



Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.

"The Full Moon Folk"



JUNE 22, 2018 OPEN FULL MOON

Hearthstone meets the Friday before or the Friday of the Full Moon in the Library Room at the **Althea Center for Engaged Spirituality, 1400 Williams St., Denver, CO.** The Althea Center is easy to find, exactly four blocks east of our previous location. There are two small parking lots, to the north (next to the building) and east of the building (across the alley), each with spaces for 20 cars. Enter through the Main Door at the corner of Williams St. and 14th Ave. **The door opens at 7:00 pm, and we must lock the door at 7:30 to secure the building.** Please be prompt as we don't want you to be locked out! This month's ritual is Friday, June 22, 2018.

The Clan of the Golden Condors, Sacred Order of Black Forest, led by Lady Nightshade includes the Coven of the Naddred Cearcal led by Lady Rowena and Tanya and Laurel, First Degree Priestesses, who will lead us in a ceremony that will utilize the Sea of Potential in the world around us in order to activate a Mindlight that will be used as a positive force for good in our personal lives.

----*Catherine*

GREETINGS

I swear I have bad Karma – not misspelled, it involves my transportation, not my fate. In other words, I am once again without a car.

A week or so after the last OFM, I was on my way to work when another driver ran a red light and hit my car on the driver's side. She dented the driver's side quarter panel, my door and seems to have damaged the strut on the driver's side. I was able to "limp" the car home, and promptly called my insurance to let them know, then I called the insurance listed on the driver's exchange form.

Of course that's just the beginning of the odyssey. The driver listed her insurance as one company. It is the company that has as its spokesperson a retro woman dressed in white, who has her hair done in a Mary Tyler Moore flip. Yeah, that one. I requested that they fix my car as soon as they could. I should have known they would be resistant, since the first thing she said was that I should go through my own insurance. Not going to happen – I have a high deductible and really don't care to have to pay higher rates for years because another driver can't pay attention to the road. She then informed me that her company might not have to pay because her insured was driving someone else's car – with a totally different insurance company. You can see where this is going, don't you?

Although I had told the first company that I would absolutely not be going through my own company, she repeated this "suggestion" each time we talked, implying that she would stretch out the claim as long as she could if I did not.

The second company has entered the picture now. Of course, they can't use the appraisal that the other company used. So they must do a "fresh" investigation – all the while telling me that if I want speed, I should – wait for it – go through my own insurance company.

Meanwhile, I am incurring transportation costs, etc.

I find myself getting irate. While at an intellectual level, I know that they are doing their jobs and that it isn't particularly personal, it feels personal. It's amazing how quickly we get used to the freedom of being able to pick up and go places on our own. With a car, if I forget something at the store, I

can turn around and get it. I can leave things in the car, knowing if I need them, I can just go out and get them. The car becomes extra storage, as well as my freedom to travel. Lacking that freedom, I get frustrated.

Sometimes emotions seem like dragons. When things go well, those emotions curl up in the lair and sleep. Or chase butterflies with our breath. Any fire-making is strictly for fun. When those things are not going well, the dragon's fire can light up everything around.

We get so used to how things "are" that we resent any change. And I am resentful. I must keep remembering to "breathe in peace" and "breathe out love" lest my inner dragon sets the forest afire.

Blessings,
—Catherine

HEARTHSTONE RITUALS

Remember, please, that Hearthstone doesn't expect everyone to enter in Perfect Love and Perfect Trust, as there are people you don't know there, but to enter with a willing heart and an open mind, and leave your differences at the door.

Some traditions are more controversial than others, or may contain a component that confuses or disturbs someone attending an Open Full Moon. It is one of the risks of exploring different traditions. Should anyone be uncomfortable, unsettled, or upset about any ritual presented by Hearthstone, please discuss it with the ritual leaders or one of the Board members (Catherine, Arynne, Morgan, Amy, Cynthia, and Deb) so that we may hopefully resolve and heal your concern.

THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT

The Hearthstone Community offers a special note of gratitude to Deb Hoffman who led a personal and meaningful Memorial Day Open Full Moon ritual on May 25. The intent was to allow participants to remember and honor anyone important in our lives who has passed on.

