



Correllian Times

Issue 21

May 2008



May Day

Blessed Beltane

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Table of Contents

1-5	<i>Announcements</i>
5-9	<i>May Facts in History</i>
9-16	<i>The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut</i>
16	<i>Tribute to a Sister</i>
16-18	<i>Book Review Witch School Second Degree</i>
18-20	<i>Salem News Salem forum: Witches more popular, less scary</i>
20	<i>The Tarot of Hekate</i>
21-22	<i>Faery of the Month</i>
22-23	<i>Ghost Hunters</i>
23-29	<i>Story of Anne Boleyn</i>
29-30	<i>Night Skies for May</i>
30-31	<i>Paranormal Project</i>
31-33	<i>FBI Famous Cases – Bonnie & Clyde</i>
33-34	<i>Rune of the Month – Ansuz</i>
34-35	<i>Flash Fiction Challenge- My Fairy Dream</i>
35-36	<i>The Magic of Birthstones - Emerald</i>
36-37	<i>The Norse Deities</i>
37-40	<i>Beltane Recipes</i>
40-42	<i>Easy Gift Ideas</i>
42-43	<i>May Full Moon</i>
44	<i>Beltane Lore</i>
44-45	<i>Beltane Flowers</i>
45-46	<i>Beltane</i>
46- 48	<i>Spell of the Month</i>
48- 50	<i>Mother's Day History and Traditions</i>
50- 51	<i>The Maypole</i>
51	<i>Who am I</i>
51- 52	<i>Moon Garden</i>
53- 55	<i>Rituals of Motherhood</i>
55- 57	<i>History of Mother's Day</i>
57-58	<i>Herb of the Month- Honeysuckle</i>
59- 60	<i>The History of Beltane</i>
60-62	<i>Margaret Mitchell "Gone with the Wind"</i>
62- 64	<i>May Horoscope</i>
64- 65	<i>Monthly Tarot reading</i>
66	<i>May Sudoku Puzzle</i>
67	<i>April's Sudoku Puzzle Answers</i>

Announcements

Submitted by: Windy Lajoie

MAY

May 1, Wednesday

**Beltaine (Northern Hemisphere)
Samhain (Southern Hemisphere)**

May 5, Sunday

New Moon -

May 11, Sunday

Monthly Crystal Web Healing Ritual

Monthly healing ritual sponsored by the Order of Web Weavers. For more information contact Rev. Windy Lajoie, HP, at windy0716@aol.com

May 20, Monday

**Full Moon - Flower Moon - Corn Planting Moon -
Milk Moon**



The Order of Web Weavers

Crystal Web Mapping Project

Greeting and Merry Meet, The Order of the Web Weavers has been working diligently on mapping the Crystal Web. We would like to ask that if any of you have a crystal that you have add or removed from the Crystal Web contact us to ensure are records up to date and accurate.

The information that we would need in order to

Announcements

best catalog your crystal/s is the following. Your Craft Name and E-mail Address along with your City, State, Country, Latitude, and Longitude. Sent to the following e-mail address:

wwwcw@correllianorders.info

The World Wide Crystal Web Club

will be doing a Ritual on the

11th. of each month (Time you do the Ritual

is up to you as long as it is done on the

11th.)

The Ritual is for

Hope, Peace, Love and Prosperity

The energy sent out through the Web is for anyone to use throughout the world if they so desire.

Any questions contact windy0716@aol.com

HOPE

May the winds of hope bloom Sweeping away
despair & sorrow So that life again may grow
Building a better tomorrow May hope clear the air
and end The darkling clouds of fear & pain
And bright beginnings send That we may dare to dram
again May what was dark & overcast Be now
renewed & once more whole Freed from all
limitations past Healed by hope within the soul
Awake now hope! Spread wings & fly! Cleanse &
liberate my heart! All things are possible and I On
wings of hope shall claim my part.

PEACE

May the Fires of Peace burn bright Giving light when
the world is darkest Putting hate & bigotry to flight

Announcements

And laying prejudice to rest May the light of peace
melt away the encrustation of violence and
bitterness which holds sway So often in the worlds
events May peace transmute & tame Unruly
aggression and arrogance Subdue them in
humanities name To give the future a decent
chance Thus I say and Thus I pray And Thus I will it
to come to be I pray and work for peace this day For
all the world, for you, for me!

LOVE CALLING

May Love like water pour Forth Filling my heart and
soul Flowing out over all the Earth And making all
things whole.

Love as deep as the ocean Clear as the mountain
lakes Crowning all other emotion The Thirst of
Humanity slakes Love enters & heals the anchoring
heart And Washes away its pain Thus clearing the
way for a better start To reach out & Love others
again Fill me oh love, like a cup to the top Fill the
world as well like a sea That I may know love from
the world without stop And all the world know love
from me

PROSPERITY BLESSING

Prosperity high as the mountains fastness
Prosperity rich as the fertile ground Prosperity
deeps as the caverns vastness Prosperity wide as
the World round Prosperity helps heal the hating
heart Prosperity helps heal fear Prosperity fosters
the peace-makers art Prosperity I call you here!
Prosperity come make us feel secure Prosperity
helps us love peace Prosperity help us the future
ensure Prosperity I pray you increase Prosperity I
call you to manifest now Prosperity rumble &
shake! Prosperity now in my life I allow Prosperity
like an earthquake!

CREATING CRYSTAL ACCESS POINT

Announcements

Dig the hole in which you will bury the crystal before
you start to cast the circle.

Begin by casting a Circle. Since you will be out of
doors and may not be burying your crystal in a
private place, you may want it to be a very simple
Circle: you can do it entirely in your head, imagining
the Circle around you, then silently calling the
Quarters and imagining them as pillars of white
light. You may invoke Goddess and God silently.

Of course if you are in a more private place, or are
comfortable being observed casting a Circle, you
may do the Circle as elaborately as you choose.

Hold your crystal. Above the crystal imagine a three
dimensional triangle of white light. Imagine this
fully.

Then imagine the triangle spinning clockwise.

Imagine a ball of white light in the Heart Chakra.
When this is clear in your head, send a beam of
green light from the Heart Chakra into the spinning
triangle.

As the green light enters the triangle, it will change
its shape, becoming a cube (still spinning clockwise).
Imagine this change fully.

Fill the cube with green light from your Heart
Chakra.

Once the cube is full of green light the flow will
reverse, and green light will flow back to your heart.
Let the green light fill your heart, your chest, your
whole body, as well as the crystal you hold. Let the
crystal fill with this light.

Put the crystal in the hole and cover it with earth.

Place both hands directly over the now-covered
hole and focus white light down into the earth and
the buried crystal. Now charge the crystal to

Announcements

link into the Crystal Web.

This may be spoken aloud or done silently.

"O crystal, I charge you to link into the Crystal Web, becoming one with its energies. Through you I gain access to the Web, which links my Correllian family."

Imagine a beam of white light coming from the crystal and shooting off in one or another direction, underground – this is the crystal linking into the Web.

To use this crystal in the future, follow these steps:

Imagine the buried crystal within a cube of white light. Imagine the cube spinning clockwise.

Focus a beam of energy from your heart into the cube, and imagine it changing into a triangle, still spinning; the crystal will then be open and may be interacted with.

When finished, allow the image to fade. This can be done from a distance; you do not need to actually be at the site where the crystal is buried.

You have now created a Crystal Access Point!

CANDLES

YELLOW HOPE

PURPLE PEACE

PINK LOVE

Flash Fiction Challenge

Greetings Dearest Readers!

Have you ever dreamed of being a writer? The Correllian Times wants to help make that dream

Announcements

come true with our flash fiction contest!

The flash fiction story must contain exactly 250 words, excluding the title. Not 249 - not 251. 250 words. There should be a beginning, middle, and an end. It should not just be 250 words of whatever comes to your mind. The goal here is to have some kind of twist at the end.

Our challenge to you is this: Write your own flash fiction before January 01, 2009. The prize for the top Flash Fiction submission will be a free subscription to the Correllian Times for one year. **Please, only 1 entry per person.**

Contest begins February 1, 2008 and ends January 01, 2009. Entries become the property of The Correllian Times. We assume no responsibility for illegible, lost, late, misdirected, incomplete, or stolen entries.

ENTRY: Submit an original, flash fiction story of exactly 250 words. Include your name and e-mail address and email to: Azriel at azrielmoon@hotmail.com. Please include the words "FLASH FICTION CHALLENGE" in

in subject detail. Entries must be original, unpublished and may not have won any prize or award.

LIMIT: Only one entry from an individual will be accepted - no group entries.

ELIGIBILITY: Everyone is eligible to enter! We do however reserve the right to withhold inappropriate materials from publication at our discretion.

Voting on flash fiction:

Each submission will be featured in The

Announcements

Correllian Times. A voting poll will be opened in January 2009 (details to follow). If you appreciate the storytelling in a flash fiction piece, please grant the writer the honor of your vote.

The great part for voters is that each entry shouldn't take much more than a minute. You can read dozens of them in a short period of time. Please support the writers in this challenge by reading as many as you can!

Now... get flashing!



ORDER HOUSE OF SURVIVORS

This is a closed Order for women 18 and over who have been victims of domestic or sexual abuse or both. A place to talk to others who have gone through this kind of assault.

If you have questions please contact me.

Blessings

Windy



Order of Recovering Correllians

Announcements

This is a Closed Order; members must be either an Inner or Outer Court member of the Correllian Nativist Tradition, and actively working towards recovery from addiction to alcohol and/or drugs. There is no minimum time in recovery to be a member of this order; only an honest desire to become 'clean and sober'. You can contact Rev. Windy Lajoie, HPs at windy0716@aol.com



Order of Correllian Helping Hands

Our mission is to reach out to those affected by disaster, such as earthquake, flood, fire, tornado, hurricane, etc. and to assist them in finding help through local agencies and their Correllian family.

If you or a loved one has suffered loss from a disaster, please contact us and let us help you get back on your feet.

For information, please contact Rev. Jacqueline DeGraaf degraafs@embarqmail.com



I KNEW YOU WHEN

This is a closed group for friends, families, partners of love ones who are addicted to either alcohol or drug abuse or both, or who have been addicted but are in recovery or thinking about going into recovery.

Announcements

If you would like to join this group and are not a member of the Tradition you may become an Outer Court member by going to Correllian.com and go to applications and fill out the Outer Court one. You can contact Rev. Windy Lajoie, HPs at windy0716@aol.com

Letters to the Editor

We are setting up Letters to the Editor so that questions, comments, suggestions, etc. can be sent in.

We will print them in the next addition each month.

You may send them to Windy0716@aol.com or

CNT_Correllian_Times@yahoo.com

May Facts in History

Submitted by: Windy Lajoie

It's fun to look up that special day! Check out what events in history happened in May!!

May 1

- The first United States Postal Card was issued, 1873
- The Empire State Building opened, 1931
- The first United States Series "E" Savings Bond was issued, 1941
- Elvis Presley married Priscilla Beaulieu in Las Vegas, 1967
- The opera "*The Marriage of Figaro*," by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, premiered in Vienna, 1786

May 2

May Facts in History

- Artist Leonardo da Vinci died at Cloux, France, 1519
- Captain John Smith landed at Jamestown, 1607
- Good Housekeeping* magazine first published in Holyoke, Massachusetts, 1885
- J. Edgar Hoover died in Washington, D.C., at the age of 77, 1972
- Spiro T. Agnew was disbarred in Maryland, 1974

May 3

- Washington, D.C. was incorporated as a city, 1802
- West Virginia imposed the first state sales tax, 1921
- Margaret Mitchell won the Pulitzer Prize for "*Gone with the Wind*," 1937 (*see article*)
- Margaret Thatcher was chosen to become Britain's first female prime minister, 1979

May 4

- Dutch explorer Peter Minuit landed on present-day Manhattan Island, 1626
- Rhode Island declared its freedom from England, 1776
- First Lady Julia Tyler was born, 1820
- Four student anti-war protesters were killed at Kent State University by Ohio National Guardsmen, 1970

May 5

- Napoleon Bonaparte died in exile on St. Helena, 1821

May Facts in History

- John T. Scopes was arrested in Tennessee for teaching Darwin's theory of evolution, 1925
- *Damn Yankees* opened on Broadway, 1955
- Astronaut Alan Shepard went on the first manned space flight, 1961

May 6

- Tennessee & Arkansas seceded from the Union, 1861
- Babe Ruth hit his first home run as a player for the Boston Red Sox, 1915
- The Hindenburg crashed in Lakehurst, N.J., 1937

May 7

- The first inaugural ball was held in New York to honor President and Mrs. George Washington, 1789
- A German torpedo sank the British liner *Lusitania* off the coast of Ireland, 1915
- Germany surrendered to the United States, 1945

May 8

- Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto reached the Mississippi River, 1541
- President Harry S. Truman was born, 1884
- First transatlantic flight, 1919
- V-E Day, Victory in Europe (WWII), 1945
- The Beatles UK album *Let It Be*, was released, 1970

May 9

- First United States newspaper cartoon published

May Facts in History

in Benjamin Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette*, 1754

- The Transcontinental Railroad was completed, 1869
- First Lady Harriet Johnston was born, (James Buchanan's niece), 1903
- The 17th amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified, 1913

May 10

- Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys captured the British-held fortress at Fort Ticonderoga, New York, 1775
- Benedict Arnold was tried for treason, 1779
- Paul Revere died in Boston, 1818
- General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson died, 1863
- The first Mother's Day observance took place in West Virginia and Pennsylvania, 1908

May 11

- Minnesota entered the Union, 1858 (32nd)
- Composer Irving Berlin was born Israel Baline in Temun, Russia, 1888
- During WWII, American forces landed on Japanese-held Attu island in the Aleutians, 1943
- B.F. Goodrich Company developed the tubeless tire, 1947

May 12

- Last technical day of American Revolutionary War, 1784

May Facts in History

- Union forces captured Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1862

May 13

- The English Colony at Jamestown, Virginia, was settled, 1607
- Pope John Paul II was shot and seriously wounded in St. Peter's Square by Turkish assailant, 1981
- Boxing champion Joe Louis was born in Lafayette, Alabama, 1914

May 14

- The first vaccination against smallpox was administered by English doctor Edward Jenner, 1796
- Lewis & Clark's expedition began, 1804
- First Lady Louisa Adams died, 1852
- The first Olympic Games were held in the United States in St. Louis, Missouri, 1904

May 15

- First Lady Ellen Wilson was born, 1860
- The Truman Doctrine was approved, 1947
- Alabama Governor George Wallace was shot and wounded in Laurel, Maryland, 1972

May 16

- Issuance of the nickel coin was authorized by Congress, 1866
- The first Academy Awards were held at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, 1929
- *Annie Get Your Gun* opened on Broadway, 1946

May Facts in History

- Astronaut Cooper orbited the Earth 22 times, 1963

May 17

- The New York Stock Exchange was established, 1792
- The first Kentucky Derby was held; the winner was "Aristides" 1875
- *Godspell* opened on Broadway, 1971
- The Senate opened its hearings into the Watergate scandal, 1973

May 18

- Alexander the Great died, 323 BC
- The French Senate proclaimed Napoleon Bonaparte emperor, 1804
- The Tennessee Valley Authority was created, 1933
- The Beatles US Album, "*Let It Be*," was released, 1970
- Mt. St. Helen's volcano in Washington state erupted, 1980
- Anne Boleyn, the second wife of England's King Henry VIII was beheaded, 1536 (*See Article*)
- T.E. Lawrence, also known as "Lawrence of Arabia" died in England from injuries sustained in a motorcycle crash, 1935
- First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis died, 1994

May 20

- Christopher Columbus died in poverty in Spain, 1506
- First Lady Dolley Madison born, 1768

May Facts in History

- The first railroad timetable was published in the newspaper the *Baltimore American*, 1830
- Charles Lindbergh began his historic solo flight, 1927

May 21

- Hernando de Soto died while searching for gold along the Mississippi River, 1542
- Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross, 1881
- Charles Lindbergh arrived in Paris, 1927
- Gypsy* opened on Broadway, 1959
- The Beatles released their German version of "*She Loves You - Sie Liebt Dich*," 1964
- A Chorus Line* opened on Broadway, 1975

May 22

- The first life insurance policy in the United States was issued, in Philadelphia, 1761
- First Lady Martha Washington died, 1802
- Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini signed a "Pact of Steel" committing Germany and Italy to a military alliance, 1939
- First Lady Helen Taft died, 1943

May 23

- Joan of Arc was captured by the Burgundians, 1430
- South Carolina entered the Union, 1788 (8th)
- Gangsters Bonnie & Clyde were killed in Bienville Parish, Louisiana, 1934 (*See Article*)

May Facts in History

- Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis was buried at Arlington National Cemetery, 1994

