

Ticket Packet



August 3-7, 2011

Please be sure to read the whole packet. There is a lot of important information in it!!!

From the Director:

This packet contains your ticket to enter the gate. **Do not lose your ticket. It is your only way to get in the gate!** The ticket is non-transferable. If your name is not on it, you cannot use it! If, for some reason, you cannot attend, you must send it in if you want a refund. You cannot give it to someone to go in your place.

Remember! We'd like to honor our theme "**Community**". Look around you as you explore this year's retreat and see the changes and improvements that have been made. See how many more rituals and workshops there are. Please be a part of the community that has truly come together to make this year's Dragonfest.

Clothing Optional: "Clothing Required" areas, including the community pavilion, merchant space, kidspace, and any areas visible to non-members, shall have a "beachwear" minimum clothing standard. Application of this requirement should err on the side of caution (to include people with kids and conservative ex-spouses.)

A map of the site, including the changes to clothing optional, can be found at <http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=113055333499359087330.00048983daee16566845c&ll=39.345345,-105.381291&spn=0.009963,0.017815&t=h&source=embed>

Dragonfest Media Policy: "Got Film?" Check out Dragonfest's media policy before you pack your equipment. The policy can be found in the Policy section of our website.

Fire: At this time there **is no fire ban**, so enjoy. We will update the website if this changes before the retreat opens. Please observe the following guidelines:

- **DO NOT**, under any circumstances, dig your own fire pit. Doing so could result in permanent expulsion from the property. Only elevated fire pits are allowed.
- Be safe and observe all fire precautions for campfires. Unattended fires are not allowed. **There are no exceptions to this rule!** Please use substitutes such as propane stoves for cooking. Propane stoves can be quickly turned off if you get called away from your camp.
- When you are finished with the campfire each evening, douse thoroughly with water and make sure all embers and the ground underneath are no longer hot (*high winds pick up quickly and can re-ignite fires*).
- Please do not smoke under the Community Center, Kitchen or Kiosk tarps. **Do Not**, under any circumstances, drop your cigarette butts on the ground.
- For all of our safety, please let someone on the Safety team or a staff member know of illegal fire pits or unattended fires.
- **NEW!!** The property owner has asked we do not bring in outside firewood to the property. There will be no wood shed. **HOWEVER**, the owner is more than happy to allow us to collect as much of the dead fall wood as we like.

Special Safety Issues:

- Bears (and others of Mother's children) are fond of human food, but it isn't good for them and can be dangerous for all concerned.
 - Clean camps do not attract bears. Coolers and all tidbits, including toiletries and clothing, which have bits or stains of food need to be stored in secure vehicles at sunset. For a more complete list of bear temptations and how to deal with them, see your Retreat handbook or the sign in the Kiosk. Safety team volunteers sweep the campground at dusk searching for errant coolers and foodstuffs. If they find yours, they will confiscate it. You may claim it at the community center after you complete an additional work shift (and listen to a stern lecture).

- Be watchful of children, particularly around the water and on the rocks.
- Drive slowly through the site. Where there is little traffic, pedestrians have little caution. Bicycles must be used with discretion. **Parents:** please monitor your children on bicycles and discuss safety with them.

Ranch Property Owner Rules to Be Aware Of:

- Do not cut live trees or pick wildflowers.
- Please bring cardboard or plastic sheeting to place under your vehicle(s) to catch fluids.
- Obey the caretaker.
- Respect clothing required boundaries.
- Noise curfew is 2:00 am every night. Please use drumming/bard circles late in the evening for the sake of those who wish to sleep. **Please be polite to your neighbors and keep voices at a reasonable level late at night.**

Health & Medical: Altitude changes can affect prescription medication dosages. You may want to check with your doctor or pharmacist before coming. If you have a medical condition that could create an emergency for you, be sure your companions know about it and know what to do about it. Remember, this is high altitude and rugged terrain! Also, be prepared for any type of weather. Highs in the 90s, lows in the 30s, rain, sleet, hail, high winds, and intense sun can happen (all in the same day)! Hydrate yourself! Drink plenty of water. Beer and colas dehydrate you, so be careful. Know where your children are and feed and water them regularly. Remember to bring enough prescription medications, medical supplies, testing strips and any other medical equipment that you may need as these are not readily available in the area.

