



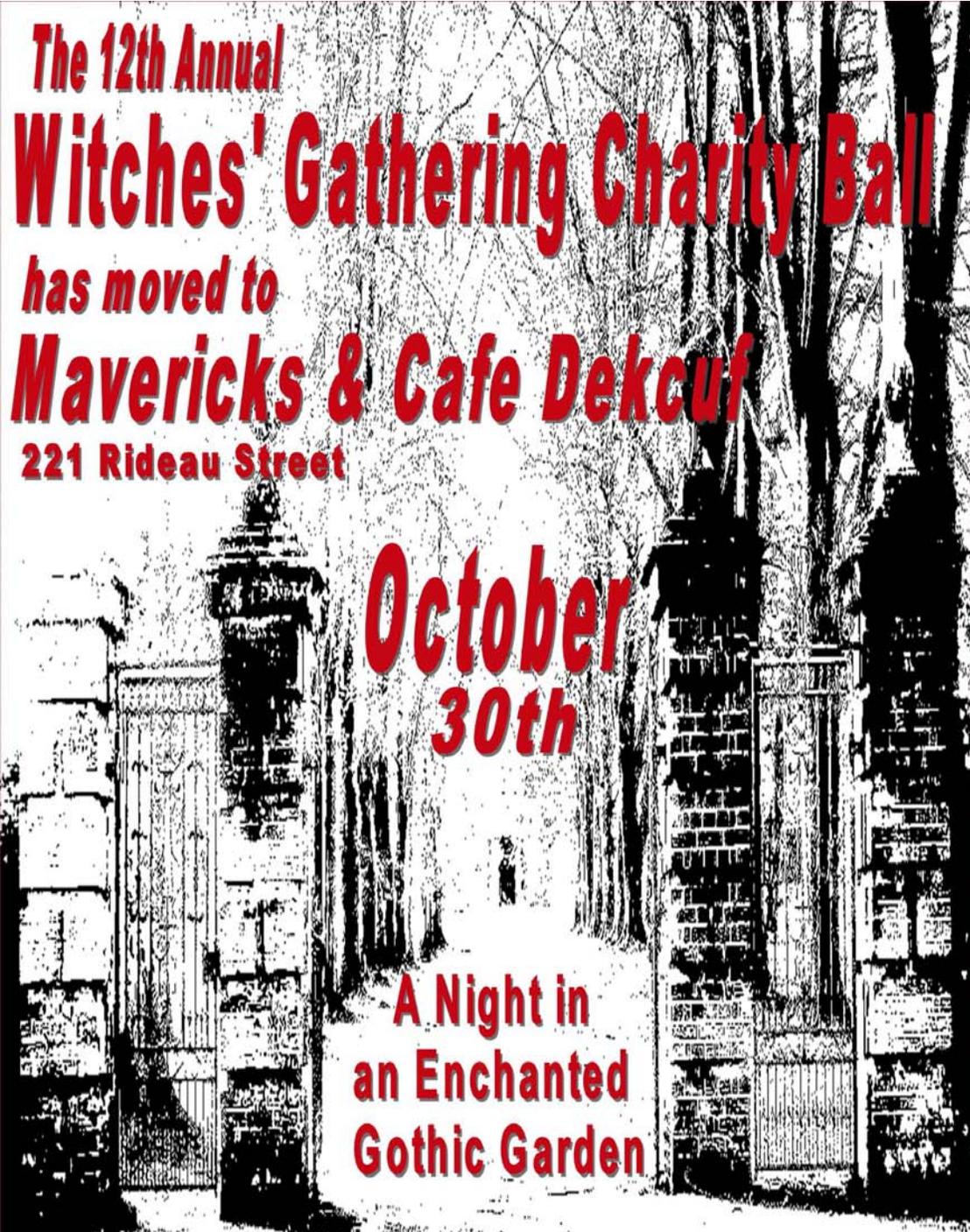
Previous years' Witches' Gathering charities include:

- The Ottawa Public Library
- The Ottawa Food Bank
- CHEO
- Nepean's Wild Bird Sanctuary

Our 2010 Sponsors include:

- Crystal Dawn
- Perfect Books
- Raven's Knoll
- Kaleidoscope (KG)
- Sugar Mountain
- Lush
- Canadian Museum of Nature
- Aren't We Naughty
- National Gallery of Canada
- Take Charge Teas
- Raven's Attic
- Saphyre River Designs
- Coventry Creations Inc.
- Earth and Sky Connections
- Eco-TAV
- Verdigris Grove
- Intuitive Readings by Patricia

For any additional information on the Gathering, or to schedule an interview with High Priestess Michelle Hrynyk, please contact Elsbeth Farrell, visit our website [www.witches-gathering.com](http://www.witches-gathering.com) or look for us on Facebook. Additional information on Canadian Blood Services, please visit their website [www.bloodservices.ca/fundraising](http://www.bloodservices.ca/fundraising) or call 1-888-2-DONATE to donate blood.



**The 12th Annual  
Witches' Gathering Charity Ball**  
*has moved to*  
**Mavericks & Cafe Dekouf**  
**221 Rideau Street**

**October  
30th**

**A Night in  
an Enchanted  
Gothic Garden**

**2010's charity**



**Canadian Blood Services**  
*it's in you to give*

**Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Public Wiccan Ritual 8 - 9 p.m.**

**\$15 in advance - \$20 at the door**

**[www.witches-gathering.com](http://www.witches-gathering.com)**

**Canadian Blood Services**  
(source: [www.bloodservices.ca](http://www.bloodservices.ca))

Canadian Blood Services is a not-for-profit, charitable organization whose sole mission is to manage the blood and blood products supply for Canadians.

To this end, Canadian Blood Services:

- collects approximately 850,000 units of blood annually and processes it into the components and products that are administered to thousands of patients each year;
- manages the OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network whose mission is to secure, in an expeditious way, donors for Canadian bone marrow transplant patients and for patients abroad;
- screens every donor and tests each unit of blood or blood product collected for a variety of transmissible diseases; and
- ensures that Canadian transfusion medicine research and development remains at the cutting edge.

Canadian Blood Services is committed to blood safety. In addition to the effective screening and testing processes, this pursuit of safety is reflected in every branch of its organizational structure and in each management and operational decision that is made.

**About Samhain**

Samhain (pronounced Sow-inn) marks the beginning of the Celtic New Year, and is one of the eight pagan festivals on the Wheel of the Year. Meaning "Summer's End" it is the time of the third and final harvest, and the beginning of the descent into winter. Samhain acknowledges the death aspect of the life cycle and is a time to reflect on endings, and celebrate the lives of friends and loved ones who have passed on before us. It is believed that at Samhain, the veil between this world and the under world is lifted allowing for the spirits of the departed to cross between the two realms. This made it easy to communicate with the dead, who were regarded as beacons of guidance, divination and inspiration.

Samhain is also regarded and respected as a time that allows mischievous and restless spirits to make a temporary return to our world. It is a magical interval where the mundane laws of time and space are suspended.

Despite the emphasis on death, however, Samhain need not be a sad occasion. Just as Spring follows Winter, many believe that death is merely a transformation; a rest on the path to rebirth. The ancient Celts considered Samhain to be a festive time and, in Irish mythology, many adventures would begin at a Samhain feast. For at the end of one cycle lies the beginning of another.