May 24

- The first passenger railroad in the United States began service in Maryland, between Baltimore & Elliott's Mills, 1830
- Samuel F.B. Morse transmitted the first message as America's first telegraph line was opened, 1844
- The Brooklyn Bridge, linking Brooklyn and Manhattan, opened to traffic, 1883
- Mame* opened on Broadway, 1966

May 25

- The Constitutional Convention opened, 1787
- The first telegraphed news dispatch, sent from Washington to Baltimore appeared in the *Baltimore Patriot*, 1844
- Babe Ruth hit his 714th and last home run, 1935
- The Gateway Arch was dedicated in St. Louis, 1968

May 26

- Confederate forces west of the Mississippi River made surrender arrangements, 1865
- First Lady Ida McKinley died, 1907
- The first legal casino opened in Atlantic City, New Jersey, 1978

May 27

- The first recorded American execution of a witch took place in Massachusetts, 1647

May Facts in History

- Wild Bill Hickok was born in Troy Grove, Illinois, 1837
- The Golden Gate Bridge was opened to the public, 1937
- The German battleship *Bismarck* sank off France, 1941

May 28

- Hernando de Sota landed in Florida, 1541
- The first black regiment from the North left Boston to fight in the Civil War, 1863
- United States Customs Court created, 1926
- Neville Chamberlain became the prime minister of Britain, 1937

May 29

- Patrick Henry denounced the Stamp Act, 1765
- Rhode Island became the 13th original colony to ratify the United States Constitution, 1790
- Wisconsin entered the Union, 1848 (30th)
- President John F. Kennedy was born, 1917

May 30

- Joan of Arc was burned at the stake in France, 1431
- The first Indianapolis 500 road race was held, 1911
- The Lincoln Memorial was dedicated, 1922

May 31

- Walt Whitman was born in West Hill, New York, 1819

May Facts in History

- Two Thousand people perished when a dam break created a flood in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, 1889
- The 17th Amendment to the United States Constitution was declared in effect, 1913
- Wild Bill Hickok was born in Troy Grove, Illinois, 1837

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The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

Submitted by: Windy Lajoie

(Spelling is left as is in the article)

The Project Gutenberg EBook of The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut (1647-1697), by John M. Taylor

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***** START OF THIS PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK
THE WITCHCRAFT DELUSION *****

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The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

[Illustration: A Grand Jury Presentment for Witchcraft Reproduced from the original in the Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford

May it please yr Honble Court, we the Grand inquest now setting for the County of Fairefeild, being made sensible, not only by Common fame (but by testimonies duly billed to us) that the widow Mary Staple, Mary Harvey ye wife of Josiah Harvey & Hannah Harvey the daughter of the saide Josiah, all of Fairefeild, remain under the susspition of useing witchcraft, which is abomanable both in ye sight of God & man and ought to be witnessed against. we doe therefore (in complyance to our duty, the discharge of our oathes and that trust reposed in us) presente the above mentioned pssons to the Honble Court of Assistants now setting in Fairefeild, that they may be taken in to Custody & proceeded against according to their demerits.

Fairefeild, Fby, 1692 in behalfe of the Grnd Jury
JOSEPH BASTARD, foreman]

THE WITCHCRAFT DELUSION IN COLONIAL CONNECTICUT

1647-1697 BY JOHN M. TAYLOR

Author of "Maximilian and Carlotta, a Story of Imperialism," and "Roger Ludlow, the Colonial Lawmaker"

1908

"Connecticut can well afford to let her records go to the world."

Blue Laws: True and False (p. 47).
J. HAMMOND TRUMBULL.

FOREWORD

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

The true story of witchcraft in old Connecticut never been told. It has been hidden in the ancient records and in manuscripts in private collections, and those most conversant with the facts have not made them known, for one reason or another. It is herein written from authoritative sources, and should prove of interest and value as a present-day interpretation of that strange delusion, which for a half century darkened the lives of the forefathers and foremothers of the colonial days.

J.M.T.

Hartford, Connecticut.

TWO INDICTMENTS FOR WITCHCRAFT

"John Carrington thou art indited by the name of John Carrington of Wethersfield--carpenter--, that not hauing the feare of God before thine eyes thou hast interteined ffamilliarly with Sattan the great enemye of God and mankinde and by his helpe hast done workes aboute the course of nature for wch both according to the lawe of God and the established lawe of this Commonwealth thou deseruest to dye."

Record Particular Court, 2: 17, 1650-51.

"Hugh Croatia, Thou Standest here presented by the name of Hugh Croatia of Stratford in the Colony of Connecticut in New England; for that not haueing the fear of God before thine Eyes, through the Instigation of the Devill, thou hast forsaken thy God Connecticut in New England; for that not haueing the fear of God before thine Eyes, through the Instigation of the Devill, thou hast forsaken thy God & covenanted with the Devill, and by his help hast in a preternaturall way afflicted the bodys of Sundry of his Majesties good Subjects, for which according to the Law of God, and the Law of this Colony, thou deseruest to dye."

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

A WARRANT FOR THE EXECUTION OF A WITCH[A] AND THE SHERIFF'S RETURN THEREON

To George Corwin Gentlm high Sheriff of the County of Essex Greeting Whereas Bridgett Bishop als Olliver the wife of Edward Bishop of Salem in the County of Essex Sawyer at a special Court of Oyer and Terminer ---- (held at?)[B] Salem this second Day of this instant month of June for the Countyes of Essex Middlesex and Suffolk before William Stoughton Esqe. and his Associates Justices of the said Court was Indicted and arraigned upon five several Indictments for useing practising & exercising on the ----[B] last past and divers others days ----[B] witchcraft in and upon the bodyes of Abigail Williams Ann puttnam Jr Mercy Lewis Mary Walcott and Elizabeth Hubbard of Salem Village single women; whereby their bodyes were hurt afflicted pined consumed wasted & tormented contrary to the forme of the statute in that case made and provided To which Indictmts the said Bridgett Bishop pleaded not guilty and for Tryall thereof put herselfe upon God and her Country ----[B] she was found guilty of the ffelonyes and Witchcrafts whereof she stood Indicted and sentence of death accordingly passed agt her as the Law directs execution whereof yet remaines to be done These are therefore in the name of their Majties William & Mary now King & Queen over England & to will and command you that upon Fryday next being the fourth day of this instant month of June between the hours of Eight and twelve in the aforenoon of the same day you safely conduct the sd Bridgett Bishop als Olliver from their Majties Goale in Salem aforesd to the place of execution and there cause her to be hanged by the neck until she be dead and of your doings herein make returne to the Clerk of the sd Court and precept And hereof you are not to faile at your peril And this shall be sufficient warrant Given under my hand & seal at Boston the Eighth of June in the ffourth year of the reigne of our Sovereigne

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

Lords William & Mary now King & Queen over England Annoque Dm 1692 Wm. Stoughton

[Footnote A: Original in office of Clerk of the Courts at Salem, Massachusetts. Said to be the only one extant in American archives.]

[Footnote B: Some of the words in the warrant are illegible.]

June 16 1692

According to the within written precept I have taken the Bodye of the within named Bridgett Bishop out of their Majties Goale in Salem & Safely Conueighd her to the place provided for her Execution & Caused ye sd Bridgett to be hanged by the neck till Shee was dead all which was according to the time within Required & So I make returne by me George Corwin Sheriff

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

Perkins' definition--Burr's "Servants of Satan"--The monkish idea—The ancientness of witchcraft--Its universality--Its regulation--What it was--Its oldest record--The Babylonian Stele--Its discovery--King Hammurabi's Code, 2250 B.C.--Its character and importance—Hebraic resemblances--Its witchcraft law--The test of guilt--The water test.

CHAPTER II

Opinions of Blackstone and Lecky--Witchcraft nomenclature--Its earlier and later phases--Common superstitions--Monna Sidonia's invocation--Leland's Sea Song--Witchcraft's diverse literature--Its untold history--
The modern Satanic idea--Exploitation by the Inquisitors----The chief authorities--The witch belief--Its recognition in drama and romance—The Weird Sisters--Other characters.

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

CHAPTER III

Fundamentals--The scriptural citations--Old and New Testament--Josephus--Ancient and modern witchcraft--The distinction—The arch enemy Satan--Action of the Church--The later definition--The New England indictments--Satan's recognition--Persecutions in Italy, Germany and France--Slow spread to England--Statute of Henry VIII--Cranmer's injunction--Jewell's sermon--Statute James I--His Demonologie--Executions in Eastern England--Witch finder Hopkins--Howell's statement—John Lowes--Witchcraft in Scotland--Commissions--Instruments of torture--Forbes' definition--Colonial beliefs

CHAPTER IV

Fiske's view--The forefathers' belief--Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Haven laws--Sporadic cases--The Salem tragedy--Statements of Hawthorne, Fiske, Lowell, Latimer--The victims--Upham's picture—The trial court--Sewall's confession--Cotton Mather--Calef and Upham--Poole--Mather's rules--Ministerial counsel--Longfellow's opinion--Mather's responsibility--His own evidence--Conspectus

CHAPTER V

The Epidemic in Connecticut--Palfrey--Trumbulls--Winthrop's Journal--Treatment of witchcraft--Silence and evasion--The true story--How told--Witnesses--Testimony--All classes affected—The courts--Judges and jurors--The best evidence--The record--Grounds for examination of a witch--Jones' summary--Witch marks--What they were—How discovered--Dalton's Country Justice--The searchers--Searchers' report in Disborough and Clawson cases

CHAPTER VI

Hamersley's and Morgan's comment--John Allyn's

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

letter- accusation--Its origin--Its victims--Many witnesses—Record evidence--The witnesses themselves--Memorials of their delusion—Notable depositions--Selected testimonies, and cases--Katherine Harrison—The court--The judge--The indictment--Grand jury's oath--Credulity of the court--Testimony--Its unique character--Bracy--Dickinson--Montague--Graves--Francis--Johnson--Hale--Smith--Verdict and sentence--Court's appeal to the ministers--Their answer--A remarkable document--Katherine's petition--"A Complaint of severall grievances"--Katherine's reprieve--Dismissal from imprisonment—removal CHAPTER VII

Mercy Disborough--Cases at Fairfield, 1692--The special court—The indictment--Testimonies--Jesop--Barlow--Dunning--Halliberch--Benit--Grey--Godfree--Search for witch marks--Ordeal by water--Cateran Branch's accusation--Jury disagree--Later verdict of guilty--The governor's sentence--Reference to General Court--Afterthought--John Hale's conclusion--Courts call on the ministers--Their answer—General advice--Reasons for reprieve--Notable papers--Eliot and Woodbridge--Willis--Pitkin--Stanly--The pardon

CHAPTER VIII

Hawthorne--Latimer--Additional cases--Curious and vulgar testimony—All illustrative of opinion--Make it understandable—Elizabeth Seager--Witnesses--What they swore to--Garretts--Sterne--Hart--Willard--Pratt--Migat--"Staggerings" of the jury--Contradictions--Verdict--Elizabeth Godman--Governor Goodyear's dilemma--Strange doings--Ball's information--Imprisonment--Discharge--Nathaniel and Rebecca Greensmith--Character, Accusation--Rebecca's confession--Conviction--Double execution at Hartford

CHAPTER IX

Elizabeth Clawson--The indictment--Witnesses

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

--"Kateran" Branch--Garney--Kecham--Abigail and Nathaniel Cross--Bates--Sargent Wescot and Abigail--
-
Finch--Bishop--Holly--Penoir--Slawson--Kateran's Antics--Acquittal. Hugh Croatia--The court--Grand jury--Indictment--Testimony--Confession--Acquittal--Gaol delivery--Elizabeth Garlick--A sick woman's fancies--"A black thing at the bed's featte"--Burning herbs--The sick child--The ox' broken leg--The dead ram and sow--The Tale burning

CHAPTER X

Goodwife Knapp--Her character--A notable case--Imprisonment—Harsh treatment--The inquisitors--Their urgency--Knapp's appeal--The postmortem desecration--Prominent people involved--Davenport and Ludlow--Staplies vs. Ludlow--The court--Confidential gossip--Cause of the suit--Testimony--Davenport--Sherwood--Tomson--Gould--Ward--Pell--Brewster--Lockwood--Hull--Brundish--Whitlock--Barlow--Lyon--Mistress Staplies--Her doings aforesaid--Tash's night ride--"A light woman"--Her character--Reparation suit—Her later indictment--Power of the delusion--Pertinent inquiry

CHAPTER XI

Present opinions--J. Hammond Trumbull--Annie Eliot
Trumbull--Review--Authenticity--Record evidence--Controversialists—Actual cases--Suspensions--Accusations--Acquittals--Flights--Executions--First complete roll--Changes in belief--Contrast--Edwards--Carter--"The Rogerenes"--Conclusion--Hathorne—Mather

*Each month I will do one
chapter, below is Chapter 1*

The Witchcraft Delusion in Colonial Connecticut (1647-1697) / Taylor, John M. (John Metcalf), 1845-1918
Author:

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

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THE WITCHCRAFT DELUSION IN COLONIAL CONNECTICUT

CHAPTER I

"First, because Witchcraft is a rife and common sinne in these our daies, and very many are intangled with it, beeing either practitioners thereof in their owne persons, or at the least, yielding to seeke for helpe and counsell of such as practise it."
A Discovrse of the Damned Art of Witchcraft, PERKINS, 1610.

"And just as God has his human servants, his church on earth, so also the Devil has his--men and women sworn to his service and true to his bidding. To win

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

such followers he can appear to men in any form he pleases, can deceive them, enter into compact with them, initiate them into his worship, make them his allies for the ruin of their fellows. Now it is these human allies and servants of Satan, thus postulated into existence by the brain of a monkish logician, whom history knows as witches."

The Literature of Witchcraft_, BURR.

Witchcraft in its generic sense is as old as human history. It has written its name in the oldest of human records. In all ages and among all peoples it has taken firm hold on the fears, convictions and consciences of men. Anchored in credulity and superstition, in the dread and love of mystery, in the hard and fast theologic doctrines and teachings of diabolism, and under the ban of the law from its beginning, it has borne a baleful fruitage in the lives of the learned and the unlearned, the wise and the simple.

King and prophet, prelate and priest, jurist and lawmaker, prince and peasant, scholars and men of affairs have felt and dreaded its subtle power, and sought relief in code and commandment, bull and anathema, decree and statute--entailing even the penalty of death--and all in vain until in the march of the races to a higher civilization, the centuries enthroned faith in the place of fear, wisdom in the place of ignorance, and sanity in the seat of delusion.

In its earlier historic conception witchcraft and its demonstrations centered in the claim of power to produce certain effects, "things beyond the course of nature," from supernatural causes, and under this general term all its occult manifestations were classified with magic and sorcery, until the time came when the Devil was identified and acknowledged both in church and state as the originator and sponsor of the mystery, sin and crime--the sole father of the Satanic compacts with men and women, and the law both canonical

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

and civil took cognizance of his malevolent activities.

In the Acropolis mound at Susa in ancient Elam, in the winter of 1901-2, there was brought to light by the French expedition in charge of the eminent savant, M. de Morgan, one of the most remarkable memorials of early civilization ever recovered from the buried cities of the Orient.

It is a monolith--a stele of black diorite--bearing in bas-relief a likeness of Hammurabi (the Amrephel of the Old Testament; Genesis xiv, 1), and the sixth king of the first Babylonian dynasty, who reigned about 2250 B.C.; and there is also carved upon it, in archaic script in black letter cuneiform--used long after the cursive writing was invented--the longest Babylonian record discovered to this day,--the oldest body of laws in existence and the basis of historical jurisprudence.

It is a remarkable code, quickly made available through translation and transliteration by the Assyrian scholars, and justly named, from its royal compiler, Hammurabi's code. He was an imperialist in purpose and action, and in the last of his reign of fifty-five years he annexed or assimilated the suzerainty of Elam, or Southern Persia, with Assyria to the north, and also Syria and Palestine, to the Mediterranean Sea.

This record in stone originally contained nineteen columns of inscriptions of four thousand three hundred and fourteen lines, arranged in two hundred and eighty sections, covering about two hundred separate decisions or edicts. There is substantial evidence that many of the laws were of greater antiquity than the code itself, which is a thousand years older than the Mosaic code, and there are many striking resemblances and parallels between its provisions, and the law of the covenant, and the deuteronomy laws of the laws of the Hebrews.

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

The code was based on personal responsibility. It protects the sanctity of an oath before God, provides among many other things for written evidence in legal matters, and is wonderfully comprehensive and rich in rules for the conduct of commercial, civic, financial, social, economic, and domestic affairs.

These sections are notably illustrative:

"If a man, in a case (pending judgment), utters threats against the witnesses (or), does not establish the testimony that he has given, if that case be a case involving life, that man shall be put to death.

