar Point in March would not exactly be a thrill!

So what am I to do, good pagan lad I want to be?  
To run outside and hide beneath the shade of every tree?  
To douse myself in sunscreen, and then look like an albino?  
Or simply take the burn and then look like a crimson rhino?

But then I do remember that in every season's time,  
Another wheel does turn and changes every hour's clime.  
No matter whether Bel is crawling low or flying high,  
Each day he crosses east to west and then he leaves the sky.

So like the vampires mentioned in my earlier poem verse,  
I venture into summer night, by choice and not by curse.  
I love the summer sky at night, stargazing in the warm,  
And sounds of owls and crickets have their own nocturnal charm.

So whether you enjoy your backyard or the road,  
And whether sunlight makes you tan, or makes your skin implode,  
Remember Bel' bright blanket as it graces us with light  
And brings us warmth and life and happiness, both day and night!



Yours in service to the Kindreds and the Grove,  
Rev. Rob Henderson,  
Senior Druid

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

It's time to think about elections for new Grove officers. Please consider your nominations carefully, the person you nominate (and this could be you) should be willing and able to devote the time necessary to fulfill the duties of the office. Nominees must also be full current members of both Shining Lakes Grove and ADF when they take office at Samhain.

The names of those nominated must be received in writing by the Election Committee on or before August 15, 2009.

Election Committee:	Nominations may also be sent to:
c/o Rob Henderson 1274 Ridge Rd. Ypsilanti, MI 48198 734-262-1052 robh@shininglakes.org	Shining Lakes Grove PO Box 3901 Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Following is a description of the offices that are up for election this year.

**Pursewarden/Registrar** - shall sign all checks, drafts, and other instruments for the Grove; shall have custody of all monies of the Grove received or disbursed; shall deposit all monies and valuables in the name of and to the credit of Shining Lakes Grove, ADF in such banks or other financial institutions as designated. Shall be responsible for keeping the Grove's financial records according to generally accepted accounting principles for nonprofit organizations. Shall provide written financial and membership reports to the leadership Council at each Grove business meeting. Shall keep all membership records, members' voting tallies and subscription records; shall maintain strict confidentiality of the membership list as deemed by each member. Candidates to this office shall have accounting, computing, and record keeping skills necessary for the functions of this office. The Pursewarden/Registrar is responsible for compiling a quarterly report of financial transactions, fund-raising activities and membership levels to be sent to the Mother Grove after review by Senior Druid. The Pursewarden/Registrar is also required to compile an annual report. The term of the office of Pursewarden/Registrar shall be two years.

**Grove Administrator** - The Grove Administrator (GA) shall be responsible for leading and supervising the business activities of the Grove. S/he shall run the business meetings, have the right to be a member of any committee of the Leadership Council. S/he shall be responsible for maintaining a reasonable level of service (including but not limited to making sure there are high day rites, grove newsletters, and regular business meetings) to the membership of Shining Lakes Grove by the Leadership Council, or for delegating that service in the absence of elected officers. S/he shall have the fiduciary and fundraising responsibility for the Grove, subject to guidance of the Leadership Council. The Grove Administrator shall be responsible for compiling a quarterly Grove report to be sent to the Senior Druid for the ADF Archdruid and Scribe and is responsible for collecting, reviewing, and forwarding to the SD all other officer's quarterly reports. The Grove Administrator is answerable to the Leadership Council. The term of the office of Grove Administrator shall be one year.

**Scribe** - Shall record minutes of all general and Leadership Council meetings and keep records of the proceedings of all committees (to be submitted by each committee head); and may perform other duties that would otherwise be performed by a Corporate Secretary. Candidates for the office of the Scribe shall have the ability to take minutes and have computing skills. The Scribe is responsible for compiling a quarterly report of grove events to be sent to the Mother Grove after being reviewed by the Grove Administrator and Senior Druid. The term of the office of Scribe shall be one year.