Deb, assisted by Sage and Cynthia, cleansed, cast, and invoked the quarters. Deb invoked Mnemosyne, the Greek goddess of memory, language, and writing. We each received a sprig of fresh rosemary, which is associated with remembrance, and we were given quiet time to think about a deceased loved one. Then each person came forward silently to select a long-stem red rose from vases on the altar. When we returned to our seat around the circle, we paired off and told the other person about our loved one. Then we exchanged roses, so that the other person could help keep alive our memories.

Cakes and juice were blessed and shared, and circle was opened.

Thank you Deb for creating space in our ritual, thus in our busy lives, to remember and honor those whom we have loved.

---Arynne

ON DONATIONS

Hearthstone's primary expense is leasing the space for our monthly Open Full Moon rituals. Your donations to Hearthstone (and other Pagan organizations) make the difference between failing and thriving, as well as assure the organizers that our efforts are of value to you. We encourage you to donate to Hearthstone or to the organization of your choice.

We appreciate that many of you do donate to Hearthstone. Thank you! **We ask that you please give what you can to support the work and service of the church to the community.** The more you can spare, the longer we will be around, and the more we can help those who need it. We will keep Hearthstone running as long as possible, and we need your support to continue to serve the community.

We don't collect at the door, and no one will be turned away for not having a donation. However, we *suggest* a donation of \$5-10 per person. If you can't afford it, you are still welcome. If you can afford more, we'll be delighted to accept it.

Hearthstone Community Church, Inc. is registered as a church and your donations to Hearthstone are **tax deductible**. If you wish, you can write a check so you can keep track of your donations.

Cat & Dog Spay/Neuter Clinics

<http://www.ddfl.org/spayneuter/>

Hearthstone cares about pet overpopulation! The Denver Dumb Friends League (DDFL) cares too, and through generous grants and donors, they offer **FREE cat spay/neuter surgeries** to anyone regardless of income. DDFL also offers **\$50 dog spay/neuter surgeries to lower-income dog owners**. The details, locations, and qualifications are at their web site above. It takes ALL of us to reduce the overpopulation problem and move toward a world where all pets are wanted and cared for. Thank you!

Chrysalis Circle Invites You To The Seventh Annual Drumming Down the Sun 2018 Summer Solstice Thursday, June 21, 2018, 6pm to 9pm.

Sunset is at 8:01 p.m.

We will be at the lakeside shelters at [Addenbrooke Park, 600 S. Kipling Parkway, Lakewood, CO](#)

Bring your drums, rattles, tambourines, other musical instruments, and yourselves. Help celebrate the Summer Solstice and the change from the Light (Goddess) half of the year to the Dark (God) half of the year. We offer this event to all as a way to bring balance and further celebration to our tradition of Drumming Up The Sun on the Winter Solstice. Join us in honoring the changes that this solar event marks.

More details:

- Suggested donation is \$2.00 per adult (to cover park rental costs).
 - Wheelchair accessible.
 - Playground adjacent to shelters.
 - RTD – [W Line Light Rail](#) connects (Federal Center Station) to [#100](#) and [#3](#) buses for bus stops within 1/4 mile.
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GETTING TOO BIG FOR BRITCHES

As part of my “rebranding,” building up to the relaunch of my career as a writer, I have been reading a lot of books about how to survive as a writer in the current marketplace. More importantly, I have been doing the exercises from the books, mostly looking at the structure of my stories and how I am running my business, but with a few focused on how to build a brand around myself and my business.

One of the exercises (from a book by Chris Fox) involved writing a paragraph (or three) about what my life, including the all-important work day, would look like after writing a few thousand words each and every day for several years on end. Basically, the exercise is built upon the fact that your brain lights up the same way whether you are thinking about real people and circumstances, or imaginary ones – the logic being that you can trick your brain in acting more successful by pretending to be more successful...well, provided that you also do all the sweaty aspects of the work.

Creating a profile for my future “successful writer self” turned out to be really hard. Not because I had no idea where I want to go, not due to a lack of imagination, but because it involves me looking a little arrogant. Now, I can hear some of you say, “Arrogant, isn’t that your core setting?” Yes, but you will never hear me think of it that way. In fact, if you are a part of my tribe, a quick way to send me into the weeds is to point out that I am quite arrogant.