"If a judge pronounces a judgment, renders a decision, delivers a verdict duly signed and sealed and afterwards alters his judgment, they shall call that judge to account for the alteration of the judgment which he had pronounced, and he shall pay twelvefold the penalty which was in the said judgment, and, in the assembly, they shall expel him from his seat of judgment, and he shall not return, and with the judges in a case he shall not take his seat.

"If a man practices brigandage and is captured, that man shall be put to death.

"If a woman hates her husband, and says: 'thou shalt not have me,' they shall inquire into her antecedents for her defects; and if she has been a careful mistress and is without reproach and her husband has been going about and greatly belittling her, that woman has no blame. She shall receive her presents and shall go to her father's house.

"If she has not been a careful mistress, has gadded about, has neglected her house and has belittled her husband, they shall throw that woman into the water."

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

"If a physician operates on a man for a severe wound with a bronze lancet and causes the man's death, or opens an abscess (in the eye) of a man with a bronze lancet and destroys the man's eye, they shall cut off his fingers."

"If a builder builds a house for a man and does not make its construction firm and the house, which he has built, collapses and causes the death of the owner of the house, that builder shall be put to death."

It is, however, with only one of King Hammurabi's wise laws that this inquiry has to do, and it is this:

"If a man has placed an enchantment upon a man, and has not justified himself, he upon whom the enchantment is placed to the Holy River (Euphrates) shall go; into the Holy River he shall plunge. If the Holy River holds (drowns) him he who enchanted him shall take his house. If on the contrary, the man is safe and thus is innocent, the wizard loses his life, and his house."

Or, as another translation has it:

"If a man ban a man and cast a spell on him--if he cannot justify it he who has banned shall be killed."

"If a man has cast a spell on a man and has not justified it, he on whom the spell has been thrown shall go to the River God, and plunge into the river. If the River God takes him he who has banned him shall be saved. If the River God show him to be innocent, and he be saved, he who banned him shall be killed, and he who plunged into the river shall take the house of him who banned him."

There can be no more convincing evidence of the presence and power of the great witchcraft superstition among the primitive races than this earliest law; and it is to be especially noted that it prescribes one of the very tests of guilt--

The Witchcraft Delusion In Colonial Connecticut

the proof by water--which was used in another form centuries later, on the continent, in England and New England, at Wurzburg and Bonn, at Rouen, in Suffolk, Essex and Devon, and at Salem and Hartford and Fairfield, when "the Devil starteth himself up in the pulpit, like a meikle black man, and calling the row (roll) everyone answered, Here!"

*The saga continues next month with
Chapter 2!!!!*

Tribute to a sister:

We will miss our sister, Alison, known to many as "Ceridwyn Moon".

I, especially, will miss her as she was my student in Witcheschool. She was in the process of dilligently working toward becoming Correllian Clergy and beginning her 2nd Degree studies.

Alison had a zest for life and learning that went beyond the usual and was a very caring young woman. I am proud to have known her and been at least a small part of her life.

For her family and those who knew her, I pray that their grief be short lived and that their wonderful memories last forever.

Blessings and love.

Rev. Jacqueline DeGraaf

Taken from the obituaries of the Valley Free Press
<http://www.vfpnews.com>



ALISON M. SNYDER

Tribute to a sister:

Alison Marie Snyder, 24, of Sycamore, Ill., passed away Wednesday, March 19, 2008, at Kishwaukee Community Hospital in DeKalb.

Born July 26, 1983, in Rockford, she was the daughter of Paul and Leslie (Larson) Snyder.

Alison graduated from Sycamore High School in the class of 2002. She was a member of the Sycamore High School Band and Orchestra, in which she played the flute and piccolo and traveled to Disney World. Alison was employed by Starbucks Coffee Co. at the DeKalb Oasis and was formerly a shift manager at McDonald's in Sycamore. She enjoyed traveling to such places as London, England. Alison also enjoyed photography.

She is survived by her parents, Paul Snyder Sr. and Leslie Snyder of Sycamore, and her paternal grandparents, Art and Jean Snyder of DeKalb.

She was preceded in death by her twin brother, Paul Snyder Jr., and her maternal grandparents, Donald and Florence Larson.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 22, at Anderson Funeral Home in DeKalb. Private family interment will take place Monday, March 24, at Fairview Park Cemetery in DeKalb. Visitation will be from noon-3 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

A memorial is being established for Alison Marie Snyder in care of Anderson Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 605, 2011 S. Fourth St., DeKalb, IL 60115.

For information, call 815-756-1022.

Book Review

Submitted by: Windy Lajoie

Witch School Second Degree

From: "Michael Gleason"
<gleason.mike@comcast.net>
To: <gleason.mike@comcast.net>

Book Review

Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2008 1:31 PM
Subject: [RIPagans] BOOK REVIEW - Witch School
Second Degree

The Witch School Second Degree by Rev. Donald
Lewis-Highcorrell © 20008
Llewellyn EAN 978-0-7387-1302-1 480 pages
Paperback \$24.95 (U.S.) \$28.95 (Canada)

This book is a little different from the first one in the series, as is to be expected. It is designed to follow the same basic pattern, but has variations because of the subject matter. It constitutes a "Wicca 201" book, as opposed to the more familiar, and basic, "101" books so commonly available in the market today. I am still not really impressed by the use of their own dating system, but I accept it as a given when it comes to internal events. Its use for dating mundane events seems unnecessary, in my opinion.

Once again, the book contains 12 lessons, based on the assumption that the average student will take "a year and a day" to complete each level ("degree") of training. Each chapter is composed of the lesson itself, some exercises intended to help you expand your comprehension of the material, a spell to impart practical experience in the use of the information, and a short glossary of unfamiliar terms. Unlike the first book, however, there are no questions at the end of each chapter.

The topics covered in this book are very different from those in the first book. They cover everything from divinatory methods (the tarot, Astrology, and Runes among others) to Sex Magic to Group Dynamics. This is in keeping with the Correllian position that by the time an individual has completed First Degree training, the basics should be well integrated and understood and he or she should be ready for more complex concepts.

In the Correllian Tradition Second Degree initiates are In the Correllian Tradition Second Degree initiates are expected to be competent ritualists and should be able to answer questions on most topics. They should be able to function as temple or shrine leaders with occasional assistance from the High Priest/esshood.

Book Review

Therefore the information in this book is aimed at developing those abilities as well as expanding the individual's general knowledge. The information is extensive, even if it is not comprehensive. It gives a good foundation for further exploration.

Obviously, as a text book, it is not intended to be read straight through. There are exercises to do and spells to perform on your way through this book. Nonetheless, I would recommend skimming through it and reading the first page or so of each chapter, just to familiarize yourself with what will be covered. Then go back and work through each chapter, taking as much time as is needed to make the information contained within it a part of your world. Do not rush this process. Allow at least a month per chapter. And don't assume that a single reading is enough (especially if a topic is unfamiliar). Don't hesitate to re-read a paragraph (or an entire chapter) if needed.

The lesson on chakras is the longest in the book and is far more extensive than any treatment I have seen outside of a book devoted specifically to the topic.

Most authors treat chakras in a rudimentary manner, if at all, but by the time you work through this chapter, you will have a significant grounding in chakra lore.

The more effort you put into the exercises and spells, the more benefits you will gain. Your goal should be to become competent in the various areas covered in this book, to expand your knowledge, so as to be able to help others along the path.

Some of the beliefs and attitudes expressed by this series of books will offend people, and not just those outside the umbrella of paganism. While some of their statements may come across as dogmatic, it is necessary to remember that being non-judgmental is stressed in the early lessons. The reader is intended to make what use they may of the information provided.

Book Review

It should also be remembered that these works are intended to present the "official" position of the tradition. Your understanding and position may vary.

The chapter on Group Dynamics is almost worth the price of the book in itself. It is well worth taking this book off the shelf and reading this section at least once a year.

At the end of the book is an appendix which discusses many non-Wiccan Pagan religions. Some get a short background and some are more extensively covered. All of these religions are ones which are either currently a part of the Pagan mindset, or are major components of current Pagan religions. While I don't completely agree with everything that the author has written, it is useful as a jumping-off point for further, personal, research.

There are two more books to come in this series (Witch School Third Degree and Witch School Ritual, Theory and Practice) and they will address topics (I am sure) which will benefit the entire Pagan community. You don't need to plan to join the Correllian tradition to make use of the information they are presenting in these books. Unless you are fortunate enough to live near a major training group or seminary, you will find these books an invaluable resource even if (or especially if) you disagree with some of what is said.

Salem News

Salem forum: Witches more popular, less scary

http://salemnews.com/punews/local_story_105000922.html

Submitted by: Windy Lajoie

Date: Apr 16, 2008 6:58 PM

Salem forum: Witches more popular, less scary

By Susan Flynn

Staff writer

SALEM – Witches get more respect than they used

Salem News

to here in the Witch City.

That was a recurring theme among about 40 witches, pagans and Wiccans at a city-sponsored forum held Saturday night to educate the public and challenge

stereotypes about their religion.

Salem resident Mike Gleason said local witches are no longer shunned or feared. During Halloween, little kids ran up to him to ask questions. Ten years ago they cowered behind their parents.

"By being out there and being open I think we have changed things," said Gleason. "Occasionally we get a nasty remark. We get a dirty look. But 99 out of 100 times they are going to accept us. It's wonderful."

The forum, sponsored by the city's No Place for Hate Committee, drew about 80 people to Old Town Hall, on a cold and rainy night where comments were occasionally punctuated by claps of thunder. About half of the people in the audience identified themselves by a show of hands as "interested spectators" and not part of the local witch community.

Jerrie Hildebrand, a Salem resident and Wiccan priestess, and Margot Adler, host of National Public Radio's "Justice Talking" and also a Wiccan priestess, served as panelists. The discussion was moderated by Salem State professor Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello.

Throughout the evening, the panelists described a mainstreaming of their religion that they never dreamed possible. Today modern paganism is the 19th most popular religion in the United States, said Adler.

"Wicca has exploded as far as numbers," she said. There are now Wiccan-based charities, Wiccan-based AA chapters and Wiccan groups adopting highway beautification projects. Pagan studies courses are offered in major universities, she said.

Growing acceptance

Salem News

In Salem, the city has benefited from a witch-friendly mayor, Hildebrand said. Recently, Hildebrand wrote a short piece about the modern-day witch that was included in the city's official tourism guide for the first time. In a further sign of her religion's growing legitimacy, Hildebrand serves as the first Wiccan chaplain for the state Department of Correction.

One of the difficulties of educating the public about witches is the wide range of beliefs. Most witches identify themselves as followers of Wicca or paganism, but not all. Some dress head to toe in black; others who came Saturday night wore conservative, blue-striped, button-down shirts and wire-rimmed glasses. Most psychics are not witches.

Adler tried to give an "elevator-ride" description of her religion, as requested by one person who attended.

The one thing followers share is "a state where you feel connected to everything in the universe." Both women talked about feeling a oneness with nature at an early age, always more at home in a meadow than a church.

Salem resident Hannah Diozzi told the crowd the word pagan was an "epithet" when she was growing up. Hildebrand explained it means "people of the Earth."

A freelance writer with Modern Witch magazine wanted to know if either woman thought it was racist to put a broom-riding witch logo on city police cruisers.

Hildebrand said she doesn't hear many complaints about the flying witch. She likes it.

"I love that our high school team is known as the Witches. If the kids are throwing that kind of intention into their games, I think that's great," she said.

Salem News

Adler said she wishes she could fly on a broomstick.

"The only one I have trouble with is the really old hag notion," she said. "I also don't like when women are described as witches, when what they really want to use is the 'b' word. I will call people on that."

The fight continues despite the many gains, there is still discrimination.

Hildebrand said she would not feel comfortable wearing her pentacle pendant – the symbol of Wicca and other Earth-based religions – in her small town in upstate New York. She gets calls from parents in danger of losing custody because of their religion, and from workers afraid to "come out of the broom closet" for fear of losing their jobs.

Here in Salem there's more tolerance, but also a higher standard placed on witches, Hildebrand said.

She said she would be reluctant to report a hate crime, not out of fear, but because she would worry that the media would sensationalize the case, and witches around the country would be harmed.

"It's embarrassing sometimes when I have to listen to what other people think a Salem witch is," she said.

Nial Hartnett, a witch who lives in Danvers, wondered if this growing acceptance is a good thing.

"You have mentioned the word 'mainstreaming' several times. I wonder if we are in danger of losing who we really are, the mystery and the magic," he said. "Maybe we don't want to be like everyone else."

But Hildebrand insisted that the freedoms gained to practice their religion will be lost unless they work

Salem News

within some official structures, like the federal government.

Adler agreed the community is not "as edgy" as when she began practicing 35 years ago. "There are compromises one makes," she said. "There are gains and there are losses."

Peabody resident Jimahl DiFiosa has been a member of the Wiccan community for 25 years. After the forum, he said he was thrilled that people seemed genuinely interested in learning more about his religion.

"In the small hometown where I grew up I can't be openly Wiccan," he said. "I think people in a community like Salem take it for granted."

The Tarot of Hekate

Major Arcana

Artwork and Text

By M. rev. Donald Lewis

XIV—Body



Cosmology: Of the Seven Planes of Existence, the

The Tarot of Hekate

highest four (Divine, Monadic, Soul, and Astral) are represented by the Soul card: just as we often lump them altogether under the term "Soul" or "Higher Self" in ordinary speech. The Mental Plane is represented by the Mind card, and the Emotional Plane by the Heart card. This leaves the Physical Plane to be represented by the Body card. Clearly our most direct experience of the Physical Plane is through our body, but the card represents much more than just our individual body, for all things are linked in existence.

Clearly all the cells and organs of our body, though they have a separate existence within the structure, are still part of the single integrated whole. The parts of this integrated whole of the body can survive outside of it, under natural circumstances. Oberon Zell's much quoted Gaia hypothesis tells us that the Earth is the living body of Deity, and all things on it, though they have their own specific existence, are also part of the larger and integrated whole, which has a consciousness of its own. The parts of this integrated whole of the Earth cannot survive outside of the Earth under natural circumstances. What is true for our own body, and for the Earth, must also be true for the Universe as a whole -though galaxies and stars and planets may have a separate existence of their own, they must also be part of a larger and integrated whole. All of these things are the body of Deity, through which Deity is incarnate in the world of matter. They constitute, as the old saying goes, "worlds within worlds". What this ultimately means is that everything is connected physically as well as spiritually, and that an action in one place can have unexpected results in another because of these connections -the famous "Butterfly Effect" the metaphor whereby the flapping of a butterfly's wings in one hemisphere creates a hurricane in another.

Numerology: The Number of the body is Fourteen which reduces to Five ($1 + 4 = 5$). Fourteen is Seven times Two, which is spirituality in partnership, and reducing to Five indicates motion and communication. Thus we see reflected the partnership of spirit and matter in motion = a perfect description of the body.

Faery of the month

Submitted by: Meegan

Roan

This month we will be learning about the Seal Folk, called Roan, Roane or Rón in Ireland and Selkies or Silkies in Scotland. Stories of these faeries originate on the coasts of Ireland and Scotland and persist today in these areas, as well as in any coastal areas where seals can be found. As ocean faeries, they are primarily associated with the sea and beaches, and their stories often originate with fisherman and people whose livelihood is tied to the ocean.

Roan are creatures of the Between, existing between land and sea, between human and seal form.

Roan can be either male or female, and appear in either seal or human form, as they are true shape shifters. As seals they are indistinguishable from ordinary seals, although they are more prone to follow boats and aid fisherman. As humans they are usually average height, 5'3" to 5'10" with the men slightly taller than the women. Their hair is either black or dark brown, their skin is usually tan, and they have dark eyes which are always slightly sad. In human form the only thing that gives away their faery nature is their eyes which always show their longing for the sea. In order to change shape from seal to human, they open up their seal skin and slip out of it in human form, and to turn to seals they put the skin back on. Their skin is magical in and of itself and is the key to their shape shifting power.

In folklore Roan will sometimes appear in seal form and aid fisherman during storms. They have been known to help drowning sailors by supporting them and helping them safely to shore, in much the same way as dolphins are known to do. In other tales they will herd fish towards the sailors nets to help them get a big catch, particularly if the fisher's family is tied to the Roan.

Most stories about them, though, center around a roan marrying a human. Where human women are involved, the Seal Man will court her and convince

Faery of the month

her to runaway with him to his kingdom beneath the waves, where she will be lost to her human family forever. In such cases the human must choose between the land and the ocean, and her family will often believe that she has drowned.

The stories involving human men and Seal Women, however are much different. They always involve a man who stumbles upon a group of Roan on the beach, and watches them change shape from a hiding place.