Emergency Contact and Cell Phones: Dragonfest is held in a valley in the national forest, so your cell phone probably won't get service. Let your friends know you'll be out of contact for a while. There will be a satellite phone on site, so if you have an emergency and need to make a call, go to the safety tent or find a staff member with a radio. The satellite phone will be able to receive calls as well; if you need to be contacted in an emergency, calling instructions will be posted at <http://dragonfest.org/>

In the days before the retreat, most Dragonfest board and staff members will be on site and unreachable by email or voice mail. The last opportunity to receive an official response from dragonfest@dragonfest.org will be noon on Monday, July 25, 2011. If you have any last-minute issues with tickets or registration and have not heard a response, please come to the retreat and work with the gate staff.

Radios at Dragonfest: Dragonfest safety and medical staff are on call around the clock. If you need help, find a staff member with a radio or come to the safety/medical tents. If you have a personal FRS radio, you can get help by calling for "Dispatch" on channel 6. If you and your family are using FRS radios, please don't use channels 4 through 6, which are reserved for use by Dragonfest staff.

Pet Policy: We know you love your pets, and we do too, just not at the Retreat! Please leave them at home as they will not be allowed into the Retreat.

Camping: We will again be designating quiet and not-so-quiet zones for camping. If you prefer to sleep early, you would be better off camping near the Community Center.

RV Campers: Special note for anyone planning on bringing an RV to Dragonfest this year! We have made improvements this year for RV campers to ease entry, parking and exit from the retreat. However, the ground is still relatively soft compared to a developed campsite. We strongly recommend that every RV include skids for their levelers. If you have a large RV something more substantial than plywood would be a good idea.

Generator hours are between 10:00 am to Noon and 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Please honor these hours and be courteous of your camp neighbors.

Toilet Protocol: You are not bears - Do not S**T in the woods!!! Anyone who is camped a distance from the toilets needs to bring a port-a-potty. Finding waste and toilet paper scattered about could jeopardize our future use of this site. Please do not put any camping trash into the port-a-potties. It makes the job harder for the wonderful people that provide our toilets and we want to keep them happy.

Gate: When coming into the Retreat have your photo IDs and tickets ready to be checked (This will make the process faster for all involved and others waiting to enter.). The gate staff will be confirming ticket and ID matches as well as attaching Retreat wristbands. Additionally, you will also get all of your publications, important updates and your work shift sticker. Gate hours are **10 AM to 10 PM** on Wednesday, **8 AM to 10 PM** Thursday thru Saturday, and **8 AM to 4 PM** on Sunday. The gate will be physically locked at all other times. You need to log in and log out at the gate when leaving and returning to the site. For your safety, please let others know if and when you leave the site, whether by vehicle or on foot. The gate entrance to the site is closer to the camping area. The Staff will assist in organizing parking to manage an even flow of traffic into the Retreat area. Please follow their directions. Admittance to the site will not begin before 10 AM on Wednesday. Due to parking restricting we ask that you do not arrive before 8am.

Kiosk/Info Booth/DJC:: After you are checked in at the front gate, your next stop should be the Retreat Job Center to sign up for your work shift. A work shift is a two-hour donation of time that we require of all Retreat attendees 16 and up. Our non-profit Retreat would not happen without the support and work of our community. We have many jobs that need filling, for all ranges and abilities, from low to high physical effort.

Due to our lower numbers this year, we are encouraging members to sign up for additional workshifts. When Dragonfest was a young retreat, members were required to participate in two workshfts of two hours each in order to help keep the retreat running smoothly. As the retreat grew in size, the workshifts were cut to a single shift per member as there were more people shoulder the burden. Now that our retreat is experiencing a rebirth and our numbers are once again more intimate, we are asking that the members recognize their sense of COMMUNITY and donate more of their time to this event that we all love.

