
Rowan Tree Church Periodicals Collection

MS/150-5

1986-1987

Annual Report of the Rowan Tree Church

Rowan Tree Church

For this and additional works see: <https://vtext.valdosta.edu/xmlui/handle/10428/2169>

UUID: 9546CEB3-BC0A-CABC-42D9-046D601E4A81

Recommended Citation:

Rowan Tree Church. Annual Report of the Rowan Tree Church, 1986-1987. Minneapolis, MN:
Rowan Tree Church, 1987. Rowan Tree Church Periodicals Collection, New Age
Movements, Occultism, and Spiritualism Research Library. Archives and Special
Collections. Valdosta State University. Valdosta, GA. <http://hdl.handle.net/10428/2822>

This item is free and open source. It is part of the Rowan Tree Church Periodicals Collection at
Odum Library Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections. If you have any
questions or concerns contact archives@valdosta.edu

Annual Report
of
The Rowan Tree Church

1986 - 1987

Financial Report
Nov 1 1986 - Oct 31 1987

-----CREDITS-----	
Rowan Tree Church Member's Donations	1081.40
Mystery School Tuition	646.00
Subscription Library	386.42
Correspondence Secretary Compensation	74.50
Elder Mentor Compensation	355.75
Land Fund	872.59 *
<u>The Unicorn</u> (from Members)	128.75
<u>The Unicorn</u> Miscellaneous	601.50
<u>The Littlest Unicorn</u> (from Members)	47.00
<u>The Littlest Unicorn</u> Miscellaneous	152.00
Sample Packages	379.00
<u>RT News</u>	148.00
Miscellaneous Other	1016.92

Total Credits for the Year	5587.24

* Represents total balance (the year started with 302.59)	
-----DEBITS-----	
Rowan Tree Church Miscellaneous	1656.94
Rowan Tree Church USPO	396.43
Rowan Tree Church Printing	351.14
Mystery School Miscellaneous	270.24
Mystery School USPO	66.69
Mystery School Printing	42.63
Subscription Library Miscellaneous	84.74
Subscription Library USPO	29.49
Subscription Library Book Purchases	278.13
Bank Fees	264.44
<u>RT News</u> Miscellaneous	5.85
<u>RT News</u> USPO	45.76
<u>RT News</u> Printing	252.36
<u>The Unicorn</u> Miscellaneous	46.37
<u>The Unicorn</u> USPO	216.47
<u>The Unicorn</u> Printing	417.74
<u>The Littlest Unicorn</u> Miscellaneous	32.51
<u>The Littlest Unicorn</u> USPO	68.04
<u>The Littlest Unicorn</u> Printing	280.68
Periodical Library Miscellaneous	72.71
Elder Mentor Compensation	254.88
Secretary Compensation	74.50

Total Debits for the Year	5805.34

Introduction by Artemis Giem
President of The Board of Directors

The last year has seen the birth of The Rowan Tree Church as an organization open to anyone who can respect its basic tenants. (Formerly, the Church was synonymous with The Mystery School; an institute of learning how to grow in wisdom on one particular, specialized Wiccan Path: The Path of Lothlorien).

Neither financial support nor active participation in Church affairs is required of Church Members. The wholly elective nature of degree of involvement has led to some severe financial strains. These will be elucidated in the General Manager's report. They threaten the continued existence of the Church and require your thoughtful attention and suggestions.

"The Annual Report" has traditionally been an account of the Church's Autumn Equinox meeting; voting results and Officer's reports. This year, the voting process has been delayed by lack of communication between the Board of Directors and the Church membership as a whole. The revised Book of Legislation, the by-laws by which the Church is governed, should have been sent to each Church member by the Summer Solstice; but it was delayed. In fact, the entire process of ending the fiscal year has been delayed due to the lack of communication and the lack of commitment on the part of the membership.

The Board of Directors
The President
Artemis Giem

During the last year, responsibility for the Church's coordination and administrative functioning was transferred to the Board of Directors. The Board's handling of those things has been disorganized and sporadic at best. The primary reason for that was the President of the Board's relationship to the Church. She belonged out of a sense of obligation/duty and carried no joy or confidence into the tasks Presidency presented.

Her officeship created the illusion of someone being "in charge," of someone "getting things done." Now that she has resigned, the Church can look at the way it runs itself with clear vision and a renewed sense of individual accountability.