Once in human form they leave their seal skins to go dance along the shore and the human sneaks down and steals one of the skins. When the Roan return to the ocean the one whose skin was stolen is trapped in her human form, and the man emerges and claims her as his bride. They will live peacefully together, with the Seal Woman as a faithful wife, so long as she never reclaims her seal skin. In most lore the couple will live happily for years, raising a family until one of the children discovers the hidden seal skin and tells the mother. Once she regains her skin she returns to the ocean, and no bonds - not even love of her children - can keep her on land. After leaving the woman is said to follow her husband's fishing boat in seal form and help him in anyway she can, although she can never return to him as his wife. The children of these unions are thought to be gifted fisherman, with a passionate love of the sea, although they are often prone to melancholy. Referred to among the Irish as "dark ones" for their dark looks which take after their Roan parent. Even many generations removed families which have Roan blood will sometimes produce dark ones, which have an uncanny love of the sea.

The Roan are difficult faeries to see since in either form they blend in with the seals or people around them. Distinguishing them as faeries can be nearly impossible, but there are ways to see other types of faeries. Among the Irish some people are gifted with Second Sight, the ability to see magical energy,

Faery of the month

the ability to see magical energy, auras, ghosts, and faeries. This is something you are either born with or not, although some practice can aid the development of this sight. For those who lack the ability naturally, there are some outside means of seeing faeries. It is said that Lapis Lazuli aids in seeing the unseen, and so wearing this stone may help in seeing the Fey.

Eating Primroses or carrying a four leaf clover is also said to grant the ability to see faeries. Children and teenagers - especially girls - are more likely to see faeries, and they are easier to see during the between times such as twilight and dawn, and on certain days of the year like Samhain, Beltain, and Midsummer.

And of course, faeries can make themselves visible to anyone they choose to, just as they can seem invisible to us through the use of glamoury.

Next month we will look at gnomes.

Ghost Hunters

Submitted by: Rev. Nina Jankowski

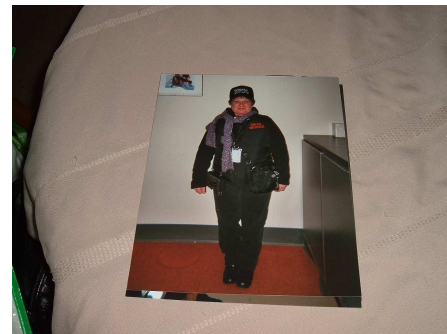
I AM REV. NINA JANKOWSKI. I AM THE SECOND DEGREE CLERGY FROM THE GREAT CORRELLIAN TRADITION. I'M DEAF SINCE BIRTH. I ENJOY TO LEARN THINGS. THEN I AM A TRAINED PARANORMAL INVESTIGATOR AND AM A MEMBER OF THE CHICAGO GHOST HUNTERS AM A TRAINED PARANORMAL INVESTIGATOR AND AM A MEMBER OF THE CHICAGO HUNTERS GROUP AND INTERNATIONAL GHOST HUNTERS SOCIETY. WE DO STUDIES ABOUT THE ORBS, VORTEX, APPARIATION, AND BY OTHER MEANS. VERY INTERESTING. MY FIRST INVESTIGATION WAS AT THE RED LION PUB IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. IT WAS AN AMAZING THAT I SENSED THE SPIRIT. WHICH THE SPIRIT WAS CONNECTED ME !!! I WOULD SAY THAT THE RED LION PUB IS HAUNTED. MY SECOND INVESTIGATION AT AN OLD SHERIDAN BEACH

Ghost Hunters

HOTEL (BALLROOM). I TOOK THE PICTURES THERE. IT HAD SHOWN THE ORBS. BUT NOT MUCH OF HAUNTED. BUT PERHAPS THE OTHER TIME. I ENJOYED TO GO ON THE GHOST HUNT. I DO CLEANSING WHEN THEY NEED ME . SEE THE PICTURES AS BELOW. ENJOY IT. THANK YOU !
REV. NINA (LADY MOON CONSTANTINE)
LADYMOONCONSTANTINE@TMAIL.COM



Medium orb



Strange mist



Small & mediums orbs

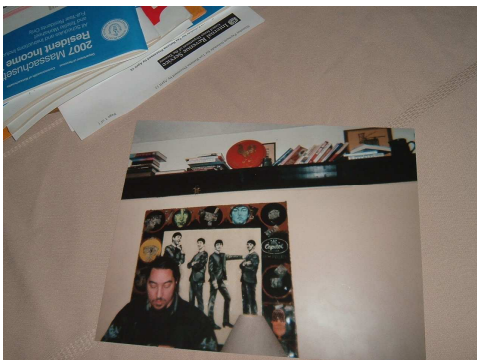
Ghost Hunters



Light streak (small vortex)



Small orb



Story of Anne Boleyn

Submitted by: Windy Lajoie

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Anne Boleyn

The Most Happy



Story of Anne Boleyn

BORN: c.1500?
MARRIED: JANUARY 1533
EXECUTED: 19 MAY 1536

Anne's Early Years

For a woman who played such an important part in English history, we know remarkably little about her earliest years. Antonia Fraser puts Anne's birth at 1500 or 1501, probably at Blickling (Norfolk) and the date of birth seems to be at the end of May or early June. Other historians put Anne's birth as late as 1507 or 1509.

Anne spent part of her childhood at the court of the Archduchess Margaret. Fraser puts her age at 12-13, as that was the minimum age for a 'fille d'honneur'. It was from there that she was transferred to the household of Mary, Henry VIII's sister, who was married to Louis XII of France. Anne's sister Mary was already in 'the French Queen's' attendance.

However, when Louis died, Mary Boleyn returned to England with Mary Tudor, while Anne remained in France to attend Claude, the new French queen. Anne remained in France for the next 6 or 7 years. Because of her position, it is possible that she was at the Field of Cloth of Gold, the famous meeting between Henry VIII and the French king, Francis I. During her stay in France she learned to speak French fluently and developed a taste for French clothes, poetry and music.

Anne's Appearance

The legend of Anne Boleyn always includes a sixth finger and a large mole or goiter on her neck. However, one would have to wonder if a woman with these oddities (not to mention the numerous other moles and warts she was said to have) would be so captivating to the king. She may have had some small moles, as most people do, but they would be more like the attractive 'beauty marks'.

A quote from the Venetian Ambassador

Story of Anne Boleyn

said she was 'not one of the handsomest women in the world...'. She was considered moderately pretty. But, one must consider what 'pretty' was in the 16th century. Anne was the opposite of the pale, blonde-haired, blue-eyed image of beauty. She had dark, olive-colored skin, thick dark brown hair and dark brown eyes which often appeared black. Those large dark eyes were often singled out in descriptions of Anne. She clearly used them, and the fascination they aroused, to her advantage whenever possible.

She was of average height, had small breasts and a long, elegant neck. The argument continues as to whether or not she really had an extra finger on one of her hands.

Life in England and the Attentions of the King

Anne returned to England around 1521 for details for her marriage were being worked out. Meanwhile she went to court to attend Queen Catherine. Her first recorded appearance at Court was March 1, 1522 at a masque.

After her marriage to the heir of Ormonde fell through, she began an affair with Henry Percy, also a rich heir. Cardinal Wolsey put a stop to the romance, which could be why Anne engendered such a hatred of him later in life. It has been suggested that Wolsey stepped in on behalf of the King to remove Percy from the scene because he had already noticed Anne and wanted her for himself. Fraser asserts that this is not the case since the romance between Anne and Percy ended in 1522 and the King didn't notice Anne until 1526.

It is possible that Anne had a precontract with Percy. Somewhere in this time, Anne also had a relationship of some sort with the poet Sir Thomas Wyatt. Wyatt was married in 1520, so the timing of the supposed affair is uncertain. Wyatt was separated from his wife, but there could be little suggestion of his eventual marriage to Anne. Theirs appears to be more of a courtly love.

Story of Anne Boleyn

Exactly when and where Henry VIII first noticed Anne is not known. It is likely that Henry sought to make Anne his mistress, as he had her sister Mary years before. Maybe drawing on the example of Elizabeth Woodville, Queen to Edward IV (and maternal grandmother to Henry VIII) who was said to have told King Edward that she would only be his wife, not his mistress, Anne denied Henry VIII sexual favors. We don't know who first had the idea marriage, but eventually it evolved into "Queen or nothing" for Anne.

At first, the court probably thought that Anne would just end up as another one of Henry's mistresses. But, in 1527 we see that Henry began to seek an annulment of his marriage to Catherine, making him free to marry again.

King Henry's passion for Anne can be attested to in the love letters he wrote to her when she was away from court. Henry hated writing letters, and very few documents in his own hand survive. However, 17 love letters to Anne remain and are preserved in the Vatican library.

The Rise of Anne Boleyn

In 1528, Anne's emergence at Court began. Anne also showed real interest in religious reform and may have introduced some of the 'new ideas' to Henry, and gaining the hatred of some members of the Court. When the court spent Christmas at Greenwich that year, Anne was lodged in nice apartments near those of the King.

The legal debates on the marriage of Henry and Catherine of Aragon continued on. Anne was no doubt frustrated by the lack of progress. Her famous temper and tongue showed themselves at times in famous arguments between her and Henry for all the court to see. Anne feared that Henry might go back to Catherine if the marriage could not be annulled and Anne would have wasted time that she could have used to make an advantageous marriage.

Story of Anne Boleyn

Anne was not popular with the people of England. They were upset to learn that at the Christmas celebrations of 1529, Anne was given precedence over the Duchesses of Norfolk and Suffolk, the latter of which was the King's own sister, Mary. In this period, records show that Henry began to spend more and more on Anne, buying her clothes, jewelry, and things for her amusement such as playing cards and bows and arrows.

The waiting continued and Anne's position continued to rise. On the first day of September 1532, she was created Marquess of Pembroke, a title she held in her own right. In October, she held a position of honor at meetings between Henry and the French King in Calais.

Queen Anne

Sometime near the end of 1532, Anne finally gave way and by December she was pregnant. To avoid any questions of the legitimacy of the child, Henry was forced into action. Sometime near St. Paul's Day (January 25) 1533, Anne and Henry were secretly married. Although the King's marriage to Catherine was not dissolved, in the King's mind it had never existed in the first place, so he was free to marry whomever he wanted. On May 23, the Archbishop officially proclaimed that the marriage of Henry and Catherine was invalid.

Plans for Anne's coronation began. In preparation, she had been brought by water from Greenwich to the Tower of London dressed in cloth of gold. The barges following her were said to stretch for four miles down the Thames. On the 1st of June, she left the Tower in procession to Westminster Abbey, where she became a crowned and anointed Queen in a ceremony led by Thomas Cranmer, the Archbishop of Canterbury. . . .

QUEEN ANNE BOLEYN: HER CORONATION WHITSUNDAY, JUNE 1, 1533

The Thursday next before the Feast of Pentecost,

Story of Anne Boleyn

the King and the Queen being at Greenwich, all the Crafts of London thereunto well appointed, in several barges decked after the most gorgeous and sumptuous manner, with divers pageants thereunto belonging, repaired and waited all together upon the Mayor of London; and so, well furnished, came all unto Greenwich, where they tarried and waited for the Queen's coming to her barge; which so done, they brought her unto the Tower, trumpets, shawms, and other divers instruments playing and making great melody, which, as is reported, was as comely done as never was like in any time nigh to our remembrance. And so her Grace came to the Tower on Thursday at night, about five of the clock, where also was such a peal of guns as hath not been heard the like a great while before. And the same night, and Friday all day, the King and Queen tarried there; and on Friday at night the King's Grace made eighteen knights of the Bath, whose creation was not only so strange to hear of, as also their garments stranger to behold or look upon; which said knights, the next day, which was Saturday, rode before the Queen's Grace throughout the City of London towards Westminster Palace, over and besides the most part of the nobles of the realm, which like accompanied her Grace throughout the said city; she sitting in her hair [i.e. her hair flowing down], upon a horse litter, richly apparelled, and four knights of the Five Ports bearing a canopy over her head. And after her came four rich chariots, one of them empty, and three other furnished with divers ancient old ladies; and after them came a great train of other ladies and gentlewomen; which said progress, from the beginning to the ending, extended half a mile in length by estimation or thereabout. To whom also, as she came along the City, were shewn many costly pageants, with divers other encomiums spoken of children to her; wine also running at certain conduits plenteously. And so proceeding throughout the streets, passed further unto Westminster Hall, where was a certain banquet prepared for her, which done, she was conveyed out of the back side of the Palace into a barge, and so unto York Place, where the King's Grace was before her coming, for this you you must ever presuppose that his Grace came always before

Story of Anne Boleyn

her secretly in a barge as well from Greenwich to the Tower as from the Tower to York Place.

Now then on the Sunday was the Coronation, which also was of such a manner.

In the morning there assembled with me at Westminster Church the Bishop of York, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Winchester, the Bishop of Lincoln, the Bishop of Bath, and the Bishop of St. Asaph, the Abbot of Westminster with ten or eleven more Abbots, which all revestred ourselves in our pontificalibus, and, so furnished, with our Crosses and Croziers, proceeded out of the Abbey in a procession into Westminster Hall, where we received the Queen apparelled in a robe of purple velvet, and all the ladies and gentlewomen in robes and gowns of scarlet according to the manner used beforetime in such business; and so her Grace sustained of each side with two bishops, the Bishop of London and the Bishop of Winchester, came forth in procession unto the Church of Westminster, she in her hair, my Lord of Suffolk bearing before her the Crown, and two other Lords bearing also before her a sceptre and a white rod, and so entered up into the High Altar, where divers ceremonies used about her, I did set the Crown on her head, and then was sung Te Deum. And after that was sung a solemn Mass, all which while her Grace sat crowned upon a scaffold which was made between the High Altar and Choir in Westminster Church; which Mass and ceremonies done and finished, all the assembly of noblemen brought her into Westminster Hall again, where was kept a great solemn feast all that day; the good order thereof were too long to write at this time to you.

But now, Sir, you may not imagine that this Coronation was before her marriage, for she was married much about St. Paul's Day last, as the condition thereof doth well appear by reason she is now somewhat big with child. Notwithstanding it hath been reported throughout a great part of the realm that I married her, which was plainly false, for I myself knew not thereof a fortnight after it was

Story of Anne Boleyn

done. And many other things be reported of me, which be mere lies and tales.... '

From Cranmer's own account contained in a letter from him to Mr. Hawkyns, English Ambassador at the court of of the Emperor, Charles V. (Spelling modernized.)

By August, preparations were being made for the birth of Anne's child, which was sure to be a boy. Names were being chosen, with Edward and Henry the top choices. The proclamation of the child's birth had already been written with 'prince' used to refer to the child.

Anne took to her chamber, according to custom, on August 26, 1533 and on September 7, at about 3:00 in the afternoon, the Princess Elizabeth was born. Her christening service was scaled down, but still a pleasant affair. The princess' white christening robes can currently be seen on display at Sudeley Castle in England.

Anne now knew that it was imperative that she produce a son. By January of 1534, she was pregnant again, but the child was either miscarried or stillborn. In 1535, she was become pregnant again but miscarried by the end of January. The child was reported to have been a boy. The Queen was quite upset, and blamed the miscarriage on her state of mind after hearing that Henry had taken a fall in jousting. She had to have known at this point that her failure to produce a living male heir was a threat to her own life, especially since the King's fancy for one of her ladies-in-waiting, Jane Seymour, began to grow.

The Fall of Anne Boleyn

Anne's enemies at court began to plot against her using the King's attentions to Jane Seymour as the catalyst for action. Cromwell began to move in action to bring down the Queen. He persuaded the King to sign a document calling

Story of Anne Boleyn

for an investigation that would possibly result in charges of treason.

On April 30, 1536, Anne's musician and friend for several years, Mark Smeaton, was arrested and probably tortured into making 'revelations' about the Queen. Next, Sir Henry Norris was arrested and taken to the Tower of London. Then the Queen's own brother, George Boleyn, Lord Rochford was arrested.

On May 2, the Queen herself was arrested at Greenwich and was informed of the charges against her: adultery, incest and plotting to murder the King. She was then taken to the Tower by barge along the same path she had traveled to prepare for her coronation just three years earlier. In fact, she was lodged in the same rooms she had held on that occasion.

There were several more arrests. Sir Francis Weston and William Brereton were charged with adultery with the Queen. Sir Thomas Wyatt was also arrested, but later released. They were put on trial with Smeaton and Norris at Westminster Hall on May 12, 1536. The men were not allowed to defend themselves, as was the case in charges of treason. They were found guilty and received the required punishment: they were to be hanged at Tyburn, cut down while still living and then disemboweled and quartered.

