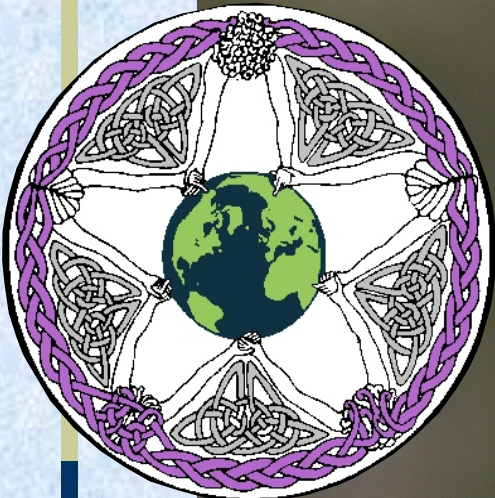
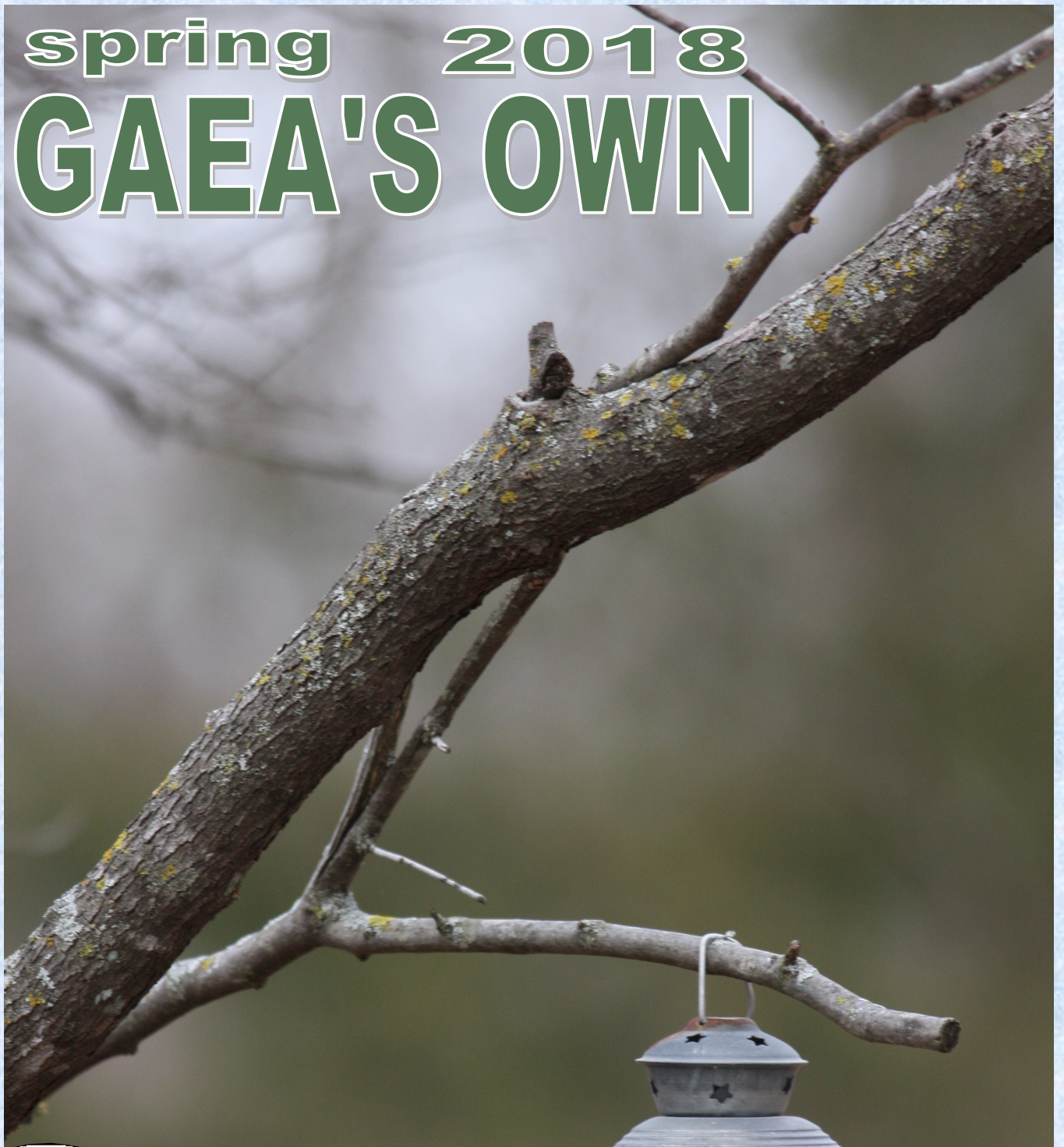


