

The Code Of Chivalry

Valor in adversity...

A Knight faces his fear, and does what must be done in spite of it.

Truth in speech...

A Knight should always seek the truth, and strive to keep the oaths he chooses to swear.

Loyalty in service...

A Knight remains loyal to the people and the precepts that he has sworn to uphold.

Humility in bearing...

A Knight conducts himself with quiet confidence, letting his deeds speak for themselves.

Charity in compassion...

A Knight is generous so far as his resources and means allow, giving selflessly so that the community might prosper.

Prowess in action...

A Knight should strive for excellence in all endeavors, physical, mental and spiritual.

Defense in need...

A Knight is sworn to defend those who depend on him, the precepts by which he lives, and those who cannot defend themselves.

Justice in judgement...

A Knight should serve the cause of justice, taking responsibility for his own actions and, as far as he is able, seeing that others do the same.

Honor above all.

A Knight holds to the precepts by which he lives, realizing that though the ideals cannot be reached, striving towards them ennobles the spirit and makes the world a better place for all. A Knight finds the best in himself through service to that which he loves.

Open Meetings held on the third Friday of the month, 7:30 pm, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greensboro, 5603 Hilltop Road (the corner of Hilltop and Guilford College Rd). All are welcome to attend.

See our website for details:

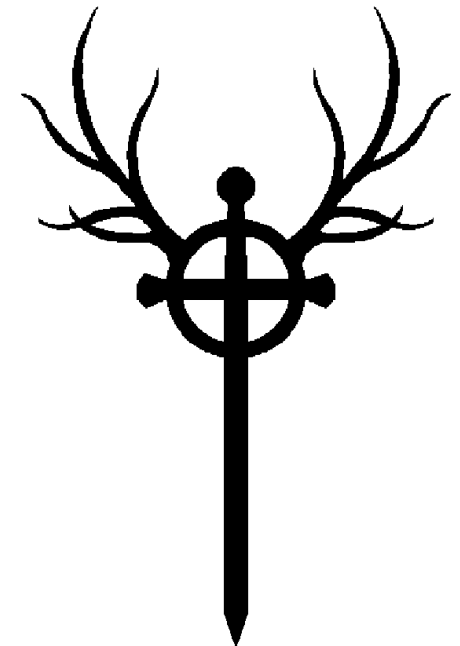
<http://www.knightsofherne.org>

or email us at

knightsofherne@yahoo.com

Learn More About

The Royal Order of The Knights of Herne



R.O.K.H.

The Royal Order of the Knights of Herne
Foundation Hall, Greensboro, NC

<http://www.knightsofherne.org>
knightsofherne@yahoo.com

THE ROYAL ORDER OF **THE KNIGHTS** **OF HERNE**

What is the Order?

The Royal Order of the Knights of Herne is a fraternal spirituality and service group for men of Earth-centered faiths, such as Wicca, Asatru, Celtic traditions, Paganism, Native American Spirituality, etc. The organization is structured along the lines of medieval orders of chivalry such as the Knights Templar.

Why a Men's Group?

Most Earth-centered faiths honor at least one God and Goddess as the representation of the male and female aspects of the Universe. However, as a response to the highly patriarchal nature of mainstream Christianity, many Earth-centered faiths tend toward a matriarchal system. The God, representative of the male aspect of Divinity, is often greatly if not completely eclipsed by the Goddess. The Order was formed in an attempt to restore a much-needed balance, by giving men of Earth-centered faiths a place to go for spiritual sustenance; a place where they may search for answers to their spiritual questions.

Community Service

The Order has a strong commitment to community service. We believe that such service is an integral part of our spirituality - that a man can truly find the best in himself only in service to others. Sacrifice for others has always been a traditional aspect of men's spirituality - for example, the Wiccan belief in the sacrifice of the Horned Lord at Samhain to be reborn at Yule and renew the fertility of the earth, or from a Christian point of view, the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. All of us sacrifice in some form or another so that others may be better off, though for us this sacrifice is of our time and energy rather than our lives. As Knights, we believe that with the power we are given comes a responsibility to help others. In fact, the word "knight" originally came from a Saxon word that meant "servant". We take this to mean that we are servants of the community and of the Higher Powers which we hold dear.

Knighthood and Chivalry

Though we do call ourselves "Knights", we don't wear armor, fight with swords, or swear fealty to a king. We choose to call ourselves Knights because we identify strongly with the archetype or idea of knighthood, of a warrior who lives by a code of honor and who stands up for what he believes is right. The "Royal" in our name doesn't mean we swear fealty to an earthly monarch. Rather, we swear fealty to our own particular idea of the Sacred, to our brother knights, and to the ideals of knighthood and chivalry.



Who is Herne?

Herne, the Order's Patron, is a Saxon deity whose name is thought to come from the Latin "Cernunnos", which means "The Horned One". His image can be found on the Gundestrup Cauldron (pictured above), a Celtic artifact found in Denmark and dating from about the time of Christ. For us, Herne represents the quintessence of manhood, all that we strive to be and to achieve as men. He is the sacrificial God, who gives of himself so that others may live. Though not all of us honor Herne as the face of our particular Deity, as Knights and as men, we honor what He represents.