**Chronicler** - Shall be responsible for the production of all Grove literature including, but not limited to, grove announcements and the grove newsletter. All publications will be subject to the approval of the Leadership Council. Candidates for the office of Chronicler shall have demonstrated skills in writing and desktop publishing and access to the necessary equipment to complete the requirements of this office. The term of the office of Chronicler shall be one year.

## SLG Leadership Council

### Senior Druid

Rob Henderson robh@cyberspace.org

### Assistant Senior Druid

Rodney Cox uberrod@comcast.net

### Administrator

Jude Howison uputat@yahoo.com

### Scribe

Jude Howison uputat@yahoo.com

### Pursewarden

Rodney Cox uberrod@comcast.net

### Chronicler

Genevieve Stoyak gstoyak@hotmail.com

### Public Relations Coordinator

Charles Howison pherrix@hotmail.com

### Youth Activities Coordinator

Sean Keller seankeller@gmail.com

## SLG Guild Leaders

### Magicians' Guild

Rodney Cox uberrod@comcast.net

### Warriors' Guild

Rodney Cox uberrod@comcast.net

### Healers' Guild

Rodney Cox uberrod@comcast.net

### Producers' Guild (unofficial)

Genevieve Stoyak gstoyak@hotmail.com

No e-mail access? Contact our officers at our snail-mail address or phone number.

Shining Lakes News (©2009) is published by Shining Lakes Grove, A.D.F., P.O. Box 3901, Ann Arbor, MI, 48106, (734) 262-1052. For information about SLN, contact the Chronicler at gstoyak@hotmail.com or (734) 262-1462. For information about Shining Lakes Grove, please contact the Senior Druid at (734) 262-1052 or by e-mail at robh@shininglakes.org, or visit www.shininglakes.org.

Public Relations Coordinator - Shall be responsible for communication of grove activities through publication and advertising in non-grove publications and other media. The Public Relations Coordinator shall also be responsible for performance or delegation of customs and traditions of hospitality observed by the grove. The Public Relations Coordinator shall be responsible for general member services and respond to all membership inquiries and complaints as necessary. The term of the office of Public Relations Coordinator shall be one year.

Youth Activities Coordinator - Shall be responsible for the youth religious education program. Program materials will focus on daily practice as well as celebration of the High Day Rituals. The materials will be reviewed by the Liturgists to ensure that they are appropriate for the ritual as well as to coordinate the appropriate time(s) for children to participate in the High Day celebration. Program materials will also be reviewed by the Leadership Council. The YAC will ensure that materials are provided to all families with children to help them integrate religious practice into their daily lives as well as to celebrate our eight High Days. The YAC is not responsible for providing child-care services. The term of office for the Youth Activities Coordinator shall be one year.

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## Grove Calendar: Summer Solstice to Fall Equinox

### Rituals

**Manannan Shrine Visit:** We meet at Rod and Liz's home, then travel to the Grove's permanent shrine to Manannan in the woods of western Washtenaw County. All welcome. *7/10, 7 pm, meet at Rod and Liz's*

**An Bruane:** Rituals and advanced spiritual exploration for those who wish to go beyond the standard High Day rites. Members only, please. *6/23, 7/28, 9/22, 7-9 pm at Rod/Liz's*

**Liturgists' Roundtable—Ritual Planning:** Help us plan our Lughnasadh and Fall Equinox rituals. All welcome. *7/21, 8/4, 9/1, 9/15, 7-9 pm at Rod/Liz's*

**Fire Watch:** We follow the traditions of our ancestors and keep the hearth fire burning the night before ritual. *9/18, Dusk at Botsford*

**Fall Equinox Rite:** Join us as we honor our river mother Ana and perform the Stag Dance. There will be a raffle and potluck after the rite. *9/19, 2-5 pm at Botsford (rain date: 9/20)*