# spring 2018 GAEA'S OWN



*RESPECT YOURSELF*

*RESPECT OTHERS*

*RESPECT THE LAND*



# Gaea's Own

newsletter@gaearetreat.org

We are less than 2 months out from our first festival of the season. Earth Day Festival is a family friendly event that runs Friday, April 20th @ noon, until Sunday, April 22nd @ 4pm. We have community events that run all weekend. Friday night is a Community Potluck Chili Dinner.

Saturday during the day we have Workshops running at various locations on the ridge, an Art Show down in the Main Hall, and in/near the Pavilion we have a Community Art Project, the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Rummage Sale, and the Hotdog Cart. There is also the Kid's Tent with activities running from 10am-5pm. Saturday night is another Community Potluck Dinner of Nachos. All weekend long there are vendors in Merchant Circle on the Ridge, (there is no additional cost other than regular registration costs to be a vendor.)

For any questions about the Earth Day Festival and the activities mentioned above, please go to our Earth Day Event Page at GaeaRetreat.org, or email [earthday@gaearetreat.org](mailto:earthday@gaearetreat.org).

Pricing for Earth Day is as follows:

#### Tenting:

Teens 12-17, \$15.00      Adult 18+, \$25.00

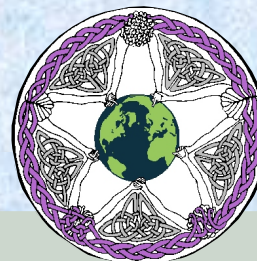
#### Cabin:

Teens 12-17, \$25.00      Adult 18+, \$35.00

For more pricing information please see the Pricing page on our Earth Day Event page on our website. We are also looking for people wanting to do work exchange. Work Exchange is for Adults 18+ and covers admission for the festival, this is a great way to meet new people and help your community at the same time! Tenting is 4 hours and Cabin is 6 hours. If you are interested in, or have questions about work exchange please email, [earthdayworkexchange@gaearetreat.org](mailto:earthdayworkexchange@gaearetreat.org).

Come join us for another great season!

Earth Rising Inc Board:  
Erin Marshall, President  
JD Besares, Treasurer  
Rhi Koetting, Secretary  
Clint Koetting  
Mike Stevens, Safety  
Audrey Domskey  
Cat Andrews  
Steve Dillon



### Extended Stay Policy (festivals excluded)

Effective January 15th of this year, camping stays lasting more than 14 days in a rolling 30 day period will require approval of the Board of Directors. Approval must be obtained at a board meeting prior to your arrival. Requests can be submitted in person, via a Caretaker, or can be emailed to camp (<https://gaearetreat.org/contact>) for inclusion in the next scheduled meeting. A cash deposit of 50% of the total approved extended stay period is required. If you will be doing work exchange for your stay, the deposit is still required, but will be refunded to you after the completion of your assigned work exchange. Any unpaid fees will be due at the end of your extended stay and must be paid before an additional extended stay can be approved. Check-out will be at midnight the last night of your extended stay, and all tents and personal items must be removed from property at that time.

# Upcoming Events

**Blood Trail Stairs Work Day - March 17**

**Spring Ritual - March 17, 7pm**

**Campsite Cleanup Work Day, March 24**

**Kitchen and Shower House Workday, March 31**

**April Board Meeting - April 1, noon**

**Earth Day Set Up and Prep Work Day - April 14**

**Earth Day Weekend - April 20-22**

**Beltane Ritual - May 5, 7pm**

**May Board Meeting - May 6, noon**

Rituals start at 7pm, and are followed by a potluck feast in the dining hall.

