# Quest: Blood, Stones and Runes



Join in magical community at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Hillsborough for a one day set of three of the most requested intensive Workshops from Carolina Spirit Quest. Visit our website at CarolinaSpiritQuest.org



#### **Director's Welcome**

Quest: Blood, Stones and Runes began as an item in a long list of items on a flip chart at a CSQ Board meeting. I took to the idea immediately and knew that I wanted to make it happen. This concept is new to CSQ. A one day set of three intensive Workshops aimed at a small region of the area CSQ serves. Judging by the enthusiasm and interest it has generated, I am willing to say that it is a successful experiment.

I have been honored to work with some of the best Pagan leaders in this area and blessed with fantastic volunteers. Hard work and VERY lively (and sometimes loud) discussions bonded our little group together into a sacred family. The result was this; a day of spiritual growth that will include intense, in-depth Workshops that have been the most requested, community building Rituals and a joyously shared sacredness.

Thanks to all the Staff and to all the people who are not Staff, but worked hard anyway, to make this possible. And thank you to the Participants and your support and instant enthusiasm that allowed this to come together!

Nameste, my friends!

Gryphon Rosemead,

9:00-9:30

Director, Quest: Blood, Stones and Runes 2001

Registration

## **Schedule**



9:30-10:00	Opening Ritual
10:00-12:00	Workshop Session I
12:00 noon-1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00-3:00	Workshop Session II
3:00-3:30	Break
3:30-5:30	Workshop Session III
5:30-6:00	Closing Ritual

Each participant will sign up for one Workshop and continue the same WS throughout the day. Breaks may vary, according to where the WS is and when the Presenter wants to stop for a break.

# **Workshop Descriptions and Presenter Biographies**

#### **Circle of Stones**

Presenter: Brydie Fyredragon

The purpose of this workshop is personal spiritual exploration. You may expect to meet a powerful spiritual guide who will journey with you in your quest. This training is designed for people who are serious about their further growth and development; for people who wish to be deliberate about their life path. The tool we will use is guided meditation. Experience is not necessary. This workshop involves a number of journeys. For your comfort, please bring a blanket or pad to lie on, a pillow if you need one, a light scarf to cover your face, and a cover if you tend to get chilly. Bring a journal or pen and paper to record your journeys and conversations with your Spirit Guide. There will be an altar in our space where you may place personal sacred objects.

Ages: 16 or above Participant Limit: 15

Brydie Fyredragon was raised a Christian which never worked for her. Upon reading Drawing Down The Moon by Margot Adler and The Spiral Dance by Starhawk she at last understood her path. She worked as a solitary for a long time.

Brydie feels fortunate to have found Unitarian Universalism where she met spiritual leaders who were able to guide her on her path. In 1991, with Dick Merritt, she started Celebrate the Circle, a Chapter of CUUPS. Brydie says "For the very first time, I met like minded folk who wanted to do ritual as a group. We all have subtle distinctions in our beliefs and practices, and still we come together in the spirit of Unitarian Universalism: To work and worship together, honoring our differences."

Brydie has recently set out upon a new path as a Votary of the House of Isis, celebrating her dedication ritual on June third.

# **Yggrunar: Runes of the Ecstatic One**

Presenters: Danny Moses and Dan Campbell

In this workshop we will delve into the lore of Runes. We will start by introducing the Runes themselves in the context of Scandinavian creation myth, and dwell briefly on Odin, Freya, and a few other deities. The heart of the workshop will be a discussion of the three Wells of Wyrd and the relationship between fate and the carving of runes. The last two hours will cover divination and magical work with the Runes. We will end the workshop by carving a rune talisman.

A companion booklet on the meanings of the Runes and various other materials will be provided. Please bring a good wood-carving knife (lock blade pocket knives are usually good) and a pair of work gloves if you can. Also, you may wish to bring pen and paper, and a piece of wood, rock, or other item upon which to carve or paint a rune at the end of the workshop.

Ages 15 and up Participant Limit: 30



Danny Moses is an eclectic pagan and talented musician devoted to the Odhinnic path. He spent 10 years studying Native American spirituality and various tribal traditions, but did not settle into his personal path until discovering the Runes five years ago. Since then, Danny has been working intensively with the Runes and with Odin in a shamanic manner, drawing on Old Norse mythology, Mircea Eleade's studies of shamanism, the

guidance of Freya and Odin, and the trial and error of personal experience. In the Triangle area, he is involved with both the Lunatic

Fringe and Carolina Spirit Quest. He also brews mead, plays a mean fiddle, and gallumphs off into the hills of NC whenever possible with his partner Tammie Ward. Danny and Tammie live with two strange but psychologically sound cats in Durham, where they periodically host Danny's 19 year old son and 15 year old daughter.

