SAMHAIN Sunday, November 1, 1998 1 ^ ^

4 -7 p.m. at Deanna’s

Ask people to bring last night’s pumpkins to use for outside lighting. Hang out glittering pentacles to guide the way. (Remind Wendy to drop off the Maypole for one of us to retrieve.)

As people start to arrive, Marty will start drumming. Deanna will welcome people and show them where to put their food stuffs, place their pumpkins, and take their sit things down to the fire area. Carol will do the smudging and “welcome to Samhain” (rosemary oil?) and draw the pentacle on each person’s forehead (in dark blue eyeliner pencil). When it seems most of the women have arrived, Marty will start the vocalizing (wailing, who knows what will come out!).

1st part - Marty will give a brief overview of the ritual and welcome all the “fearful” selves who have come. We want this to be a safe place to act out our fears as we unwrap the Maypole. The unwrapping of the Maypole symbolizes the unwrapping of our protective outer wrappings and exposing our inner selves (as scary and gruesome as they may be). Still can be playful? Walk down to the fire area singing “All Together One.” Carry down the Maypole.

2nd part - Starting the fire and singing “Rise Up Oh Flame.” Summoning of the Crones (Maybe sing the “Crone and Sage” song here). Meditation led by Deanna. Asking a person from the other side for assistance. What may want to say to someone (male or female) who has passed on to the other side. Formulating a question that would like assistance with. One of us will move around the circle with some type of vessel that contains a variety of objects. Each person will pick out an object which will represent her answer passed on from the other side. It will be in the form of different textures. Before we begin the meditation, Deanna will let the group know what will be happening as they finish their meditation and are ready to seek out the provided answer.

3rd part - Carol will lead this part in the sharing of the fears we came dressed in.

Carol will start out with a reading about fear. (What about people who may be reluctant to share this deeply?) We will banish our fears with each woman expressing her fear and what it is she wishes to banish. This will be symbolized with tossing a piece of sage into the fire (the group will respond in some way after each woman expresses her thing to banish). We will pass around a stick of sage that will serve as the “talking stick” and break a piece off of it. Carol will do a reading as the closing (maybe about wisdom). Sing the “Crone and Sage” song. Close with “ May the Circle be Unbroken.”

4th part - Share our meal together.

What do we want to put on the altar? Frankincense and charcoal burning on the altar. Bones, black candles, owl feathers, skulls, apples, rosemary, leaves, pomegranates, pine cones. Cauldron with Epsom salts and alcohol.