Please consider donating 2-4 hours of time per month to help the Board of Directors. The only way the Church will regain health is if informedness, responsibility and power are decentralized as much as possible.

The Board of Directors needs to:

- (1) Finish the IRS filing...
- (2) Insure Church premises...
- (3) Establish good communications with the members and with each other across the miles.

As of XI 1987, the Board of Director's officers consists of the following people:

Don Schaper as President, Mike Harvey as Vice President, Bethail Wille as Secretary, Paul Sweetser as Treasurer.

The Mystery School
Paul V. Beyerl

The Mystery School has never been stronger. Although the reform led to some substantial changes in enrollment, we currently have twelve members and a moratorium has been placed on accepting new applications until all new students have been Dedicated as Novices.

We have three first degree Priest/esses who are exceptional in their work to help me provide orientation for those in the first months of study. Together they represent 13 years experience. Projections for the coming year are that we will have at least 2 High Priest/esses and a total enrolment of 16-18 members.

The past year has seen a growing integration of members. New students are placed in contact with advanced Initiates, and if deemed important, with one or more peers; to avoid a sense of isolation now that we function in secrecy. In addition, a collection of printed orientation material is made available to new students; for the complexities of The Mystery School are difficult to assimilate.

The only problems facing us is in the financial realm. All but one student pays tuition, (that student is on a barter arrangement), but we have no budget as this money is currently being used primarily for non-Mystery School expenses. In order to ensure quality training for our future ministry, this situation requires urgent attention by the Board of Directors.

The Unicorn
Paul V. Beyerl

Paid subscriptions remain stable, showing a 7% increase (est.). The staff of artists, poets and writers has increased dramatically. A major drop in readership of Rowan Tree members resulted from the Reform. Whereas The Unicorn was automatically sent to all before. This cost could not be sustained. Currently about 38% of our members order The Unicorn.

The Hallows issue begins the tenth year of publication. A special tenth-anniversary edition is planned. Although it will cost non-Rowan Tree people \$6, members who regularly subscribe or order will receive the larger issue at no extra cost. Those who wish to order this issue (only) may do so for half-price, including gift orders.

Andrius is a very special entity for us. As an astral Unicorn, he has literally appeared to many and has been responsible for some exceptional healings. May I invite you to celebrate this Tenth Anniversary?

The Littlest Unicorn
A word from Artemia
Editor for the Autumn Equinox 1987 issue

The Littlest Unicorn needs your support in material submitted and subscriptions. Don passed the editorship to me, who could not maintain it due to time commitments and non-Wiccan spiritual orientation. The editorship is now in the competent and loving hands of Mahr (hooray).

[Due to the confusion over the quickly changing editorships of The Littlest Unicorn; there is no in-depth report on this publication.]

The RT News
Helen Voelker

Each issue of the RT News is not an end but is a continuing process to what we become. The problems that we face with this publication are, I'm sure, the same as every small publication: how to generate a constant level of interest and participation.

In the future I would like to see more contributions from some of the members who don't usually write for our internal newsletter. It would be delightful to hear about the lives and happenings of our out-of-town members. The rituals held by the Mystery School are always both beautiful and interesting and it would be great if we could have those who participate in person writing about them for those who cannot attend. Also, the Sunday Circles would be invigorated with new life if all who attend would jot down a few notes now and then and turn these in to the RT News.

All in all, there is a lot of potential out there for the continued growth and health of the RT News. So far, so good!

Secretary
Paul V. Beyerl

My initial priority was to process a backlog of 170 pieces of mail, some as old as 10 months. I established an efficient system on our personal computer and cut the time of standard work to 1/3rd. Costs for this Secretarial work come from the general fund (no figures are available) and through computer time Don Schaper and I donate. The position is voluntary, although every few months a small donation is received.

By the end of the next fiscal year, it would be desirable to have a local person assume standard work. It would take a minimum of 5 hrs weekly, 3 days and a good typewriter or home computer. It also requires picking up mail at our Blaisdell house, ordering supplies,

maintaining stock of printed forms, and positng mail on a regular basis. Currently this volunteer work averages me 6 hours a weeks but a new volunteer should expect to spend 15 hours on many weeks.

Non-standard mail would continue to be handled by myself, which includes responses to questions about policy, problems, ect. This volume of mail currently takes more time than the standard mail.