The DJC hours of operation are: Tuesday: TBA (for merchants and family members of staff) Wednesday: 10 AM to 6 PM, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 AM to 11 AM and 3 PM to 6 PM and Saturday: 8 AM to 10 AM. Please note: popular work shifts/times fill up fast. The earlier you sign up the better chance you have of getting your choice! Thank you from the DJC staff.

Community Center: The Community Center is a gathering place, a sort of hearth circle for the Retreat. If you are new to the Retreat, this is a great place to meet people. Volunteers are needed in the mornings to prepare breakfast, clean up and monitor throughout the day and in the evening to provide drinks. Breakfast is the largest non-ritual gathering of folks at the Retreat. If you want to meet fellow "festers" and have a great time, sign up for a work shift in the Community Center. Lemonade and water will be available throughout the day. The Community Center will close at 10 PM each evening. If you wish to gather for a potluck, feel free to use the pavilion, but no kitchen access or service will be available in the evenings.

Nearest Grocery/Convenience Store/Ice: Groceries can be purchased in Conifer, Evergreen, or the nearby town of Bailey. A convenience store is located in Bailey where you can purchase ice and other basic supplies. Dragonfest will also be selling ice twice a day on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Please check at the Community Center for times.

Kitchen Currently our registered attendees are far fewer than what we hoped for. Although we cannot support a full kitchen with so few people, we will still provide a continental style breakfast each morning. Please join us for a cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate and the morning announcements.

We continue the tradition of Stone Soup on Saturday at 5pm before main ritual.

Heraldry Services: Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Heralds will be announcing scheduled events throughout the Retreat. If you have a special short announcement (e.g. a Handfasting, invitations, etc.) and you would like the entire camp to know about it, you must get the information to the Heralds before the work shift during which you want it announced. Your short announcement must be recorded and signed by you in the Herald's Sacred Book of Announcements located at the Communication Center. Include the date, time, place and purpose. Write your short announcement exactly as you wish it spoken or risk the Herald's humor and invention. The Herald's will shorten any lengthy announcements due to the limited length that their voices can last on a given day.

Shuttle: We will be providing shuttle transportation for Retreat goers again this year. The shuttle service extends from the Community Center throughout the site. To sign up as a shuttle driver, you must be at least 18 years old and show your current driver's license at the beginning of the work shift. Please be kind to the vehicles and remember the speed limit is 5 miles per hour and PLEASE, no smoking on the shuttles.

Land Fund Booth: Open daily at 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Wednesday through Saturday. Land Fund booth is closed on Sunday so that the staff can do inventory and pack up the booth. Please come and pick up your pre-ordered t-shirts or purchase your lovely land fund items by 5:00 PM on Saturday. The Land Fund booth also sells a limited number of t-shirts from this year and previous years, canvas tote bags, and embroidered hats with Retreat art on them. So be sure to bring some extra spending money and stop by the Land Fund Booth when you get to the Retreat.

Hauling: Come get dirty with us! Hang out on one of the hauling truck tailgates and help keep the Retreat beautiful by picking up trash and recycling. This work shift requires moderate physical ability. Vinyl gloves will be provided. Please meet your hauling lieutenant in front of the Kiosk.

Recycling: This year we are pleased to announce we will have commercial recycling containers onsite! Please help us by putting your recyclable materials in the containers marked for recycling. If you are unsure about what materials can or cannot be recycled refer to the signs posted on every recycling container and at the Kiosk. Corrugated cardboard boxes should be flattened so they take up less room. As always, please be mindful and considerate of your hauling staff and volunteers by not putting trash in the recycling containers. We are trying to minimize our impact on the Earth and need your help and cooperation.

Merchants: Merchant arrival is Tuesday August 4th 10 AM to 8 PM. No late entries will be allowed after the gate is closed. Please plan your travel accordingly. Merchants will be limited to two helpers. Helpers must be on the Merchant early arrival list. Registered children under 18 of a merchant must also be on the early arrival list. All merchants and helpers MUST sign up for a work shift. EACH MERCHANT MUST HAVE A SMALL FIRE EXTINGUISHER FOR THEIR BOOTH! Please remember to bring extra stakes and rope to secure your booth, as sometimes the weather can be a challenge. Please also remember to bring a copy of your Colorado tax license and any other required permits or licenses.