**Lughnasadh Festival:** Our annual tradition! (*see below*)

### Social Events

**Coffee Hour:** Join us for our monthly discussion of interesting topics. *6/26, 7/24, 8/28, 9/25, 7-9 pm at Borders*

**Game Night:** It's back! Board games, card games, and more! *7/11, 8/15, 9/12, 7-10 pm at WRAP*

**Druidic Mini-Golf:** No, it's not historically accurate, but it's fun!. *7/19, 2 pm at Putterz*

### Meetings

**SLG Business Meeting:** Discussion of general business and setting of the calendar. *7/14, 8/8, 9/9, 7-9 at Borders*

### Helping the Huron

**River Roundup:** Collect water and insect samples from streams in the rivershed. Sponsored by the Huron River Watershed Council. (You must register in advance for this! [jmartin@hrwc.org](mailto:jmartin@hrwc.org) or 734-769-5971) *10/10, 9 am-3pm or 11 am-5pm, meet at NEW Center*

**Bug ID Day:** Count the insect samples we collected from streams in the rivershed. Sponsored by the Huron River Watershed Council. (You must register in advance for this! [jmartin@hrwc.org](mailto:jmartin@hrwc.org) or 734-769-5971) *10/25, 12-3 pm or 2-5 pm, meet at NEW Center*

## Lughnasadh 2009

Botsford Recreational Preserve ✪ 3015 Miller Rd. ✪ Ann Arbor ✪ 8 pm, August 7 to 11 pm, August 8, 2009

A two-day festival and *Ár nDraíocht Féin* Lughnasadh ritual combined. From opening to closing we will be celebrating and honoring our Gods with workshops, rituals, and other special events.

Just outside the city limits of Ann Arbor, Botsford Recreational Preserve is a small section of old-growth forest with treehouses, walking trails, and the permanent nemeton of Shining Lakes Grove.

How much will it cost to attend? It's **free!** We will have a raffle to help cover our site rental costs, and of course donations are welcome.

We need volunteers! If you would like to lead a class, workshop, or ritual, or help organize the festival, please contact us. Past events have included: Henna Tattooing / Guided Meditation / Mead Tasting / Understanding the Runes / Making Ancestor Dolls / Warrior Women / Greek Blessing Ritual / Stone Soup Storytelling.

(734) 262-1052 \* [robh@cyberspace.org](mailto:robh@cyberspace.org) \* [www.shininglakes.org](http://www.shininglakes.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 21	22	23 7-9 An Bruane Rod/Liz's	24	25	26 7-9 Coffee Hour Borders	27
28	29	30	July 1	2	3	4 <b>INDEPENDENCE DAY</b>
5	6	7	8	9	10 7 Manannan Shrine Visit meet at Rod/Liz's	11 7-10 Game Night WRAP
12	13	14 7-9 Business Mtg. Borders	15	16	17	18
19 2 PM Druidic Mini-Golf Putterz	20	21 7-9 Liturgist RT Rod/Liz's	22	23	24 7-9 Coffee Hour Borders	25
26	27	28 7-9 An Bruane <b>Rod/Liz's</b>	29	30	31	<b>August 1</b>
2	3	4 7-9 Liturgist RT Rod/Liz's	5	6	7 <b>Lughnasadh</b> Botsford	8 <b>Lughnasadh</b> Botsford
9	10	11 7-9 Business Mtg. Borders	12	13	14	15 7-10 Game Night WRAP
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 7-9 Coffee Hour Borders	29
30	31 <b>LABOR DAY</b>	<b>September 1</b> 7-9 Liturgist RT Rod/Liz's	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 7-9 Business Mtg. Borders	9	10	11	12 7-10 Game Night WRAP
13	14	15 7-9 Liturgist RT Rod/Liz's	16	17	18 Fire Watch Botsford	19 2-5 Fall Equinox Rite Botsford
20	21	22 7-9 An Bruane Rod/Liz's <b>AUTUMN BEGINS</b>	23	24	25 7-9 Coffee Hour Borders	26

**Addresses:**

Borders Books and Music: 3527 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor  
 Botsford Recreational Preserve, 3015 Miller, Ann Arbor  
 NEW Center, 1100 N. Main, Ann Arbor

Putterz, 2675 Washtenaw, Ypsilanti  
 Rod and Liz's: 263 Larkspur, Ann Arbor, (734) 998-1029  
 WRAP Resource Center, 319 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor