

Healing the Wounds and Accessing the Gifts of Ancestral Heritage: Through Landscape and the Deep Imagination

Thursday evening
July 26 , 6:00 pm –
July 31, 1:00 pm, 2018

Common Ground Retreat
Center in the countryside
of County Fermanagh,
Northern Ireland

With Guides:
Peter Scanlan and
Rhonda Brandrick

Deep in our bones we carry the DNA of ancestral stories that have been passed down to us over many generations. Woven in the shadows of time and the family narrative, with all the migrations, celebrations, tragedies, gifts and wounds, are the ways we have been formed often beyond our knowing. These hidden histories haunt us with a kind of longing for what we do not know, for a sense of belonging, a sense of a wider dimension to our story of origins and who we most fully are that eludes us. They have the power to influence our emotions, our life decisions, and how we think of ourselves.

Through genealogy, we can uncover valuable facts about our ancestry. While this can be an important adjunct to healing ancestral wounds and accessing

ancestral gifts, it is not the focus of this intensive. We will invite you to bring whatever factual aspects of your ancestral story that you know and, perhaps, even to do a bit of research before coming. When such information is not available, however, it is not an impediment, as we will be working with a less tangible aspect of the ancestral story, a different level of "reality".

During our time together we will utilize landscape and the deep imagination, as well as other doorways, to enter the House of the Ancestors to track the known and unknown people and stories that have shaped our lives in mysterious ways. There will be ample opportunity to wander the spectacular emerald landscape of Ireland's interior, listening with our bones and the ears of our imaginative hearts to ancestral energies — en-

Common Ground Retreat Center <http://www.commongroundni.org>

*"Often our loneliness and isolation is due to a failure of spiritual imagination.
We forget that there is no such thing as an empty space.
All space is full of presence, particularly the presence of those
who are now in eternal invisible form." — John O'Donohue*

gaging with them and embodying them in story, movement, and image. Woven between wanders we will utilize poetry, council, deep imagery, ceremony and dream work to court the Old Ones and sort the threads of our personal and collective stories. Through this process, we will seek a deepened sense of ourselves, find lost heirlooms, and possibly bring a balm to ancient wounds.

These days together of keen listening to what the ancestors have to tell us will be a gift to them as well as to ourselves. When we intimately encounter the ancestral stories that are living in our bones, our compassion for our own history as well as the world's wounds opens up a depth of soulful understanding that can truly begin a radical revolution in consciousness.



Guide and Facility fee: £530

Camping with personal tent

~Food as Poetry~

Planning and preparing healthy, delicious meals together is our way of nurturing community among us.

Participants will team up to plan, purchase food, and prepare meals in a full kitchen.

Maximum number of participants: 12

Registration requires a £200

Non-refundable deposit

with balance due

30 days before the start of the program.

To Register or for further information about the program contact:

Peter Scanlan:

**(peterscanlan@comcast.net) or
phone (1-615-400-6867)**

From October 1 – October 28

contact Rhonda Brandrick:

Email

rhondabrandrick10@gmail.com

and phone 07443046189

Guides



Peter Scanlan was a clinical psychologist in private practice for 34 years in Nashville, Tennessee. He trained with Animas Valley Institute and with School of Lost Borders as a vision quest guide and was a lead guide for the Animas Valley Institute for 16 years. He works to facilitate the transformation of personal story into the mytho-poetic story

that each of us inhabits. He is dedicated to guiding people to the edge of the deepest mysteries, holding sacred space while they plunge into those depths, and then honoring the unique power and truth of the stories that they bring back from those journeys. He brings heart presence and a playful spirit to his work. Website:

Website: <http://www.peterscanlan.com>.



Rhonda Brandrick is a soul centric, nature based guide who facilitates a deepening relationship to nature that encourages inquiry into the mysterious depths of what it means to be fully human.

From her 20 years as a therapist, meditator and teacher she brings a wealth of experience and realness to her work. She has co founded The Natural Academy which runs a year long certificate in ecopsychology and nature based practices. As Director of Human Wild Nature she has led the development of

courses and retreats that bring people into an ever-deepening re-connection to nature and themselves. She is in her fourth year of apprenticing with Animas Valley Institute and Bill Plotkin in becoming a Soulcraft guide.

<http://naturalacademy.org/>

<http://humanwildnature.com/>