On Monday the 15th, the Queen and her brother were put on trial at the Great Hall of the Tower of London. It is estimated that some 2000 people attended. Anne conducted herself in a calm and dignified manner, denying all the charges against her. Her brother was tried next, with his own wife testifying against him (she got her due later in the scandal of Kathryn Howard). Even though the evidence against them was scant, they were both found guilty, with the sentence being read by their uncle, Thomas Howard, the Duke of Norfolk. They

Story of Anne Boleyn

were to be either burnt at the stake (which was the punishment for incest) or beheaded, at the discretion of the King.

The Executions

On May 17, George Boleyn was executed on Tower Hill. The other four men condemned with the Queen had their sentences commuted from the grisly fate at Tyburn to a simple beheading at the Tower with Lord Rochford.

Anne knew that her time would soon come and started to become hysterical, her behavior swinging from great levity to body- wracking sobs. She received news that an expert swordsman from Calais had been summoned, who would no doubt deliver a cleaner blow with a sharp sword than the traditional axe. It was then that she made the famous comment about her 'little neck'.

Interestingly, shortly before her execution on charges of adultery, the Queen's marriage to the King was dissolved and declared invalid. One would wonder then how she could have committed adultery if she had in fact never been married to the King, but this was overlooked, as were so many other lapses of logic in the charges against Anne.

They came for Anne on the morning of May 19 to take her to the Tower Green, where she was to be afforded the dignity of a private execution

QUEEN ANNE BOLEYN ON THE DAY OF HER EXECUTION FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1536

This morning she sent for me, that I might be with her at such time as she received the good Lord, to the intent I should hear her speak as touching her innocency alway to be clear. And in the writing of this she sent for me, and at my coming she said, "Mr. Kingston, I hear I shall not die afore noon, and

Story of Anne Boleyn

I am very sorry therefore, for I thought to be dead by this time and past my pain ". I told her it should be no pain, it was so little. And then she said, "I heard say the executioner was very good, and I have a little neck", and then put her hands about it, laughing heartily. I have seen many men and also women executed, and that they have been in great sorrow, and to my knowledge this lady has much joy in death. Sir, her almoner is continually with her, and had been since two o'clock after midnight.

*From a letter from Sir W. Kingston, Constable of the Tower, to Thomas Cromwell, May 19th, 1536.
(spelling modernized)*

She wore a red petticoat under a loose, dark grey gown of damask trimmed in fur. Over that she was a mantle of ermine. Her long, dark hair was bound up under a simple white linen coif over which she wore her usual headdress. She made a short speech:

ANNE BOLEYN'S SPEECH AT HER EXECUTION MAY 19, 1536, 8 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

Good Christian people, I am come hither to die, for according to the law, and by the law I am judged to die, and therefore I will speak nothing against it. I am come hither to accuse no man, nor to speak anything of that, whereof I am accused and condemned to die, but I pray God save the king and send him long to reign over you, for a gentler nor a more merciful prince was there never: and to me he was ever a good, a gentle and sovereign lord. And if any person will meddle of my cause, I require them to judge the best. And thus I take my leave of the world and of you all, and I heartily desire you all to pray for me. O Lord have mercy on me, to God I commend my soul.

After being blindfolded and kneeling at the block, she repeated several times: To Jesus Christ I commend my soul; Lord Jesu receive my soul.

Recorded by Edward Hall (spelling modernized)

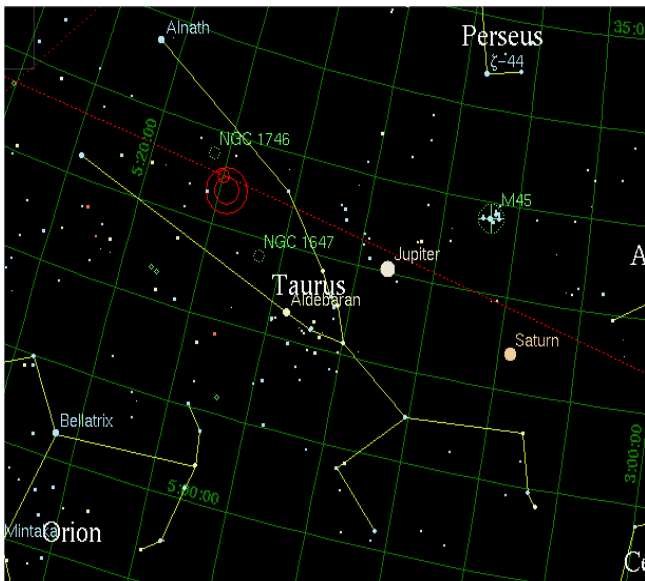
Story of Anne Boleyn

before kneeling at the block. Her ladies removed the headdress and tied a blindfold over her eyes. The sword itself had been hidden under the straw. The swordsman cut off her head with one swift stroke.

Anne's body and head were put into an arrow chest and buried in an unmarked grave in the Chapel of St. Peter ad Vincula which adjoined the Tower Green. Her body was one that was identified in renovations of the chapel under the reign of Queen Victoria, so Anne's final resting place is now marked in the marble floor.

Night Skies for May

Taurus



Taurus is represented by the bull. There are some nice bright stars in this constellation with Aldebaran coming in at .85 magnitude and Alnath at 1.65. Perseus is quite visible at the edge of the constellation and the Crab nebula is also a feature to check out.

This is one of the earliest documented constellations and was named Shur by the Babylonians. It is visible this time of year in

Night Skies for May

the northern hemisphere and from November to February in the southern hemisphere.

Mythologically we have the Greek story of Zues, who swam to Crete as a Bull to seduce Europa with whom he fathered Minos, the father of the Minotaur. There is also a strong possible tie in with cave paintings and early sculptures of bulls found throughout Europe.

Astrologically

Taurus has a birth date between April 20th and May 20th. This is a Feminine sign. Their characteristics are quiet, affectionate, patient, stable, stubborn and resistant to change.

Their ruling planet is Venus and their symbol is the bull. Their lucky day is Friday and their lucky numbers are 6 and 4. Their stone is Emerald and their color is pale blue and mauve.

Below is a general horoscope reading for Taurus in May done by a friend of mine from The Grey School of Wizardry.

May Forecast for Taurus

May is the month associated with Taurus. Since the 19th of April and on into May, the solar energies have transformed the dynamic, impulsive and creative energies of Aries the Ram into the stabilizing, patient and pragmatic energies of Taurus the Bull. This is a natural progression, which takes the initiatives made and gives them practical form and function.

The May flowers brought by April showers, as the song goes, are eternally depicted in the lore of Ferdinand the Bull, stopping to smell these flowers; gentle, patient Ferdinand. Taurus loves luxury and sensuality and love connections are very often made during this time of year when summer is but a breath away!

Beltane this year should be fabulous ! (Or maybe it has been already) For on May 1st the planet

Night Skies for May

Venus gives both Pluto and Saturn a pleasant greeting from her place in the heavens. So Saturn will keep us from losing our footing at a time when passion and romance will be thick and intense. What more could you ask for? The May Day celebration this year, with all of its traditional associations with fire, love and life, are to be especially blessed by the planets and Gods!

The next day, Mercury moves into his home sign of Gemini, making communication and commerce speedy; almost frantic at times, until the Messenger God finally moves on into the sign of Cancer on July 10th. There is a retrograde period in there, which many believe introduces difficulties and mix-ups with communication and commerce, electronic or otherwise.

The New Moon on the 4th in Taurus portends some unexpected, but fortunate circumstances. Projects that have a hint of the unusual, begun this day, could very well pay off in time.

On the 9th, Mars pushes into Leo. Fire meets Fire! Now we shall have a time of excitement, intensity and very often, much drama! Mother's Day on the 11 might be difficult. Take a few deep breaths and count to ten before saying something you might regret, for if you make it through this day without too much trouble, the next day could bring good fortune; an excellent day for spells of prosperity.

The 14th is a good day to rest, if you can, and recharge your batteries. Get away and do something nice for yourself, whatever form that takes.

The Full Moon on the 19th is a day when the women in your life figure prominently. Just about anything could happen; listen and observe and you could learn a lot. Divinations on this day are supported by Mother Moon and might cut through any delusions you may have been harboring.

The rest of the month is chatty and the planets support many short trips and errands. Memorial Day (observed) on the 26th, may be a day of reflection and difficulty regarding your relationships

Night Skies for May

in general. A feeling of loneliness might also creep up on you. Not to worry, as this is of fairly short duration.

The month ends very much as it began. Strong feelings and passions can be utilized for positive change, or just a good time when you can learn about your feelings and your relationship to creation.

For more astrology, visit my site at www.innerstars.com

Belenus

www.innerstars.com
www.greeneggzine.com

See you next month!

Talin

Paranormal Project

Submitted by: Nancy

Burlington New Jersey Prison



Burlington County Prison was built in 1811 by Robert Mills, one of the first native-born trained architects. This prison was used for 154 years. It had a basement and two floors. It handled 40 prisoners. Criminals, sex offenders, and people who didn't pay their bills.

Paranormal Project



Outside the building was a small yard prisoner's use for a small garden. It also had leg stocks for punishment for uncooperative/rowdy prisoners. There was also a gallows there.

The last execution was in 1906, with the double hanging of Rufus Johnson and George Small.

The prison was closed in 1983. Some people decided to stay at the prison.

That became evident in 1999 when they started to renovate. During the renovation workers would find their tools missing and later found on another floor or other location much later in the day.

They would hear loud noises, voices and screams. Because the workers were uneasy being the last ones out of the building, they started to leave early.

There have been investigations done in the prison. They have had pictures of orbs and also had voices recorded via EVP.

An apparition was seen in the shower area, and a foot print in the dust was found there as well.

In 1850 Joel Clough was hung for the murder of his lover.

Prisoners and guards have heard his moaning and chain rattling. Objects have been known to move around by themselves. They have also seen his apparition sitting in his cell.

The Prison now is a Historic Landmark and a nice museum, a fascinating place to learn about prison life

FBI Famous Cases

Submitted by: Windy Lajoie

Bonnie and Clyde

Clyde Champion Barrow and his companion, Bonnie Parker, were shot to death by officers in an ambush near Sailes, Bienville Parish, Louisiana, on May 23, 1934, after one of the most colorful and spectacular manhunts the Nation had seen up to that time.

Barrow was suspected of numerous killings and was wanted for murder, robbery, and state charges of kidnaping. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), then called the Bureau of Investigation, became interested in Barrow and his paramour late in December, 1932, through a singular bit of evidence. A Ford automobile, which had been stolen in Pawhuska, Oklahoma, was found abandoned near Jackson, Michigan in September of that year. At Pawhuska, it was learned another Ford car had been abandoned there which had been stolen in Illinois. A search of this car revealed it had been occupied by a man and a woman, indicated by abandoned articles therein. In this car was found a prescription bottle, which led Special Agents to a drug store in Nacogdoches, Texas, where investigation disclosed the woman for whom the prescription had been filled was Clyde Barrow's aunt.

Further investigation revealed that the woman who obtained the prescription had been visited recently by Clyde Barrow, Bonnie Parker, and Clyde's brother, L. C. Barrow. It also was learned that these three were driving a Ford car, identified as the one stolen in Illinois. It was further shown that L. C. Barrow had secured the empty prescription bottle from a son of the woman who had originally obtained it.

On May 20, 1933, the United States Commissioner at Dallas, Texas, issued a warrant against Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker, charging them with the interstate transportation, from Dallas to Oklahoma, of the automobile stolen in Illinois. The FBI then started its hunt for this elusive pair.

FBI Famous Cases

Background

Bonnie and Clyde met in Texas in January, 1930. At the time, Bonnie was 19 and married to an imprisoned murderer; Clyde was 21 and unmarried. Soon after, he was arrested for a burglary and sent to jail. He escaped, using a gun Bonnie had smuggled to him, was recaptured, and was sent back to prison. Clyde was paroled in February, 1932, rejoined Bonnie, and resumed a life of crime.



Clyde Champion Barrow

Bonnie Parker

In addition to the automobile theft charge, Bonnie and Clyde were suspects in other crimes. At the time they were killed in 1934, they were believed to have committed 13 murders and several robberies and burglaries. Barrow, for example, was suspected of murdering two police officers at Joplin, Missouri, and kidnaping a man and a woman in rural Louisiana. He released them near Waldo, Texas. Numerous sightings followed, linking this pair with bank robberies and automobile thefts. Clyde allegedly murdered a man at Hillsboro, Texas; committed robberies at Lufkin and Dallas, Texas; murdered one sheriff and wounded another at Stringtown, Oklahoma; kidnaped a deputy at Carlsbad, New Mexico; stole an automobile at Victoria, Texas; attempted to murder a deputy at Wharton, Texas; committed murder and robbery at Abilene and Sherman, Texas; committed murder at Dallas, Texas; abducted a sheriff and the chief of police at Wellington, Texas; and committed murder at Joplin and Columbia, Missouri.

FBI Famous Cases

The Crime Spree Begins

Later in 1932, Bonnie and Clyde began traveling with Raymond Hamilton, a young gunman. Hamilton left them several months later, and was replaced by William Daniel Jones in November, 1932.

Ivan M. "Buck" Barrow, brother of Clyde, was released from the Texas State Prison on March 23, 1933, having been granted a full pardon by the Governor. He quickly joined Clyde, bringing his wife, Blanche, so the group now numbered five persons.

This gang embarked upon a series of bold robberies which made headlines across the country. They escaped capture in various encounters with the law. However, their activities made law enforcement efforts to apprehend them even more intense. During a shootout with police in Iowa on July 29, 1933, Buck Barrow was fatally wounded and Blanche was captured. Jones, who was frequently mistaken for "Pretty Boy" Floyd, was captured in November, 1933, at Houston, Texas, by the sheriff's office. Bonnie and Clyde went on together.

On November 22, 1933, a trap was set by the Dallas, Texas, sheriff and his deputies in an attempt to capture Bonnie and Clyde near Grand Prairie, Texas, but the couple escaped the officer's gunfire. They held up an attorney on the highway and took his car, which they abandoned at Miami, Oklahoma. On December 21, 1933, Bonnie and Clyde held up and robbed a citizen at Shreveport, Louisiana.

On January 16, 1934, five prisoners, including the notorious Raymond Hamilton (who was serving sentences totaling more than 200 years), were liberated from the Eastham State Prison Farm at Waldo, Texas, by Clyde Barrow, accompanied by Bonnie Parker. Two guards were shot by the escaping prisoners with automatic pistols, which had been previously concealed in a ditch by Barrow. As the prisoners ran, Barrow covered their retreat with bursts of machine-gun fire. Among the escapees was Henry Methvin of Louisiana.

FBI Famous Cases

The Last Months

On April 1, 1934, Bonnie and Clyde encountered two young highway patrolmen near Grapevine, Texas. Before the officers could draw their guns, they were shot. On April 6, 1934, a constable at Miami, Oklahoma, fell mortally wounded by Bonnie and Clyde, who also abducted a police chief, whom they wounded.

The FBI had jurisdiction solely on the charge of transporting a stolen automobile, although the activities of the Bureau Agents were vigorous and ceaseless. Every clue was followed. "Wanted notices" furnishing fingerprints, photograph, description, criminal record, and other data were distributed to all officers.

The Agents followed the trail through many states and into various haunts of the Barrow gang, particularly Louisiana. The association with Henry Methvin and the Methvin family of Louisiana was discovered by FBI Agents and they found that Bonnie and Clyde had been driving a car stolen in New Orleans.

On April 13, 1934, an FBI Agent, through investigation in the vicinity of Ruston, Louisiana, obtained information which definitely placed Bonnie and Clyde in a remote section southwest of that community. The home of the Methvins was not far away and the Agent learned of visits there by Bonnie and Clyde. Special Agents in Texas had learned that Clyde and his companion had been traveling from Texas to Louisiana, sometimes accompanied by Henry Methvin.

The FBI and local law enforcement authorities in Louisiana and Texas concentrated on apprehending Bonnie and Clyde, whom they strongly believed to be in the area. It was learned that Bonnie and Clyde, with some of the Methvins, had staged a party at Black Lake, Louisiana, on the night of May 21, 1934, and were due to return to the area

FBI Famous Cases

two days later.

Before dawn on May 23, 1934, a posse composed of police officers from Louisiana and Texas, including Texas Ranger Frank Hamer, concealed themselves in bushes along the highway near Sailes, Louisiana. In the early daylight, Bonnie and Clyde appeared in an automobile and when they attempted to drive away, the officers opened fire. Bonnie and Clyde were killed instantly.

Rune of the Month

Submitted by: Meegan

Ansuz



This month we are studying the fourth rune of the first aett, called Ansuz, Ás, Áss, or Os. It is cognate with the letter "A" in English. Just as the first two runes, Fehu and Uruz, represented opposite principles, so do Thurisaz and Ansuz. Where Thurisaz is a wild and chaotic energy symbolizing thorns, Ansuz represents wisdom, civilization, and communication. Where Thurisaz often stands for the Thurses, most destructive of the Norse giants, Ansuz is the rune of the Allfather Odin, ruler of the Norse gods who strive to impose order on the chaos. By studying the dichotomy between the rune pairs in these cases we can learn much about their energy.