Our rituals are open to the public and celebrate the pagan wheel of the year.

Rituals at Gaea are opportunities to bond as a community and perhaps learn something in the process.

We welcome all pagan traditions to officiate. If you would be interested in facilitating a ritual, please call Rhi at camp (913-796-2141) to discuss putting you on the schedule.

Work weekends are a good opportunity to give back to Gaea, and earn some Gaea Bucks too! Check our [facebook page](#) for more information on projects as it becomes available. Meet at 9:30 AM at the picnic shelter!



# Helping Gaea Helps You

Did you know you can help Gaea and pay for your camping fees at the same time? It's true. Complete an approved task, and earn one Gaea Buck for every one hour of work. Each Gaea Buck is worth \$5 off camping fees. Let's say you weed eat for three hours, you get three Gaea Bucks, each worth \$5. Pretty sweet deal, right? How do you get on this bandwagon? Get with a caretaker (either Rhi or Clint) when you get to camp, and they will show you the list of priority jobs that need to be done. It's a simple thing, but every hour volunteered helps keep Gaea beautiful, safe and accessible. Thanks in advance for your help!

Donations can be made on the website, <https://gaearetreat.org/donations>

## CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW? SOUND SYSTEM FUNDRAISER

Our talent show is outgrowing our sound system's capacity, as seen this year when we lost a channel due to awesome microphone prowess. In looking to upgrade our system we are looking to put together something that, with a little care, will last 10-15 years before needing to be overhauled. Minor upgrades and maintenance are expected, we are just looking to build a better experience for those that come after us. Please help donate towards this cause and help us bring clear, crisp, feedback-free joy to future laid back labor days!

## Our Rules for Dogs

All dogs must be on a leash, and under your control. This means the leash is in your hand.

Although you believe your animal will never harm someone, you cannot predict every situation.

You don't know how another animal, or another person, may react to your animal running up to them.

Dogs are NOT allowed in the Dining Hall or Bath House.

You must clean up after your dog when it makes messes (i.e. poop).

## Caretaker's Corner

The Wheel of the Year is turning and it is evident all over camp. The maple trees have dark red buds on them. The daffodils are peeking through the dirt. Nesting season has started. Spring is here! If the emerging buds and verdure are an indicator, it is going to be a fruitful, blessed year for both the land and those who tread upon it. Speaking of those who tread upon it, the skunks are in the middle of their mating season, and we have had a few wayward ones on property. If ever there was a time to keep your dog on a leash, it's now.

The pre-season clean-up of all the campsites and the beach will be March 24th. It's time to clear out the junk, give everything a good smudge, and tend the areas that are often our home away from home. Other work weekends have been scheduled and are on our website calendar and in this newsletter. If you can make the time, Gaea would appreciate your help. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the picnic shelter to pick work assignments. Don't forget your work gloves!

We are looking forward to the 2018 season and hope you are too. Happy camping!

# Main Hall Ceiling Project Update



Check out the finished project Earth Day Weekend - we will be holding the Art Show in the Main Hall!





# Why should I seek help from Safety?

Good question! I'm sure that many of you have noticed our volunteers wearing safety orange or safety green shirts. You may have noticed our Safety Tent at the top of the stairs during Earth Day and Laid Back Labor Day. We are doing our best to be visible and available in case you need assistance. Our focus is providing safety during those two events, but you may see some of us in our safety gear at other times throughout the year as well. If we are wearing the colors, we are working and available to assist you. With the 2018 season about to get underway, I'd like to encourage people to reach out to our Safety crew whenever you need some help.

## What kinds of things can we help with?

### \* Heat related illness.

This is a big problem at Gaea, because most of our events are during the summer months. Hydration is vital, and we have cold water and electrolytes available. If things have gotten past that point, we can provide a cooling station, and direct care. We can coordinate with EMS if needed.

