



LOWCOUNTRY C.A.S.T.

Newsletter for 1st Quarter, 2010

The Origins of C.A.S.T.

We had a discussion recently on how long the Council For Alternative Spiritual Traditions, CAST, had been in place. From what we can remember, the first CAST committee was formed in 2004 or 2005; the inspiration of Kathleen Parker at Jumping Water.

It was comprised of any group, solitaire, or coven that wanted a voice in the spiritual outreach and growth of the Pagan community in the Lowcountry. Since then, CAST has grown and has become a strong advocate for the Pagan society.

We are a diverse, and often, secretive group of people who range from youth to Crone. We are made up of professionals, journeymen, students, and all other walks of life. It is because of the half-truths and outright falsehoods of younger religions, that we feel we must keep our beliefs hidden. This is a travesty, and we must combat this bias.

Our mission statement simply states that CAST was organized to establish an open forum facilitating links between celebrants of alternative spiritual paths, exclusively for religious, educational, and charitable purposes to promote and carry out the interaction and understanding of those who follow alternative spiritual/religious paths.

We try to educate others on our spiritual tenants, and are willing to attend other religious gatherings to answer questions about of diverse paths. Sometimes we do our best when we simply act like ourselves. What other religions do not always realize is that many of their holy days stem from Pagan beliefs.

Here at CAST It is not our job to postulate. We do not go door-to-door and hand out religious tracks. We do, however, try to work with those

Introducing Your 2010 Board

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who come seeking, and do whatever we can to guide them to the appropriate group.

This is where we all come into play.

Over the next year we are going to accelerate our Calendar of Events, and will be tapping all of you on the shoulder for ideas, assistance, and information. You will find that your participation in these events, both the Major, and the Minor ones, will enhance your spiritual growth, and make you a stronger member of our society.

2010 Major Events

We are going to post four major events so that you can mark them on your calendar.

The Gathering at Givhans. Friday, February 26 - Sunday, February 28. Dave and Iris Stephens will be celebrating their tenth anniversary with a handfasting and feast. We also have a Croning ritual, and the Stags are involved in an amazing Energy Ritual. We will have drumming, a full moon ritual, and a round of 81 Goddesses.

Beltane In The Pines. Friday, May 7 - Sunday, May 9. Earthbound and Ravenwood are again honoring us by leading the ritual for this weekend. We are hoping to be able to go back out to Elmwood. There can be no vending, but we hope to set up divination &/or Reiki tents for donations - and, of course, a Maypole.

Samhain. Friday, October 29 - Saturday, October 30. We are asking if The Gatekeepers, that's my circle, will again host Samhain at Givhans.

Yule. The date for this has yet to be decided, but we are looking into having an honest to Goddess real dress up dinner where all we have to do is show up, have a great meal, maybe a few drinks and a Yule ritual. No other planning, no cooking, no cleaning. We will need to start on these plans as soon as possible as we will have to find a venue and sell tickets. Your input would be appreciated!

In addition to these four events, we are going to ask if others would host four, or more, other rituals and gatherings during the year. If you know of other groups who would be willing to host, please get the word out to them and we will work with them.

Here is where CAST will be able to help. If there is a charge for reservations, like the primitive area out at Givhans, then we will book the entire place and let the people who are going to camp out there pay us.

There is a lot more, and we are hoping that we will be able to talk with you all about our

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plans. Please let your board members know if you can work with the dates. By posting these so far in advance we hope to be able to include everybody in these events.

The CAST Food Bank

Let's start 2010 off right!

We are seeking non-perishable donations to the CAST Food Bank. Help out your friends in need, give back some of the blessings you've received, donate to the CAST Pagan Food Bank. Plenty of storage space is available.

Give from your heart. At the same time, make sure that pagans in need are aware of the service. Questions can be directed to:

lowcountrycast@gmail.com

Collection boxes will be available at all major & minor events, and at any of the PDC monthly gatherings.

About This Newsletter

The C.A.S.T. newsletter will be published quarterly throughout the year. Article contributions should be sent to Chair.CAST@gmail.com.

Mary Dellucci, Editor

Contributing Editors include, Bob Fifield, Dave & Iris Stephens

The C.A.S.T. board is completely responsible for the content of this newsletter.

Any comments, gripes, suggestions, or input should be reasoned and well thought out.



Mary Dellucci, Chair