In the Anglo-Saxon rune poem Ansuz is compared to the mouth, giver of language, which dispenses wisdom and comfort and is a source of happiness and hope. The Norwegian poem is more vague saying "River mouth is the way of most journeys; but a scabbard of swords" however when we look closely at this couplet we can discern that it is saying that speech guides action as it "is the way of

Rune of the Month

journeys”, and brings about peaceful resolutions by keeping swords sheathed in their scabbards. The Icelandic is very blunt saying simply that Ansuz is Odin, leader of the Aesir, lord of Valhalla. Since Odin is the god of speech, wisdom, and giver of the runes <written language> all of these things are implied in this poem. From the rune poems we can perceive the modern meanings of the rune, which first and foremost is communication. Inherent in this are the concepts of language, negotiation, speech, song and poetry - any craft involving words. It is a rune of order which also represents wisdom, knowledge, and advice, any and all mental or creative activities, as well as the transmission of ideas.

To some modern rune readers it also symbolizes occult mystery, the divine power in our lives, and magic, especially that which is spoken. It is divine ecstasy of spirit, the wisdom which we gain through actively doing.

When Ansuz appears in divination there are a variety of meanings that can be appropriate. In order to interpret you can either go with your first instinct or look at the surrounding runes for a clue to which meaning is most applicable.

In a reading it can represent negotiations and the need to find a peaceful solution through discussion. It tells us to use our creative gifts to express ourselves and as a way to honor deity. It speaks of the need for wisdom, to embrace the lessons that come to us as well as a call to teach what we have learned. It signifies that communication is key to finding the answer to the question being asked. It can also indicate the divine presence in our lives, to get our attention and ask us to be aware of the messages divinity is sending us, on occasion representing the god Odin in particular.

In some cases it may indicate the need for a magical solution to a problem.

Ansuz can be used in any spell involving communication, which could include love,

Rune of the Month

confidence, and employment spells, to name a few. Writing Ansuz on or in a charm bag, or on a candle adds the energy of the rune into the spell, and drawing the rune on the mouth helps us to speak up if we are shy. In cases of public speaking - whether giving a report in school, for work, teaching a class or conducting a ritual - the rune can be traced three times over the forehead, mouth, and throat to give us more eloquence. This is a fun one to experiment with as it's energy is fairly gentle and easy to work with, so feel free to use it as much as you'd like until you are comfortable with it, making sure to write everything down in your rune journal.

Next month: Raido

Flash Fiction Challenge

My Fairy Dream

It was my life-long dream to see a fairy. I collected fairy pictures and fairy statues – fairy wallpaper adorned my computer screen. I created fairy spots in my back garden, filled with fairy flowers like bluebells and lily of the valley. My anthem was a childhood song:

“White coral bells upon a slender stalk
Lily of the valley lines my garden walk.
Oh how I wish that I could hear them ring
That will happen only when the fairies sing.”

I built fairy safe havens and placed them around my house – aquariums with green plants and tiny chairs, little beds with hand-made quilts – anything I could think that would be inviting to the fae.

Even my clothes showed my quest for the fae. My favorite sweater had Tinkerbell embroidered front and back, my shoes had flower fairies painted on them. Fairy bookmarks kept my place as I read – you guessed it – books about fairies!

My mom thought I was going through a phase

Flash Fiction Challenge

or just plain crazy. But she went along with it all, and let me decorate my room with more fairy things than you'd ever imagine were made. While she drew the line at letting me wear my fairy wings to school, she did let me wear them to the dinner table.

And finally, it happened! One day as I was sitting quietly in the garden, reading a book about fairies, I glanced up and saw a pair of eyes in a leafy face! It was my sister.

Rhea Riegel

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The Magic in Birthstones

By: Rev. John Snodgrass, *HP*

May

Emerald



Chakra: the 4th Chakra, the Heart Chakra

Basic Color: medium to dark green

Folklore and Magickal Uses:

Most often called the "King of Green"... the **Emerald**, by its rich green reflection of the color of Spring, has been treasured for thousands of years as the symbol for rebirth and enduring love. In fact, no other green gemstone can rival the emerald's lavish

The Magic in Birthstones

green hue, its captivating beauty and popularity, not to mention its cost - second only to the diamond.

According to legend, the Emerald Tablet of Hermes Trismegistus was the original source for all Hermetic Philosophy and Alchemy. The actual teaching were said to have been carved on tablets of emerald and then placed in the King's Chamber of the Great Pyramid of Cheops (also known as Khufu). However, this burial chamber was robbed and emptied out long before modern archeologists opened it.

Although by no means meant to replace modern medical treatment, the Emerald has been used throughout history for both physical and emotional healing. It was said wearing an emerald would strengthen not only the physical body but also sooth the emotions.

The emerald was also believed to symbolize eternal fidelity and pure goodness of heart. According to many ancient stories and myths, the emerald was used to strengthen its owner's memory, quickening the intelligence of the slow witted and even used to assist in predicting the near future.

Other Stones for May:

Traditional Birthstone: Emerald

Mystical Birthstone: Sapphire

Ayurvedic Birthstone: Agate

Others: Chrysoprase, Beryl

A listing of Star Stones of the Month:

Taurus (April 20 to May 21)

Birthstones: Amber, Blood Coral, Emerald, Sapphire, Turquoise

Planetary Stone: Aventurine, Emerald

Lucky Charm: Diamond, Sapphire

Talismanic Birthstone: Garnet

The Magic in Birthstones

Gemini (May 21 to June 21)

Birthstones: Pearl, Chrysoprase, Agate

Planetary Stone: Tiger Eye

Lucky Charms: Emerald

Talismanic Birthstone: Agate, Emerald

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The Norse Deities

Balder and Nanna, the Bright and the Gentle

By: Rev. John Snodgrass, HP

Balder, the Bright One

Balder, known as the ancient Norse God of Light, Joy, Purity, Beauty, Innocence, and Reconciliation, was born the third son of Odin and Frigga. He took Nanna, the daughter of Nep, as his wife and together they had one son, named Forseti, the God of Justice. Balder resided in his mead-hall which was called Breidablik (meaning "broad splendor").

Nearly all of the myths about Balder concern his fated early death, a deeply sad set of tales both of love and evil betrayal. For some time he had been plagued by dreams of his untimely death, so he went to his mother Frigga about the matter. She, knowing all things, was not willing to suffer his early death went about and extracted an oath from every creature, object and force in nature, that they would never seek to harm her son, all agreed that none of their kind would assist in the bringing about of the death of Balder.

The Gods thinking Balder thus to be invincible, often sought to provide themselves with entertainment by using him as a live-target for knife-throwing and

The Norse Deities

archery competitions.

In time, it was the trickster, Loki, being jealous of Balder, who appeared one night in altered form to ask Frigga, if it was true that there was absolutely nothing in the world of Gods or Man that could bring harm to Balder. Frigga, not suspecting anything amiss, answered that there was just one thing - a small tree that grew only in the far, called mistletoe, that she had thought too small to require the oath from.

Seeing his chance to kill Balder, Loki immediately, according to the myths, left for the west and returned with an arrow (spear) made from mistletoe. He then proceeded to trick the sightless God Hod into shooting the mistletoe arrow at Balder. Not realizing what he was doing, Hod shot the arrow, guided by Loki's aim, it pierced Balder through his heart and he fell dead.

While the Gods were lamenting Balder's death, Odin sent another one of his sons Hermod to seek advice and aid from the Goddess Hel, the Goddess of Death, and to plead for Balder's return. Hel agreed to send Balder back to the land of the living on one condition - Everything in the world, dead or alive, must weep for him. And everything did weep, all except for Loki, who had disguised himself to hide from the wrath of Frigga and the other Gods. And so it was that Balder has to remain in the underworld.

The Gods then took up the dead Balder and dressed him in crimson cloth, and placed him on a funeral pyre aboard his ship, Ringhorn, which was the largest ship in the world. Beside Balder they lay the body of his wife Nanna, who had died of a broken heart. Balder's horse and his treasures were also placed on the ship. The pyre was set on fire and the ship was sent to sea, thus passed Balder and Nanna from this world.

Loki did not escape full punishment for his crime(material for a later article to come) and

The Norse Deities

Hod was put to death.

After Ragnarok, the final conflict, when a new world arises from its ashes, both Balder and Hod will be reborn.

Nanna, the Gentle Soul

Of Nanna, the Gentle Goddess and wife of Balder, there are few mentions in the Norse mythologies other than of her marriage to Balder, their son Forseti, and the facts of her death. She being so overcome with grief at her husband's death that she herself died of a grief stricken and broken heart. She was placed on the funeral pyre alongside her husband on his ship, which was then set ablaze and launched out to sea.

It is also mentioned that when Hermod, his was the quest to bring Balder back from the underworld, entered the hall of Hel he found Balder, there in the seat of great honor and sitting beside him was Nanna. It was Nanna who sent back with Hermod the gifts for the other Gods including a robe for Frigga, her mother-in-law, and a gold ring for Fulla, along with other gifts.

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Beltane Recipes

Submitted by Umbramyst

Here are recipes for two types of Bannocks (Scottish Oatmeal Cakes). They used to be cooked on a girdle

Beltane Recipes

(griddle) and buttermilk was used in most of the recipes.

SCOTTISH OATCAKES

(Cookie type)

2 c. Scotch (steel-cut) Oats

1/2 tsp Baking Powder

1/2 tsp Salt

1 tsp Sugar

2 oz lard (melted)

1/2 c warm Water

Preheat oven to 350 ° F. Line two 13 x 11 inch baking sheets with waxed paper. Put the oats, baking powder, salt and sugar in a large bowl. Make a well in the center and add the lard and water. Using a flat-bladed knife, mix to a firm dough. Turn onto a surface that is lightly sprinkled with oats; press into a flattish square.

Roll dough out to 12 x 12 square (about 1/8 inch thick), sprinkling with extra oats if necessary. Cut into 2-1/2 inch diamonds. Repeat with left over dough. Place oatcakes on baking sheets about 1/4 inch apart; bake for 25 minutes. Allow to cool on sheets.

From "Step by Step Scottish Cooking"

FIFE BANNOCKS

(Scone type)

3/4 c Flour

1/2 c Oatmeal

1/2 tsp Soda

3/4 tsp Cream of Tartar

1 tsp Sugar

1/8 c butter

Beltane Recipes

Pinch of Salt

Preheat oven to 425° F. Put all the dry ingredients into a bowl and rub in the butter. Mix into a dough with just enough milk so that it leaves the side of the bowl clean. Turn out onto a floured surface knead lightly and press or roll out into a large round about 3/4 inch thick. Cut into 4 quarters, put on a greased baking sheet in the oven for about 20 to 25 minutes until light golden brown. Alternatively, bake on a greased hot girdle. Serve sliced through with plenty of butter and raspberry jam.

From "Scottish Country Recipes"

PUSSY WILLOW WATER (Persia)

2 c. Pussy Willow Flowers (musk of willow)

4 c. tepid Water

1/2 c Apple Juice

6 tsp. Sugar (approximately)

Soak flowers in water until they become translucent and the water smells heavily of them (about 30 minutes). Strain and discard the flowers. Mix in the apple juice and add sugar to taste. Chill and serve over ice.

Any fruit with a feminine alignment may be substituted for the pussy willow. For wisdom in your corrections, decrease the apple juice to 1/4 cup and add 1/4 cup peach juice.

Willow can increase psychic energy, useful for magic concerning healing and fertility, and it is said to aid divination and bring inspiration, along with a list of many other things; be careful ingesting anything made from the bark as it is a pain killer, and a diuretic also.

From my BOS

REMEMBRANCE JELLY

Apple is used for youthful awareness, blackberry to stimulate ideas, and rosemary for remembrance.

Beltane Recipes

10 c. Apples (chopped and peeled)

8 c Blackberries

½ c Water

4 Tblsp. Rosemary Leaves (divided)

1 c Malt Vinegar

Sugar

Use a proper canning method to preserve the jelly. Bring the apples, blackberries, water and 2 Tblsp. Rosemary to a boil.

Reduce heat and simmer until the apple is pulpy, about 45 minutes.

Mix in the vinegar and boil for 5 minutes. Strain; let it drip for about 12 hours, saving the liquid.

Discard the pulp and measure the liquid before pouring into a large pan. Add 2 cups of sugar for every 2-1/2 cups of liquid.

Heat on low until the sugar is dissolved, stirring frequently. Mix in the remaining 2 Tblsp of rosemary.

Increase the heat and boil until the jell point is reached, about 10 minutes.

Skim off the foam. Or use a canning Pectin to set the jelly. When jelled pour into hot sterilized jars and seal. This jelly is great with lamb.

Makes about 5 half-pints.

Personal Note: the jelly states very good.

Substitutes: A nice substitute for rosemary in this recipe is 5 tablespoons of mint. Mint is considered a healing herb to ease painful memories.

From "A Kitchen Witch's Cookbook"

CURRIED BEEF

Curry is a natural purifier.

Beltane Recipes

3/4 c. Celery (sliced)
 3/4 c. Green Pepper (sliced)
 1/4 tsp. curry powder
 2 cloves Garlic (minced)
 3 Tblsp. Butter
 1 (8oz) can Beef Soup
 1 c. Rice (cooked)
 1/4 c. Raisins
 1 medium Apple (sliced)
 1 c. Peanuts (chopped)
 Add more meat if desired.

Microwave recipe (arrange the recipe to suit you for the stove or oven)

Combine celery, green pepper, garlic, curry, and butter and cook in microwave till tender (about 4 mins). Mix in the soup, rice and raisins.

Cook for about 5 minutes longer, stirring occasionally while cooking.

Arrange the apple slices decoratively around the edge or into a magickal symbol and microwave on high for 3 minutes.

Makes about 4 servings.

From personal collection of microwave recipes

ZESTY STUFFED ZUCCHINI

Zucchini has psychic attributes.

2 Zucchini (medium)
 1 Tblsp. Olive Oil
 1 Hot Pepper (small, chopped)
 2 cloves Garlic (minced)
 1/4 tsp Ginger (ground)

Beltane Recipes

1/8 tsp Cumin
 1/2 tsp. Curry Powder
 1/2 tsp. Salt
 1 Spaghetti Squash (peeled, finely chopped)
 1/4 c. Red Wine (optional)
 1/4 c. Raisins
 White Wine

Preheat oven to 350° F.

Cut the zucchini in half lengthwise. Scoop out the meat and leave the skin intact. Finely chop the zucchini meat.

Heat the olive oil, hot pepper, garlic, ginger, cumin, curry powder and salt in a large frying pan. Stir in the zucchini, squash, and wine.

Cook for 5 minutes. Stir in the raisins.

Scoop into the zucchini shells and sprinkle with the white wine.

Cover with aluminum foil and bake until tender for about 30 minutes.

Makes 4 servings.

From my personal recipes

POTATO-HOTDOG FRY

Potatoes are a root vegetable, making them excellent grounding symbols.

Hot dogs, by comparison, are rather playful food, conjuring images of sunny days and leisure activities, they make a good meal to help return stability to a situation.

1/4 c. Vegetable Oil
 3 large Potatoes (cubed into 1/2-inch pieces)
 1 Onion (medium, sliced)
 3 Hot Dogs (sliced into 1/2 inch pieces)

Beltane Recipes

1 Tblsp. Butter
 1/4 c. Sour Cream
 1/4 c. Dill Relish
 1/4 tsp Dill Weed (dried)
 Salt
 Pepper

Heat the oil in a fry pan over medium heat.

Add the potatoes and onion and cook till the potatoes are tender.

Stir in the hot dogs; cook until the hot dogs are thoroughly heated.

Melt the butter in a small saucepan over low heat. Mix in the sour cream, relish, dill, salt and pepper. When hot, pour over the potatoes and serve immediately.

Makes 3 servings.

From "A Kitchen Witch's CookBook.

This recipe also tastes good substituting kelbasa with the hotdogs or even using sweet relish instead of dill.

WHITEFISH BOUILLON (Rome)

Stocks such as this have been discussed in cookbooks dating to the early 1600s.

It is said that the spices so precisely flavor the broth that no one knows it is a fish stock.

This also makes a marvelous flavored chicken broth (I'm not fond of fish).

1 Bay leaf
 2 Parsley sprigs
 5 Peppercorns
 1/2 tsp Thyme (dried)

Beltane Recipes

½ tsp Basil (dried)
 1 small Clove Garlic
 2-3 stalks Celery (chopped)
 1 large Onion (diced)
 1 lb. Whitefish trimmings
 3 c. White Wine (dry)

1 tsp Salt
 2 quarts Water

Place the bay leaf, parsley, peppercorns, thyme, basil, and garlic in a tea ball or secure in a small cheesecloth bag.