### \* Bites, burns, illness, and injuries.

We have shift leaders and volunteers who are trained in first aid. We can assist with injuries, and assess the need for more advanced care. We keep a well stocked first aid kit. We can provide a quiet place to rest if needed. We have a smaller Safety Tent at the Beach. There are cold liquids and a first aid kit there as well.

### \* CPR.

We have shift leaders and volunteers who are skilled in CPR. If someone is unconscious and non-responsive, we can be there very quickly. We have defibrillators available, and can begin care immediately while EMS is on the way.

### \* Conflicts and rules violations.

Most violations of Gaea's rules are handled by our patrons, by offering a kind word to those who need it. Unfortunately, that is not always practical and may not always be safe. This is one of the primary reasons that we have a Safety crew. Please do not hesitate to ask for our help. Our crew will take care of the situation, or if necessary, we will contact the authorities.

### \* Vehicular trouble.

We can help with a flat tire, a person needing a jump start, a vehicle stuck in the mud, keys locked in the car, etc.

### \* Information.

We are happy to provide information about Camp Gaea, it's Rules and Regulations, and its Mission. We can help with directions to different parts of the property, information about the various sites and ritual spaces, etc. If you don't know who to ask, please ask us. We will be happy to help.

These are some of the main reasons that a person might contact our Safety crew. People have dropped by to ask for assistance with many other things over the years. Whenever we are able, we will be glad to lend a helping hand. That is why we are here!

Let's have a great, and safe 2018 at Camp Gaea! Let us know if we can help.

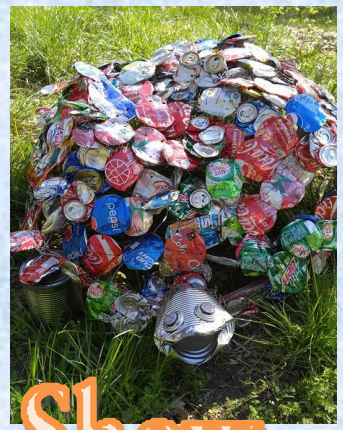
EARTH DAY  
**SAFETY**  
CAMP GAEA

## Spring Ritual Meal

Spring is almost here! Come join us as we celebrate the coming of Spring and the hope it offers! A potluck ritual feast will be directly after ritual. To participate, please bring a dish that will feed at least six. The main dish will be chicken. All festivities will occur in Main Hall.

Hope to see you there!





# Earth Day Art Show

*We are very excited this year as the Art show  
will be in the Main Hall,*

**Saturday April 21, 10 am-8 pm**

**This is a great opportunity for artists of all media to show their work to the community, to share our magic, expressions and passions. It can be old or new work and any medium. Please have your works to the Main Hall on Friday the 20th, after 5:00pm or Saturday before 10:00am. Your work can be for sale or only show. Contribution to camp if you sell work is up to the artist. Bring money to shop!**



# Community Art Project

**Under the Pavilion On the Ridge**

**Saturday April 21, 10am-5:00pm**

**For the Community Art Project this year, we will be painting small circular discs of wood and attaching them to posts that will be placed around camp!**

**This is an awesome opportunity to be creative with our community, come together and make something to beautify camp.**





## *The Mission of Earth Rising Inc.*

is to provide a recreational retreat center in a natural setting for the purpose of cultural and spiritual education. This Mission will be met through the achievement of certain goals.

### *These goals are*

to encourage the free exchange of ideas, views and experiences...

to promote greater understanding and respect between groups and individuals...

to support ecologically sound practices and land and wildlife conservation in the belief that the Earth and all life are interrelated and interdependent, and that respect for all life is a Universal Mandate...

and to provide sanctuary to people who have experienced oppression or discrimination due to their cultural or spiritual practices.

*For More Details:*

Our Website

<https://gaearetreat.org/>

Calendar

<http://gaearetreat.org/calendar>

Donations

<http://gaearetreat.org/donations>

Contact Us

<http://gaearetreat.org/contact>

Earth Rising has partnered with Best Choice food brands to raise funds for camp. You give camp a Best Choice label and Best Choice buys it back from us for 3 cents. For every thousand we collect, camp raises \$30! Bring your labels to camp. instead of throwing those labels away. Recycle them for a good cause!