Fire Circles: There will be six evening circles at the Retreat this year. All the fire circles will be once again using our propane fire rings, as these are safer, more efficient and of course better for the environment. In either case remember, it's the gathering, the connecting and the energy that counts!

1. **Freedom Circle:** Clothing optional circle and no one under 18 years of age will be allowed. The circle closes at 2 am every night.
2. **Trance Circle:** For more "spiritual" drumming and dancing. It is a clothing optional circle and people under 18 years of age are welcome as long as a parent accompanies them. The circle closes at 2 am every night. This is in a new location this year. Check with the Kiosk to find the location on the circle.
3. **Heart of the Dragon Circle:** Clothing required for a more family atmosphere. Located in the main ritual area, every night chanting, drumming and stories have been planned so bring the whole family by.
4. **Phoenix Circle:** is a drug and alcohol free space for those looking for recovery support. Families and friends of those with drug and alcohol problems are also encouraged to join us. We have daily recovery meetings and plenty of fellowship. We also have a nightly fire circle until 10 PM. If you would like to help with gatherings at Phoenix Circle, contact ops@dragonfest.org.

Centering Plaza: Feeling overwhelmed? Energy overworked? Need someone to talk to? Come to the Centering Plaza where you'll find warm caring folks who are happy to listen or to help you ground energy should you need it. We are always happy to just sit with you or to help you get reconnected. Join the Onyx Court in the mornings (Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 10 am) for a centering workshop to get you prepared for the day. We have a variety of techniques at our disposal and will tailor the workshop to the attendees. We will also provide centering activities prior to the Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening rituals for those who wish to cultivate inner silence beforehand. Let us help you create your personal ritual space.

Lavender Pavilion: Visit the Lavender Pavilion from 10am-5pm, Wed-Sat. Discuss and learn about LGBTQA topics with your LGBTQA friends and family! Afternoon Tea each day from 3-4pm, where we discuss a hot/popular topic of the day-Tea and munchies provided. (You may want to bring your own chair).

Dragonfest Event Schedule

Every morning during breakfast there will be announcements of onsite events that are not on this schedule as well. Please feel free to provide the ops team with information about your event!

Thursday: Teen Meet and Greet – Potluck style.. bring a dish.. come and meet someone your age and explore our new hang out! **6pm at the Community Center**

Friday: After breakfast there will be an Elder's Conclave with Sage Bear to start an elder's repository of stories and experiences. **Community Center**

Saturday: Sally and Ken will renew their handfasting after 35th years together! Come join to celebrate this beautiful occasion. **Main Ritual Area**

Visit the **Lavender Pavilion from 10am-5pm, Wed-Sat**, located next to the Land Fund Booth. Discuss and learn about *LGBTQA* topics with your LGBTQA friends and family! Afternoon Tea each day from 3-4pm, where we discuss a hot/popular topic of the day-Tea and munchies provided (you may want to bring your own chair).

Youthfest/Tweenfest: Welcomes children of all ages to come play with us! Due to our limited resources this year, our hours are changing this year. We will be open from 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Please remember that an adult family member needs to complete an extra 2-hour work shift at Youthfest so your children can play.

Teenfest: The Teenfest Meet and Greet will be Wednesday evening at 5:00 PM. All family members of the teens are welcome and please bring a side dish to share. We will be serving hot dogs and burgers. For more information please contact the Teenfest Adult sponsor at Tanna_sage@yahoo.com. There will be a squirt gun event between the teens and the tweens only on Friday at 11 AM, weather permitting.

Stone Soup : 5 pm Saturday, Community Center. Stone Soup is a Retreat tradition. Come join us for new recipes and a visit with old friends.

Rituals

Wednesday:

Opening Ritual: Wednesday 6pm Main Ritual Area

Come and join the Operations Team and the Board of Directors in creating sacred space and opening our Retreat. Come celebrate the Community Spirit of our Retreat as we begin another year at our new site. Come learn about new space open and available to us!!