Combine the celery, onion, fish, wine, salt, water, and tea ball in a large pot.

Bring to a boil for 10 minutes. Reduce heat and simmer for 30 minutes.

Strain through a sieve or cheesecloth.

Reserve the liquid and discard the rest. Use as a soup and stew stock or as the liquid base for poaching fish.

Freeze if not used immediately.

Makes 2 quarts.

From "A Kitchen Witch's Cookbook"

Easy Gift Ideas

Submitted by: CeCe

For most families, the lists seem to be getting longer and more expensive while wallets often are not as fat as we wish they would be. While many of us would like to shout, "Bah, Humbug!" and totally forget about gift exchanges with family, friends and teachers, there is an easy alternative that

Easy Gift Ideas

will not only keep your budget in the green, but also will be greener for our planet.

Pillows from old shirts

This time of year, many of us are cleaning out our closets, looking for the clothes that our kids are outgrown. Before you throw them in the donation bin, look through and find those that may have special significance such as camp shirts or shirts from trips you have taken. Have your child help choose which ones would make good gifts. These shirts can make special pillows for family members near and far.

How to:

1. First of all, mark cutting lines on the shirt with chalk **or washable fabric pen. In order to decide the size** you need, find the dimensions of the pillow and about 1/2" on each side for seam allowance, plus about 1/2" ease. (1-1.5 inches) Cut lines square with the design.
2. Make sure the shirt is laying completely flat (iron if you need to!) and pin the back and front together, so you only have to cut once.
3. Stitch along the edge about 1/2 in. in for each piece. Place the two pieces, print face in, and pin together. Stitch three and a half sides together. Place pillow form inside and hand stitch together. Now you have a great pillow.

Picture frames (and magnets?) from CD boxes

1. Take out paper inserts from old CD boxes.
2. Measure cardboard, gift wrap, color paper or foam to fit inside box.
3. Glue or double stick tape pictures or

Easy Gift Ideas

artwork on to the backing you made from paper, etc.

4. Double stick tape the edge facing in the box and stick in. (The box will open for the frame to stand!)
5. Now use glue or hot glue to attach picture frame decorations such as:
Glitter, sequins, foam crafts shapes, small pinecones, ribbon, old jewelry pieces, small toys, etc. Let your imagination run wild! For magnets, use magnetic tape and attach to back, making sure that your frame enhancements do not weigh the frame so it will not stick to the refrigerator!

Can Pencil Holder

Take an old soup can or other can and make sure edges are filed down and clean. (Use sandpaper if necessary!) Using the can, measure the height of the can on:

1. Old pictures
2. Pictures from magazines the recipient might like
3. Old artwork the child has done.

Use a measuring tape and get dimension of can. Measure the circumference and cut paper, pictures, etc.

OR!

Cut a piece of foam or colored paper to fit can.

Let child cut out pieces to make can:

Easy Gift Ideas

1. An animal face, such as a penguin or lion
2. Attach pieces with glue or a hot glue gun.
3. Dress up can with sequins, fabric pieces, etc!

Use your imaginations!

Make a silhouette!

2 pieces of White paper (at least 8 1/2×11")
Piece of black paper

Pencil

Lamp or flashlight

Scissors

Double stick tape

Tape the piece of white paper to the wall. Place your child standing sideways in front of the paper. Have someone hold the lamp or flashlight in front of the child where there is a clear shadow, tracing around the shadow. Cut out the silhouette and then trace it on the black paper and cut out. For best effect, mount the black silhouette on the full sheet of white paper.

Make a video or cassette tape of people the gift recipient loves

Get out your video camera and tape your children singing and dancing. Tape them for a full day if grandma and grandpa aren't usually there to share the experiences. If your child loves to sing, tape them on a cassette singing their favorite songs. Add a greeting for a special touch, noting the year and the person speaking!

Have your child make a book!

Let your child use his or her imagination to write stories on the past year's experiences. Help them to illustrate the book with photos, magazine pictures or your hand-drawn illustrations.

Easy Gift Ideas

Use staples, ribbon or punch holes in paper to put book in a standard colored folder.

CD coasters or magnets

Take several of your children's photos and or artwork that you wish to give as a gift.

Trace the shape of the CD on the art or photo(s). Cut a bit smaller than CD to leave an edge around the CD perimeter.

Trace the CD on to clear shelf wrap.

Place photos and adhere with double stick tape.

Tear off backing of wrap and adhere over photos or art. For coasters, you are done.

For magnets, cut double stick magnet tape and attach to back of CD.

Crafty Ideas For Spending Quality Time With Your Kids

Spend Quality Time with Your Child this Holiday Season with These Arts and Crafts Ideas for Toddlers
In the early years of a child's life, it is important for parents to spend as much time as they can with their child. Children grow up quickly, and as they do, their lives become busier and busier.

Arts and crafts for toddlers are a great way for parents to spend quality time with their young children.

Arts and Crafts for Toddlers: Drawing Activities

One of the first skills that a toddler should learn is how to hold a writing utensil. By doing arts and crafts for toddlers that involve drawing activities, parents can teach their children that important lesson in a creative way. A fun activity to start with is foot tracing. For this activity, all that is needed is drawing paper and some crayons. The toddler should stand on a piece of paper, and the parent should then trace around the child's feet.

Easy Gift Ideas

Arts and Crafts for Toddlers: Painting Activities

When it comes to arts and crafts for toddlers, painting activities are always a favorite.

One activity parents can do with their children is a rock painting activity.

For this activity, the materials needed:

shoebox with a lid

scissors

tempera paint

a rock

paper can be either plain or construction paper

Begin by placing the shoebox on the piece of paper and cutting around it so that the paper is the same size as the bottom of the shoebox.

Place the paper in the bottom of the shoebox. Place a small amount of paint into a dish, and then dip the rock into it.

Then, place the rock into the shoebox, shut the lid, and shake the box up and down. This can be done over and over again with various colors of paint, thus leaving unique designs on the paper.

For More Information

These are but two of many different kinds of activities parents can do with their toddlers. For more information, consult various parenting magazines or the internet. With the proper research, parents will be able to find lots of activities that are education yet fun at the same time.

The Full Moon of May

By: Rev. Boudicca



Moon & Stars

Composite Image Credit:

T.A. Rector, I.P. Dell'Antonio, [NOAO](#), [AURA](#), [NSF](#)

The Hare Moon

The May Full Moon is not associated with any particular Sabbat and occurs this year on May 19th.

The Moon will go full at 10:11 pm EDT and is the second Moon in Scorpio this year.

This Moon is a great one for magickal workings.

As might be suggested by the fact that Beltane rings in the month, this is also a great Moon to work on balancing your relationship with your partner, or just your own inner balance.

Magenta Griffith suggests in *Llewellyn's Witches' Datebook 2008*, that you try this balance with yourself by connecting with a mirror and letting the energies flow between the positive and the negative side of you.

Other names of the Full Moon may be the Merry Moon, the Dryad Moon, Bright Moon, Flower Moon, Frogs Moon, Thrimilcmonath (Thrice-Milk Month), Sproutkale, Winnemonath (Joy Month),

The Full Moon of May

Planting Moon, and Moon When the Peonies Shed. As you may notice, these Moons are all having to do with balance, growth, and happiness.

The Lord and the Lady have married and are doing their mating dance around the Earth.

Plants are fertilized and so are the energies we use to warm and renew our lives.

This is the growing season and as such a very fertile time, indeed.

Projects begun now will have more energy available to them and are more likely to come to fruition. So start that project you've been putting off. . .there's no better time than right now.

While there are many celebrations throughout the world (both ancient and modern), at this time, the Kallyntaria and Plynteria from ancient Greece and Rome, are the closest to this month's Moon. They begin on May 19th and end on May 28th. They are the celebration of Spring cleaning and purification and were considered to be serious business. Statues of the gods and goddesses were removed from the homes and taken to the river to be cleansed.

On May 15th is the Day of Maia who is a Full Moon goddess in ancient Greece. She is followed on May 16th by the Savitu-Vrata in India which honors Saravasti, the Queen of the Heavens. May 23rd brings us to the Rose Festival in Rome called the Rosalia.

May 24th is the celebration of the birth of the beloved Artemis/Diana. It is called the Thargelia and was most often celebrated on the New Crescent Moon but has become fixed to the 24th over time. It is also the celebration of the Three Mothers in the Celtic countries, to bring prosperity and good harvest.

The May Full Moon finds the world bursting with the energies of reproduction and growth. This applies to both our mundane and spiritual lives, and

The Full Moon of May

these energies permeate every aspect of our lives. It is no wonder that this Moon is often referred to as the Hare Moon.

In China, this full Moon is known as the Pestilent Moon and is ruled by Chung K'uei, the great spiritual chaser of demons.

The Celtic peoples celebrated this Moon under the ruling planet of Taurus/Gemini, and the Hawthorne Tree. They see the ruling planet as being Vulcan and the gods most aligned are Hephaestus (Greek), Ptah (Egyptian), and Govannan (Celtic)

Some correspondences you can use are:

Nature Spirits: Faeries and elves

Herbs: Dittany of Crete, elder, mint, rose, mugwort, thyme, yarrow

Colors: green, brown, pink

Flowers: Lily of the Valley, foxglove, rose, broom

Scents: rose, sandalwood

Stones: emerald, malachite, amber, carnelian

Trees: Hawthorn

Animals: cats, lynx, leopard

Birds: swallow, dove, swan

Deities: Bast, Venus, Aphrodite, Maia, Diana, Artemis, Pan, Horned God

Power Flow: full creating energy; propagation. Intuition, contact with faeries and other supernatural protectors and beings around you. Power flowing from the Greenwood Gods and trees.

Many thanks to Dorothy Morrison and her wonderful book "Moon magic" as well as D.J. Conway's book "Moon Magick."

Beltane Lore

Submitted by: CeCe

In many cultures, there are different legends and lore surrounding Beltane.

Here are a few of the stories about this magical spring celebration.

Like Samhain, the holiday of Beltane is a time when the veil between the worlds is thin. Some traditions believe that this is a good time to contact the spirits, or to interact with the Fae. Be careful, though -- if you visit the Faerie Realm, don't eat the food, or you'll be trapped there, much like Thomas the Rhymer was!

Some Irish dairy farmers hang a garland of green boughs over their door at Beltane. This will bring them great milk production from their cows during the coming summer.

Also, driving your cattle between two Beltane bonfires helps protect your livestock from disease.

The pious Puritans were outraged by the debauchery of Beltane celebrations. In fact, they made Maypoles illegal the mid 1600's, and tried to put a halt to the "greenwood marriages" that frequently took place on May Eve. One pastor wrote that if "tenne maiden went to set (celebrate) May, nine of them came home gotten with childe."

According to a legend in parts of Wales and England, women who are trying to conceive should go out on May Eve -- the last night of April -- and find a "birthing stone", which is a large rock formation with a hole in the center. Walk through the hole, and you will conceive a child that night. If there is nothing like this near you, find a small stone with a hole in the center, and drive a branch of oak or other wood through the hole -- place this charm under your bed to make you fertile.

If you go out at sunrise on Beltane, take a bowl or jar to gather morning dew. Use the dew to wash your face, and you're guaranteed a perfect

Beltane Lore

complexion. You can also use the dew in ritual as consecrated water, particularly in rituals related to the moon or the goddess Diana or her counterpart, Artemis.

In the Irish *Book of Invasions*, it was on Beltane that Patholan, the first settler, arrived on Ireland's shores.

May Day was also the date of the defeat of the Tuatha de Danaan by Amergin and the Milesians.

Babies conceived at Beltane are considered a gift from the gods. They were sometimes referred to as "merry-begots", because the mothers were impregnated during Beltane's merrymaking.

In Cornwall, it's traditional to decorate your door on May Day with boughs of hawthorn and sycamore.

Eating a special oatcake called a bannock or a Beltane cake ensured Scottish farmers abundance of their crops for the year. The cakes were baked the night before, and roasted in embers on a stone.

Flowers of Beltane

Submitted by: CeCe

As spring arrives, our gardens begin to bud and eventually bloom.

For hundreds of years, the plants that we grow have been used in magic. Flowers in particular are often connected with a variety of magical uses.

Now that spring is here, keep an eye out for some of these flowers around you, and consider the different magical applications they might have.

Crocus: This flower is one of the first you'll see in the spring, and it's often associated with newly blooming love. The crocus is also known

Flowers of Beltane

to enhance visions and bring about intuitive dreams.

Daffodil: The bright petals of the daffodil are typically found in shades of white, yellow or even pale orange. This flower is associated with love and fertility -- place fresh ones in your home to bring about abundance. Wear this flower close to your heart to draw love and luck.

Dandelion: The leaf of the dandelion is used for healing, purification, and ritual cleansing. To bring positive change about, plant dandelions in the northwest corner of your property. The bright yellow flowers can be used in divination, or placed in a sachet to draw good energy your way.

Echinacea: Also called purple coneflower, this garden mainstay adds a little bit of magical "oomph" to charmes and sachets. Use it for prosperity related workings. Burn the dried flowers in incense, and use on your altar during ritual as an offering to deities.

Goldenseal: This sunny yellow flower is often found growing in the wild, alongside roads and in fields. Use it in money spells, or for business dealings. Work it into charms connected to matters of financial gain or legal issues.

Hibiscus: This lusty flower incites passion -- use it to attract love or lust, or for prophetic dreams about your lover. Burn in incense, or carry in a sachet to bring love your way.

Hyacinth: This flower was named for Hyacinthos, a Greek divine hero who was beloved by Apollo, so it's sometimes considered the patron herb of homosexual men. Hyacinth is also known to promote peaceful sleep, and guards against nightmares. Carry in an amulet to help heal a broken heart or to ease grief when a loved one dies.

Lily: The Easter lily or Tiger lily is associated

Flowers of Beltane

with all kinds of Spring connections -- fertility, rebirth, renewal and abundance.

Narcissus: Named for another Greek figure, the Narcissus helps promote polarity and harmony. Its calming vibrations bring about tranquility and inner peace.

Tulip: The tulip appears in many different colors and varieties, but is typically connected to prosperity. You can use the different colored variations in color magic -- use a dark strain such as Queen of the Night for full moon rituals, or bright red flowers for love magic.

Violet: In Roman myth, the first violet sprung from the spilled blood of the god Attis, who killed himself for Cybele, the mother goddess. However, today the violet is associated with tranquility and peace. The leaf offers protection from evil, and can be sewn into a pillow or sachet for a new baby. Carry the petals with you to bring about luck and enhance nighttime magic.

Beltane

Submitted by: CeCe

It's Beltane, the Sabbat where many Wiccans and Pagans choose to celebrate the fertility of the earth. This Sabbat is about new life, fire, passion and rebirth, so there are all kinds of creative ways you can set up for the season.

Depending on how much space you have, you can try some or even all of these ideas -- obviously, someone using a bookshelf as an altar will have less flexibility than someone using a table, but use what calls to you most.

Colors of the Season

This is a time when the earth is lush and green as new grass and trees return to life after a winter of dormancy.

Beltane

Use lots of greens, as well as bright spring colors -- the yellow of the daffodils, forsythia and dandelions; the purples of the lilac; the blue of a spring sky or a robin's egg. Decorate your altar with any or all of these colors in your altar cloths, candles, or colored ribbons.

Fertility Symbols

The Beltane holiday is the time when, in some traditions, the male energy of the god is at its most potent. He is often portrayed with a large and erect phallus, and other symbols of his fertility include antlers, sticks, acorns, and seeds. You can include any of these on your altar. Consider adding a small Maypole centerpiece -- there are few things more phallic than a pole sticking up out of the ground!

In addition to the lusty attributes of the god, the fertile womb of the goddess is honored at Beltane as well. She is the earth, warm and inviting, waiting for seeds to grow within her. Add a goddess symbol, such as a statue, cauldron, cup, , or other feminine items. Any circular item, such as a wreath or ring, can be used to represent the goddess as well.

Flowers and Faeries

Beltane is the time when the earth is greening once again -- as new life returns, flowers are abundant everywhere. Add a collection of early spring flowers to your altar -- daffodils, hyacinths, forsythia, daisies, tulips -- or consider making a floral crown to wear yourself. You may even want to pot some flowers or herbs as part of your Sabbat ritual.

In some cultures, Beltane is sacred to the Fae. If you follow a tradition that honors the Faerie realm, leave offerings on your altar for your household helpers.

Fire Festival

Because Beltane is one of the four fire festivals in

Beltane

modern Pagan traditions, find a way to incorporate fire into your altar setup. Although one popular custom is to hold a bonfire outside, that may not be practical for everyone, so instead it can be in the form of candles (the more the better), or a table-top brazier of some sort.