Dan Campbell is an eclectic pagan artist with wide ranging interests including Druidry, Neolithic prehistory, shamanism, Celtic and Scandinavian paganism, divination, poetry, oil painting, home brewing beer and mead, and run-on sentences. Although interested in Scandinavian mythology since high school, Dan only seriously began studying Runes and Germanic Heathenism two years ago. His first exposure to neo-paganism was with CTC, during its inception in 1991 (he was amazed to discover that neo-paganism was alive and well outside of California, let alone in NC!). After about two years of active involvement with CTC, Dan retreated into solitary practice, in which he began delving more deeply into his personal spiritual path. He has since been slowly working his way along that path with help from a few distant ancestors, the spirits of the land, some close friends on this side of the Veil, and his life partner Cynthia. Dan and Cynthia live in Hillsborough with their 2 year old daughter Jessica, and two terribly neurotic cats.

#### Sacred Blood

Presenters: Tammie Ward and Gryphon Rosemead

Women bleed, but do not die. This workshop will focus on menstruation and its effects on our lives. Participants can bring sacred items to place on an altar and any books, poetry, tales or personal writings you would like to share with the group. Come prepared to share your feelings and experiences about menstruation, whether you have not started to bleed, no longer bleed, or are somewhere in between. There will be information and discussions of the biology and history. Come share sacred space with Gryphon and Tammie and be transformed.

Age: under 10, please talk to the Presenters first Participant Limit: 20



Gryphon Rosemead has been a Pagan for many years and is interested in all paths. She is a member of Celebrate the Circle and the Lunatic Fringe in the Triangle area as well as a few private groups. She is a school teacher in Granville County and shares her household with a cat named Grandmother and her dog, Othello. She has become very interested in promoting Pagan tolerance in the public school system. Gryphon is Co-Director emeritus of Carolina Spirit Quest and Director of

QuestSpecial.



A Durham native, **Tammie Ward** is interested in learning about all paths. She is currently studying Runes, Shamanism and many forms of divination. She is a member of the Lunatic Fringe. She enjoys spending time with Danny Moses, the mountains and backpacking among other things. Tammie has two black cats, Concho and Pepper and is on the Board of Directors for Carolina Spirit Ouest.

**Facilities** 

UUCH has 4 large rooms, a hallway that will be used as a place for vendors, two bathrooms and lots of outdoor space that is semiprivate in the middle of a beautiful wooded setting.

The main meeting room is spacious with vaulted ceilings and a view to the outside from all four directions. A kitchen is located directly from this room which includes a refrigerator, stove, microwave, and dish washer.

The smaller rooms can seat 10-12 comfortably; more if seated on the floor, less if in chairs. All of these rooms have large windows with no window treatments at all.

#### Lunch

Lunch can either be brought by the Participant or ordered through QuestSpecial. Having lunch at a restaurant is not recommended; there are a lack of restaurants close by and arriving late to continue your Workshop would be disruptive. Bill Elston, Kitchen Manager for CSQ last year, is our Kitchen Witch, so you know the food will be good!

Options include the following:

Choose one: turkey, beef, ham, veggie or vegan\* sandwich

Choose one: cole slaw or macaroni salad, Choose one: apple, orange or banana

Also included: a bag of chips, a pickle, a cookie, a can of soda, condiments, napkin and

utensils.

\*The vegan sandwich will consist of : lettuce, tomato, onion, mushroom, green pepper, cucumber, sprouts, with soy mayo on vegan bread.

Please indicate your choices on the registration form and include an extra \$6.00.

### **Vending:**

There is very limited vendor space available at this event. Space will be assigned in the order that payment is received. Vendors do not have to pay the registration fee unless they will be attending one of the Workshops. There is a \$5 charge for the space and 5% of your total sales at break down time. See Tim Woody for assigned space and to hand in money.

#### Please be Considerate...

UUCH has generously allowed us to use their home for our spiritual growth. Let's leave the area as clean or even cleaner than when we found it.

Your Workshop may break at a different time from the others. Please keep in mind that the others gathered here may still be meeting. Walk softly, and speak quietly.

#### **Rules:**

- ~ No pets.
- ~ No firearms.
- ~ No illegal substances (illicit drugs, under-age possession of alcohol or tobacco products).
- ~ Respect people's personal space. It is the responsibility of the initiator of any physical contact with another person to positively ensure that consent is given before engaging in such contact.
- ~ Carolina Spirit Quest reserves the right to remove any person from the program based on behavior that Carolina Spirit Quest deems inappropriate to the program.
- ~ Parents/Guardians will be held accountable for the behavior of their minor children and may be required to leave the program if CSQ deems that the child's behavior is inappropriate to the program.

# **QuestSpecial 2001 Staff**

Director: Gryphon Rosemead

Workshop Presenters: Brydie Fyredragon, Tammie Ward, Gryphon Rosemead, Danny

Moses, Dan Campbell

Registrar: Gryph and Tammie Information Manager: Gryph Facilities Manager: Tim Woody Kitchen Witch: Bill Elston

CSQ Board Communications Liaison: Lance Brown

## **Directions:**

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Hillsborough (UUCH) is located at 1710 Old NC 10 at the corner of Lawrence Road.

Take I – 85 to Exit #165 (Highway 86) (about 3 miles east of where I-40 splits, and 9 miles west of Durham) Take 86 South .4 miles towards Chapel Hill Turn left (east) onto Old NC 10. The congregation's building is .5 miles down the road on the left.

Check our web site at http://www.RTPnet.org/uuch/