Thursday:

Flower Frenzy: Thursday 11am Big Rock Grove

~ This is an annual ritual based on the Mayan Spiritual Healing baths ... everyone is asked to sign up for the frenzy so we know how many will be attending ... this is a VERY popular rite, so sign up fast for an assured space. Please bring flowers for yourself and to share, and/or herbs. This will be a waxing time of the moon this year, so you want to choose plants that bring INTO your life things that you want. Also, if any can bring flowers to help define the circle, that would be appreciated as well ... sometimes, if you know a florist, they may give you flowers they may otherwise throw out, but that would be good for our purposes. Look in Scott Cunningham's magical Herbs book if you are at a loss as to what to bring. Please check in @ the Eye of the Dragon booth with either Janie Felix or Beth Nietch to make sure you are on our list. This ritual is held Thursday @ 11:00AM (to take advantage of the warmer time and avoid the afternoon mountain showers) ... this is or can be a skyclad ritual, however not required ... if you wish to wear a swimsuit under you clothes, please do so ... bring a towel and a chair, if you wish. Sign up with me @ pentacat22@gmail.com or Elizabeth @ caliche2@aim.com

Girls Coming of Age Moon Rite: Thursday 5pm Big Rock Meadow

This is a powerful life passage for any young maiden who has reached their first moon time. The Maidens are asked to pre-register whenever possible so that we may know how many to prepare for. They and their "sponsor", (parent or otherwise) are encouraged to let the priestess, Janie Felix know prior to D-fest (pentacat22@gmail.com) that they will be attending. The Maidens are encouraged, along with their female sponsor or parent, to take part in the Flower Frenzy the afternoon prior to their ritual that evening. The Maidens are asked to bring to Fest, a white outfit for ritual, a journal for noting the experience, their sleeping bag and flashlight, as they will be camping in the Moon Tent for the night of their passage. Please have the Maidens check in with Janie when they arrive on site, because they will be making their cord prior to their rite evening and will also be given directions as to where to come the evening of the ritual.

Centering: Centering Tent outside of Big Rock Ritual Area

Join the Onyx Court for centering prior to the evening rituals for those who wish to cultivate inner silence beforehand. Let us help you create your personal ritual space.

Thursday continued...

Women's Mysteries: 7pm Thursday Big Rock Grove

This ritual is for women who have received at least their first moon. Come join us as we explore, touch and heal the Shadow side of ourselves. The Shadow brings doubt, discouragement and deep-seated wounds we all have experienced. Tonight, we will learn to connect, heal, love and embrace the Shadow while returning our inner SELVES into the Light. We will learn to balance who we are as women in today's society. Bring with you your inner beauty and strength.

Men's Mysteries: 7pm Thursday Hecate's Grove

Play with masculine energy. Explore the male role. Share ideas that other guys will understand. Join other men of the community in this annual Dragonfest tradition. The details of this year's ritual will be planned in a workshop earlier in the day; please share your ideas and skills.

Friday

Croning Ritual: 11am Friday Big Rock Meadow

The Crones of Dragonfest invite any woman who considers herself to be a Crone to participate in this ritual, whether or not you have had a Croning ritual at another time or place. We would like to honor you at this important time of your life. If at all possible, please attend the Workshop for Crones if you plan to take part in this ritual. If you are unable to come to the workshop, please talk with one of us at Crones' Attic, our booth on Merchants' Row.

Men's Saging Ritual-A Rite of Passage to Elderhood: 12 pm Friday Cavern of the Old Ones

There are three major phases of life that are clearly felt by many men. These correspond to some degree to the Saturn cycle. The first Saturn return occurs at 29 1/3 years marking the transition from youth to mature adulthood. The second Saturn return comes at age 58 2/3. By this age the momentum of activity has slowed down and many men find themselves shifting into a consciousness of the approaching end of life and a corresponding re-evaluation of priorities. This is a time when a conscious decision can be made to pursue the role of Sage in the community. This ritual is intended to initiate, bless, honor and affirm the intentions of men moving into the place of the Sage. Men who already consider themselves as Sages or Elders and those who want to be initiated as Sages are invited to attend this ritual. There will be a discussion in preparation for the ritual. Please bring chairs.