The Library Paul V. Beyerl

Library use is at an all-time low, due to the lack of an operating budget, and because members who wish to use the library are assessed a fee. I have asked the Board of Directors to address this issue, but they have not responded. Concerned members who wish to see the library able to replace worn books and add new titles are asked to voice or write their comments to the Board of Directors.

Two projects have stalled due to a lack of help: the installation of book plates and the cleaning of books (since the Aug. 1 fire). Plans for this autumn include a revamping of the space Don and I provide for the library. This will require approximately 40-80 dollars for additional shelving (including shelving for the General Manager, and the Periodical Library).

Within the past year a catalog of all titles was compiled and published (we have sold one copy). Since then we have added over 100 titles. Most of these have been donated (primarily through books sent to The Unicorn for review and through member donations). Some were purchased with \$40.00 I raised by donating photographs of Rowan Tree Church members and functions which were sold at a dollar apiece.

The Library needs to be given attention by the Board of Directors, and care by more Rowan Tree members. With nearly 1200 titles, it is a great resource.

The Periodical Library Periodical Organisation Daniel Henessey

At this point all periodicals of which we have two or more issues are filed. Those of which we only have one of, along with miscelaneous such as interviews, are in a large black 3-ring notebook labelled as such.

The Periodical Library has been growing. The bottom shelf has always been used for folders and 3-ring binder storage. Now all issues alphabetically past "Waxing Moon" are down there as well. The second to the bottom shelf is still being used for out of print items.

The top two shelves are still being used for items stored in 3-ring binders. The third, and now part of the bottom, are being used for items stored in folders; except for a folder or two in the top two shelves.

Filing supplies are plentiful for the time being. Is it OK if things stack up while I'm gone?

The Periodical Library
The Exchange Secretary
Mike Harvey

I wish to report good progress in gaining control of the backlog of publication correspondence.

The urgent matters that have come up have and will be attended to without delay.

At this time, I would like to thank Janet White for all her help in sorting out this mess; which was so politely dumped in our laps.

If any member has a favorite publication which we do not exchange with or any other suggestion please feel free to contact me through the Church.

Before long we will be receiving response from the letters I have sent out and very soon we will be exchanging with some new Pagan Friends.

The Periodical Library
Subscription Exchange Monitor
Dannan

The biggest problem I've had with the Subscription exchange monitor position, is the backlog of publications. Unfortunately, I have received publications that were from last year and not followed up on. A few periodicals, I've found with old ad copies that need to be updated. But, I've been attempting to straighten this out.

My procedure is as follows: When I receive a packet of publications from the Rowan Tree, I comprise a list of all publications received. On the list I note whether the publication is an ad exchange or publication exchange. I determine the frequency of the publication and that is noted. A list of all publication is sent back to the Rowan Tree. With this I was asking that a work sheet I was enclosing be forwarded to Mike Harvey, Subscription Exchange Secretary. I requested that the work sheet be sent to him because I did not have his address. I ran into a problem with this. The material was not being forwarded. Since, I found out that I've been in contact with Mike via the phone. We discussed the situation and decided that it would be best if I sent a copy of the publication list directly to him. This would mean a faster response time.

Any new ad exchange will mean an update on the publishing schedule for ads. This will be sent directly to the Editor of The Unicorn (since it is this publication which runs ads).

I am trying to get the periodicals back to the Rowan Tree as quickly as possible. That way they can be logged in and placed into the Periodical Library. It should not be very long and our exchanges will be up to date.

I can see the prospect of a very fine Periodical Library developing. This can be a very valuable resource tool. We will be establishing contacts all over the United States and internationally. This will provide our members a chance to see what other groups are doing. We can learn much from one another.

As far as monetary costs and time for this position... The Rowan Tree Church has been sending me the periodicals, basically, by priority mail. This generally takes two days for me to receive them. I review them the day I receive them. Depending on the amount of periodicals I receive, it takes a couple of hours to review and log them in. Then I mail them out the next day. The cost of return postage I pay for myself. I will keep a list of my expenses and I will submit this to the Board of Directors. I do not expect reimbursement. This is my contribution to the Rowan Tree Church. With the list of my expenses, the Board of Directors will be able to see what my expenses are.

Thank you and Blessed Be.