Call it mental illness, but I have a tendency to double guess all my decisions when a close friend or family member calls my decisions (and goals) into question. This tendency is not a good one to have if your career goals involve long-term projects that can’t be rushed, and upon completion requires you to market your work constantly.

Sadly, after years of living with my mother, I don’t even need someone to say anything – the echoes of the voices in my head can stop me dead in my tracks. For those who do not know my mother, my favorite line of sabotage from her is, “How can you become a paleontologist and say all those Latin names when you can’t even speak English properly.” Do I really need to tell you the rest of the story?

A close second in terms of toxicity is one of my sisters, who when I was all excited about going to college, told me that I was “getting too big for my britches” and that I should not act as if I was the first person to go to college. This came after a visit where I don’t remember telling her a whole lot, having a distinctive memory of her not shutting up long enough for me to tell her that I landed a job at the college newspaper.

If that was not enough, during the last week, I have been watching an occult writer friend of mine being roasted over warm coals for cultural appropriation – which consisted of him using a few terms from a religion and tradition that he is not officially part of (just ignore that one of his mentors just happened to belong to that religion). I would like to say that this was an oddity, but I can’t – there is a hoard of people online whose entire existence seems to be tied up with proving that the hot names in occultism are complete and utter frauds and bastards. Oh the things, I have to look forward to.

Sitting down to do the “target brand” profile, I promptly ran into these voices echoing through my head. All because my target brand makes me sound really arrogant.

“How so?” you ask.

Well, part of my target brand is being a New York Times bestseller, getting a show made on HBO or Netflix, and somehow winning a Nobel Prize for literature. I am not exactly humble am I?

I must admit that as soon as I started the exercise I almost did not finish. Any one of the three goals by themselves is enough to get labeled as “too big for my britches.” Together, they make me pure concentrated ego. Am I? I don’t know – but the inner voices are really loud this week.

Morgan Drake Eckstein

Morgan Drake Eckstein writes about Golden Dawn, Wicca and other mystery traditions on his blog at:

[Musings from the pen: The writer blog of Morgan Drake Eckstein;](#)

[Gleanings from the Dawn: Thoughts about Golden Dawn from one of its members](#) and

[Book Reviews by Morgan: My archive for the book reviews that I have done](#)

Editor's note: As usual, the foregoing column reflects only the views of Morgan and are not necessarily those of Hearthstone or any of its other Board members. Please direct all comments to Morgan.

[Morgan's wife, Khari, sells mundane pottery on Etsy at:

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/celticsouljewelry> and witchy pottery at:

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/Khariswiccantreasure>

A CONTINUING SENSE OF COMMUNITY

I've been going to OFMs since 2008. They have been a staple for me and my kid since we began attending. In that time, I was fortunate to become friends with Alia, the founder of Hearthstone Community Church. We didn't become fast friends right away, we became close over time. I'm honored that she allowed me into her life. I have more friends in the community through her because of the friend's lunches and OFMs. It's been just over a year since she has passed and I have to admit that I was a bit fearful that the OFMs would change--and not for the better.

The first OFM after Alia's death, was quickly changed to honor her. (Hawkshadow did a beautiful job.) It was strange to go to an OFM knowing that Alia wouldn't be there physically, but I did feel her presence at certain points of the ritual. We had one more OFM in the old space before Hearthstone decided to meet in another space. (The old building was under renovation. Actually, to my knowledge, the renovations still haven't been completed.)

The first OFM in the new location was done by a friend of mine, so in my mind, it somewhat helped the transition to the new location. However, I think this was the day that the board announced new board members. This in and of itself is not usually bothersome to me, but it did catch me off guard. It just felt too soon for changes. (Please note that I had no issue with the people, just the timing.) After the July OFM, I started going with a mindset ready for change.

It's been almost a year since I prepared myself for changes and I have to admit that I'm glad that I've only seen positive change. The OFMs are still inclusive of everyone. I don't feel alone or shunned like at other pagan events. I'm especially appreciative of that fact, because I know my kid is shy and awkward. Last month's OFM just cemented the idea of inclusion. My kid can also be abrupt and shut down when cornered, yet the board members and the regulars embrace her and even at times, try to get her more involved. Thank you everyone, we truly feel a part of the Hearthstone community. And here's to many more years of Hearthstone!