Boys Coming of Age: 6pm Friday Meet at the Community Center

The Boys Rite will be Friday night and the boys participating will be first in line for Drawing Down that night. Each boy will need a male sponsor to escort him to the circle. They will also need to have black robes. The sponsor will also need black robes if they would like to join the boys in circle. If there are any questions please e-mail me at sonoflike1282@hotmail.com. Also, I would like to have an idea as to how many boys will be participating. Please pre-register at my e-mail if at all possible. Boys and sponsors will need sleeping bags and flashlights and if weather turns sour a tent to sleep in for the night. If you desire to journal about it please bring necessary equipment. Thanks, Jake

Centering: Centering Tent outside of Big Rock Ritual Area

Join the Onyx Court for centering prior to the Drawing Down Ritual. Let us help you create your personal ritual space before meeting with Deity.

Friday continued...

Multiple Drawing Down: 5:30 Friday Big Rock Meadow and Grove

Rated PG for possible strong emotional content.

Since the beginning of time, Priests and Priestesses have offered themselves up to the Divine to become a vessel for Oracular workings in order to bestow messages unto those brave enough to seek the truth. In this long standing Dragonfest tradition you will be enveloped by the Mystery of this experience. Most will walk away deeply shifted and profoundly changed. Please bring your Mirth, Reverence and Respect to this ritual, but most of all, an open mind, body and spirit.

Saturday

Drawing Down the Sun: 12 pm Saturday Hecate's Grove

Join us at High Noon as our High Priest draws down the power of the Sun God. Please be sure to wear sunscreen, bug spray, bring a hat, and have plenty of water. This is a skyclad optional ritual.

Children's Parade:

Each year the true heart of the Dragon is awoken by the sounds of giggling children bedecked in their finest Youthfest-made costumes as they parade down and around our Merchant row. This is an event not to miss and is always guaranteed to bring a smile to your lips and warmth to your heart. Again this year the children request your participation and enthusiasm as they escort you down merchants row.

Sacred Massage: 2 pm Saturday.Meet at the Big Rock Ritual Entrance

Ritual Description: Safe, sacred, skyclad. Bring your favorite: oil and ground cover. This is two hours of comforting, relaxing Laying On Of Hands. Several small groups working on one person at a time. Each of us will receive about 10 mins. of blissful attention. This is a skyclad optional ritual, please no children.

Centering: at Main Ritual Area

Join the Onyx Court for centering prior to the evening rituals for those who wish to cultivate inner silence beforehand. Let us help you create your personal ritual space.

Main Ritual 7pm – Main Ritual Area

Presented by Sára Rain and a Motley Array of Pagans

"Dynamic Duality: Inanna, Damuzi and the Rising Life Force"

All participants are asked to wear white, all white, nothing but white!

We will explore the aspects of polarized duality and the creative life

force that springs from complimentary energies. Really, wear white!

Differently-abled participants are welcome! Please, wear white! All ages

welcome! Did we mention that you should wear white? Ritual will include

music, simple movement and a rocking good time! Truly and sincerely,

please do wear white!

Sunday

Closing Ritual: 11am Sunday – Main Ritual Area

The closing ritual is where we say thanks and goodbye to our friends and family. As always it is presented by our Teens. Please join them in closing our wonderful retreat.

Sunday continued...

Giving Tree: Follows Closing Ritual

The Giving Tree is a ritual that signifies the love and sharing that is Dragonfest community. Bring a gift to hang on the Giving Tree, something that calls for a new home to bring love and peace, growth and magick. Please join us for this wonderful event following the Closing Ritual.

Merry meet, merry part and merry meet again!

Dragonfest Staff and Board

Dragonfest Standards:

- All things in moderation
- We need to be considerate.
- Let's honor all commitments.
- We need to respect the property, space and persons.
- Parents are responsible for their children. Adults are responsible for themselves.
- We need to honor diversity.
- Let's help each other.
- We need to respect Sacred Space and those within.
- We must walk lightly on Mother Earth.