--Moon Gazer

Turtle Monkey children's book series

We're diversifying our brand. Stay tuned for changes! If you'd like to give us input, we'll be creating a survey on the new website that should be ready by July 1. Speaking of new websites, our new web address is: www.jofontana.com

About Turtle Monkey: Turtle Monkey is a read to me book series. It's printed in the font in which children are taught to read and write. There's just enough pictures to hold their attention while being read to before they eventually read the books on their own prior to tackling chapter books. Turtle Monkey and Mama Monkey are the only green monkeys in the village. Turtle Monkey has lots of gas. She received Fuzztastic, her cat, as a Yule gift. Fuzztastic also has lots of gas – but he's afraid of it! Turtle Monkey spends most of her time outside when she isn't in school. Join us as Turtle Monkey learns about the world and how to cope with challenges.

Now available at Amazon: APPROACHING DARKNESS. This is an anthology of twelve short stories. Some are horror, some are bizarre, and some are unnerving. These stories will make you look under the bed and keep your feet from dangling over the edge at night. Read as a child fends off a horror from beyond the grave with just a nightlight, listen in as Gods debate the future of humankind, or root for twins who battle a lady made of plants. Written by Jo Fontana under A. J. Hallows, one of her many pen names.

Print book available on Amazon at: https://www.amazon.com/Approaching-Darkness-J-Hallows/dp/197915001X/ref=sr_1_4?ie=UTF8&qid=1516143137&sr=8-4&keywords=Approaching+Darkness

It's here! THE EGG QUEST. Book One of the Demon Coast series by Jo Fontana & Teresa Horton.

Reyden Frost leaves the sanctuary of the library to experience the world, despite the advice of Master Levik. His focus, a petrified egg, is stolen by a mysterious criminal his first night in the town of Hollow Harbor. Reyden reluctantly joins forces with a man of the law and another magic worker who was also a victim of the thief. The chase takes them across the continent of Ator, gathering new companions along the way. Will Reyden's past interfere with his future, or will he overcome it on the journey to retrieve the egg?

Print book available on Amazon at:

https://www.amazon.com/Egg-Quest-Demon-Coast/dp/198354714X/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1518571543&sr=8-2&keywords=The+egg+quest

EARTH TEMPLE

Earth Temple meets at Full Moon Books and Event Center, at 9106 W. 6th Ave. in Lakewood, for New/Dark Moon ritual work. We have a NEW start time for most rituals this year. Please arrive at the store between 6:30 and 7:00 pm, since the store closes and the door locks right at 7. Hope you can join us!

July 14

Aug 11
Sep 8
Oct 6
Nov 3
Dec 8

--Chris, Dara, and Michelle, the Earth Temple steering committee

WHOM TO CONTACT

For Pagan or Wiccan clergy or for any other Hearthstone business, please contact Catherine by phone or email, or contact Arynne by email. Catherine's phone number is 303-886-7067, and her e-mail address is fionnula.harp@gmail.com. If you would like to officiate at a future Open Full Moon, please contact Arynne at ArynneD@aol.com. At this point we have ritual leaders scheduled for all of 2018! Thank you all for volunteering your talents!

Hearthstone Community Church has a website at <http://hearthstone.fnorky.com> where our dates and newsletters are posted monthly. You can contact us through our web site. Hearthstone also has a Facebook page.

GUEST COLUMNS?

If you have something to say, and are willing to let Catherine and Arynne edit it slightly, (generally for grammar and spelling; Catherine has been known to grammar-check television commercials) please feel free to submit your writing to fionnula.harp@gmail.com. Content will not be edited. We can usually make room for more voices. We appreciate our contributors!

This newsletter is for Hearthstone Community Church, Inc. of Denver, Colorado. Editor and Publisher: Catherine Mock.

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Upcoming Hearthstone Open Full Moon Dates

June 22, 2018
July 27, 2018
August 24, 2018
September 21, 2018
October 19, 2018
November 16, 2018
December 21, 2018