A small cast-iron cauldron placed on a heat-resistant tile makes a great place to build an indoor fire.

Other Symbols of Beltane

- May baskets
- Chalices
- Honey, oats, milk
- Antlers or horns
- Fruit such as cherries, mangos, pomegranates, peaches
- Swords, lances, arrows

Spell of the Month May

By: Rev. Boudicca

The "May Garland Wreath" Spell

Wreaths are a wonderful way to dress up one's home. They may be used inside the home or outside. This month's spell is taking the humble garland one step further. The wreath you make will bring love and good fortune to whatever home it is placed in.

What you will need for this Spell is:

- a pink candle, an orange candle, and a white candle (votive size and candle holder)
- a ready-made grapevine wreath or you may weave a wreath frame from grapevine or willow
- flowers such as: Lily of the Valley, roses, asters, jasmine, lavender, pink geranium, violets, periwinkle and apples—each apples—each representing love and success

Spell of the Month May

- greenery such as myrtle, rosemary, ivy (the smaller English ivy is best), lovage—each representing love and success
- your choice of incense for success (either stick or loose)
- your choice of incense for love (either stick or loose)
- oils for anointing candles (see below)
- cinnamon sticks (a jar's worth)
- decorative ribbons
- glue gun and sticks, or florists wire and tape
- incense burner or your spell pot (don't forget your charcoals); or holder for stick incense
- Matches

Begin by assembling all the items listed above. If you are weaving your own wreath frame, you should have this ready beforehand. Ground and center. Cast your circle as you would normally do. You may call in the Quarter Guardians and your choice of Deity if you wish.

Place the candles in a triangle around your incense burner, positioning them in a large enough triangle to accommodate your finished wreath. The base of your triangle directly in front of you with the white candle at the point of the triangle furthest from you, the pink candle at the point to your left, and the orange candle at the point to your right.

The white candle represents purity and sincerity. The pink candle represents well-being, devotion, and friendship. The orange

Spell of the Month May

candle represents hospitality and warmth. You should anoint each candle with an appropriate oil for each purpose or use an oil that will be good for all three.

Holding the wreath frame in both hands, start by seeing energy flowing from you into the wreath. As you do this, chant the following three times:

I give this wreath the foundation of friendship

I give this wreath the foundation of sincerity

I give this wreath the foundation of warmth

Start with the greenery and place it around the wreath using the materials needed (glue, florists tape, etc). While doing this imagine the warmth, sincerity, and friendship you wish to present to others. Imagine people coming to your door or into your home, being made to feel welcome and your good fortune for having them there.

When you have completed the greenery, you should place the flowers around the wreath in like manner. While I have listed greenery and flowers as suggestions above, you should research these to see which ones you feel most suit your purpose.

The cinnamon sticks can be placed at intervals around the wreath, but keep one stick out to be used later. If you are using stick incense, you will also need a stick of cinnamon incense.

Now that you have placed the greenery and flowers around your wreath, you can make bows or apply the colored ribbons in a decorative manner. Use ribbon colors that will complement your wreath and your home; keeping in mind the powers of the colors you are choosing.

Place the completed wreath in the center of your triangle of candles, with the incense burner (or sticks) in the center of the wreath. If using loose incense, mix them together and grind a little of one of the cinnamon sticks into the mixture. Make sure your coal is lit and place a small amount of the

Spell of the Month May

incense mixture onto your coal.

Light the white candle and say:

Candle of white,

It is my delight,

This wreath presents sincerity,

I welcome all in purity.

Light the pink candle and say:

Candle of pink,

With this wreath I forge a link,

To welcome all in friendship,

Well-being for all commensurate.

Light the orange candle and say:

Candle of orange,

Let not my friends feel foreign,

This wreath betokens hospitality,

Warmth of love and fortune given in totality.

Leave the candles to burn. Dismiss with thanks, the Quarter Guardians and any Deity you may have called. Do not ground your circle. Cut a door in your magick circle and leave the candle to burn. Close the door behind you. You may want to reenter your circle from time-to-time to add more incense to your burner, if you are using loose incense.

When the candles have gone out return to the circle and ground it. Take your wreath and place it either on your front door, back door, or inside your home in a prominent place. Say these words:

This wreath has been made with love and care.

Spell of the Month May

Love and good fortune for all I declare

Who come to my home,

From wherever they roam.

This is my will, so mote it be.

If you try this spell, I would love to hear from you as to how it worked for you. Was it effective? Was it too complicated? How practical was the spell? Were you able to get all the supplies you needed? Is there any other information you would have liked to have had to help you with the spell?

If you have any questions or you would like more information, you may contact me at

revboudicca@yahoo.com

Mother's Day History and Traditions

Submitted by: CeCe

Mother's Day History: Origin of the Modern Celebration

Mother's Day . . . Few of us are more than dimly aware of the history of our modern celebration of these extraordinary women. You can perhaps recall enough of the history of Mother's Day to know that it originated in the hills of Appalachia and is now celebrated in countries throughout the world. What you may not realize is that the founder of Mother's Day eventually confessed that she regretted ever starting the tradition.

In the United States, Mother's Day originated nearly 150 years ago, when Anna Jarvis, an Appalachian homemaker, organized a "Mother's Work Day" to raise awareness of poor economic and health conditions affecting the children in her community, a cause she believed would be best advocated by mothers.

Fifteen years later, Julia Ward Howe, a pacifist,

Mother's Day History and Traditions

suffragist, and author of the lyrics to the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," proposed an annual event called Mother's Day, but the idea received little support. She organized a day encouraging mothers to rally for peace, since she believed they bore the loss of human life more harshly than anyone else.

When Anna Jarvis died in 1905, her daughter (also named Anna) wished to create a memorial to her mother's work and began a campaign to institute an official holiday to honor mothers. The first Mother's Day observance was a church service honoring Anna's mother and all mothers that Anna arranged. She supplied the decorations for the service -- white carnations, her mother's favorite flowers, chosen because they represent sweetness, purity, and endurance. Today the white flowers signify that one's mother has died and red carnations in time became the symbol of a living mother.

Of Goddesses and Saints

The concept of Mother Earth arose centuries later in Greece. In the 7th century BCE, the poet Hesiod gave the "deep-breasted" earth mother the name Gaea, she who "gave birth" to the sky, sea, and mountains, as well as the ruling gods called the Titans. A few centuries later, Gaea's daughter Rhea, was honored each year with festivals called "Hilaria". The festivities lasted for three days and by all accounts were great family entertainment, with revelers bringing gifts and flowers to honor the mother of the Olympians. Throughout Asia Minor, similar Mother's Day festivals were held in honor of her counterpart, the goddess Cybele.

And here the stage was set for one of the great struggles of all time, a battle that the classicist Robert Graves described as one between the pagan Goddess and the Hebrew and Christian God. Known as the Magna Mater (Great Mother), Cybele was widely honored. Her worship, however, was associated with some rather repellent rituals that eventually led to the banishment of her followers

Mother's Day History and Traditions

from Rome, gravely weakening the goddess religions.

Graves notes that the Christian church declared war on the White Goddess, also known as the Triple Goddess, the ancient European deity who appeared as the new, full, and old moons, representing "The Female Goddess of Birth, Love and Death". The Christian Trinity, said Graves, eventually triumphed over the trinity of the Goddess. The Western male conquered the Eastern and agricultural female.

In victory, the patriarchal Holy Roman Catholic Church subsumed and welcomed its former opponents by calling itself "Mother Church." A new variation of Mother's Day, was put in place, this time in honor of the church itself. On the fourth Sunday in Lent, people brought gifts to the church where they had been baptized. This custom changed during late Medieval times when many children had to move away from home in order to find work and were only allowed one holiday a year, and it was on this fourth Sunday that the children went home to see their mothers. Thus the custom of "Mothering Sunday" was begun.

Similarly, in the Celtic countries and the British Isles, the powerful goddess Brigit was transformed into her Christian successor, St. Brigid. Brigit's sacred day, which was connected with the ewes coming into milk, became St. Brigid's Day. Though formal mother worship was never completely eliminated in the British Isles, by the 17th century Mother's Day had been almost completely submerged into Mothering Day. Not surprisingly, with the disappearance of a female deity, devotion to Mary, Mother of God, would soon emerge as the new Mother cult.

Mothers of Us All

However far away from its origins the celebration has migrated, Mother's Day is still much more than just a "Hallmark® holiday".

Mother's Day History and Traditions

And certainly more than remembering to send a card and flowers, or hanging out with the family. More, even, than expressing gratitude for the instrument by which you came to be.

It is an opportunity to recognize that we are part of something universal, that we are all sons and daughters of this earth, connected, with the same blood flowing in our veins, and the same needs and desires calling out to our hearts. It is about honoring each other, and seeking the spark of Divinity which resides in each and every one of us.

Though now commercialized, Mother's Day reminds us that we ought to take pause to appreciate the triumph and ferocity of motherhood that lies beneath the holiday's sweet surface.

The Maypole

Submitted by: CeCe

The Maypole is one of the traditional symbols of Beltane, and let's not kid ourselves about its purpose: it's a giant phallus.

Because Beltane festivities usually kicked off the night before with a big bonfire, the Maypole celebration usually took place shortly after sunrise the next morning. This was when couples (and probably more than a few surprised triads) came staggering in from the fields, clothes in disarray and straw in their hair after a night of bonfire-inspired lustiness.

Difficulty: Average

Time Required: Varied

Here's How:

1. The pole was erected on the village green or common, or even a handy field -- thrust into

The Maypole

the ground either permanently or on a temporary basis -- and brightly colored ribbons attached to it. Young people came and danced around the pole, each holding the end of a ribbon. As they wove in and out, men going one way and women the other, it created a sleeve of sorts -- the enveloping womb of the earth -- around the pole. By the time they were done, the Maypole was nearly invisible beneath a sheath of ribbons.

2. To set up your own Maypole dance, here's what you'll need:

- o A pole anywhere from 15 to 20 feet long, preferably made of wood
- o
- o Guests who like to have fun

Dig a hole in advance, a few feet deep. You don't want your friends to wait while you hunt for a shovel. The hole should be at least three feet deep, to keep the pole from flopping over during the ceremony.

3. Ask each participant to bring their own ribbon -- it should be about 20 feet long, by two to three inches wide. Once everyone arrives, attach the ribbons to one end of the pole (if you put a metal eyelet screw in the pole beforehand, it makes it a lot easier -- you can just tie each ribbon to the eyelet). Have extras on hand, because inevitably someone will have forgotten theirs.

4. Once the ribbons are attached, raise the pole until it is vertical, and slide it into the hole. Be sure to make lots of bawdy jokes here. Pack dirt in around the base of the pole so it won't shift or fall during the dance.

1. If you don't have an equal number of male and female guests, don't worry. Just have everyone count off by twos. People who are "1" will go in a clockwise direction, people who are "2" go counterclockwise. Hold your ribbons in

SUMMER

The Maypole

the hand that is closest to the pole, your inside hand. As you move in the circle, pass people by on first the left, and then the right, then the left again. If you're passing them on the outside, hold your ribbon up so they pass under it. You might want to do a practice round beforehand. Keep going until everyone runs out of ribbon, and then knot all the ribbons at the bottom.

2. One thing that's always welcome at a Maypole Dance is music. There are a number of CDs available, but there are some bands whose music have a May theme to them. Look for the phrase "Morris music" or traditional pipe and drum tunes. Of course, the best thing of all is to have live music, so if you have friends who are willing to share their skill and sit out the dance, ask them to provide some musical entertainment for you.

Tips: 1. If you're doing a kids' Maypole, it's probably easier just to have them all go in one direction with their ribbons. It doesn't look quite as fancy when it's done, but it's still pretty.

2. You may want to have a crown of flowers attached as well -- put that at the top once all the ribbons are in place, but before you raise the pole.

What You Need:

- A pole
- Lots of ribbon
- Friends who like to have a good time

Who Am I?

By Rev Azriel

In Anatolia, I rule over all matters of fate and am an adept diviner, often using a mirror for descrying so I can share insights into the future. Besides this, I personally weave the thread of life for each person born, patterning everyones destiny.

Who Am I?

I am celebrated by the Whirling Dervishes in Turkey as a ritual dance through which the devout attain oneness with the divine, often for the purpose of fortune-telling. My festival includes chanting while dancers twirl around, effectively becoming the center of a magickal circle formed by their skirts.

My themes are divination, communication with the Divine, and destiny. My symbols are the Sacred Dance, circles, mirrors, and thread.

Who am I?

April's Answer:

I am the Hawaiian Goddess of Hula, through which the myths, legends, and histories of the Hawaiian people are kept intact. I charge my dedicants with the sacred duty of collecting the treasures of our personal legacies and recording them to share with future generations.

I am the sister of Pele (The Volcano Goddess) and a Nature Goddess who can be invoked for rain. Artistic renditions show me wearing yellow garments, bedecked with flowers, and always dancing.

My themes are tradition, heritage, weather, and the arts. My symbols are lei flowers, dancing, and the color yellow.

I am the Hawaiian Goddess Laka!

Moon Garden

Submitted by: CeCe

Many Wiccans and Pagans love to garden, but a lot of people don't realize you can grow plants and flowers that bloom at night. Cultivating a moon garden is a great way to get in touch with nature, and it provides a beautiful and fragrant backdrop for your moonlight rituals in the summer.

Moon Garden

If you plant these lovelies close to your house, you can open the windows and take advantage of their aromas as you sleep.

Many night-blooming plants are white, and give a luminous appearance in the moonlight. If you plant them in a circle or a crescent shape, when they bloom, you'll have the moon herself right there "as above, so below." There are a number of plants that open at night -- mix them in with silver-foliaged day bloomers.

Night Blooming Plants

- Moonflower: Yes, it should be painfully obvious, but the Moonflower really does bloom at night.
- It releases a slightly lemony scent when it opens up, and during the day the white flowers are tightly shut. Some species of this climbing plant, a cousin of the Morning Glory, can get up to eight feet long*. The flowers, when open, are around 5 - 6" in diameter.
-
- Evening Primrose: This perennial spreads rapidly, and can cover a lot of ground for you. The pale pinkish-white flowers open at dusk, and release a sweet aroma.
-
- Night Phlox: these pretties open up at dusk, and have a fragrance reminiscent of honey or vanilla.
-
- Evening Stock: the tiny purple and pink flowers aren't very fancy, but they smell divine when they open at night.
-
- Angel's Trumpet: Another vine, this annual spreads like crazy. Its trumpet-shaped, white flowers have a bell-like appearance when open.
-
- Night Gladiolus: this plant isn't actually

Moon Garden

- nocturnal, but that's when the creamy yellow flowers smell the strongest -- it's a very spicy scent that's a glorious addition to any night garden.

Day Blooming White and Silver Plants

- Dusty Millers
- Silver Thyme
- Lamb's Ears
- Mugwort (Artemesia)
- Silver Sage
- White vegetables such as Alba eggplants or Baby Boo or Lumina pumpkins

Herbs and Flowers with Lunar Connections

- Camphor
- Eucalyptus
- Gardenia
- Jasmine
- Moonwort
- Sandalwood
- Willow
- Water Lily
- Sleepwort

What to do With Your Moon Garden Plants

When you have plants that have blossomed under the powerful energy of a full moon, the possibilities are just about endless. Harvest the flowers and dry them to use in talismans or charms. Use them to dress a Moon Moon Candle or as part of a purification bath. Include them in incense blends to help enhance your intuition and wisdom.

*Note: Be sure to provide a trellis or other support for climbers like the Moonflower. If they don't have a stable surface to hang onto, they're less likely to fully bloom.

Rituals of Motherhood

*By Andrea E. Feeser
Submitted by: Ce Ce*

*Note: This file may be distributed freely, so long as it remains intact and credit is given to the author.

*The Full Moon of the Mother ritual is pending publishing in Circle Network News, as of 1994.

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DIVINATIONS FOR THE CHILD

If you wish to do a divination for the child, it is best if you already feel mentally and spiritually connected to him/her.

Prepare as you usually do for divination, laying out the tools you will use. Now, relax and center. Open your mind to that connection. You should feel an opening of the Third Eye chakra. Visualize a stream of light connecting your Third Eye with your awareness of the child in the center of your body. When you feel you have made this connection, proceed with your divination while maintaining this altered mental state.

BIRTHING SACHET

Here is a birthing sachet I devised. It should be held during meditations of peaceful childbirth. You should also have it with you during the actual childbirth, so that the associations with a peaceful and easy childbirth are awakened in your subconscious.

Take some leaves from a willow tree (for ease of birth), lavender (for peace) and clove (for protection). Place them in a small bowl and empower them. Do this by building up energy in your body and concentrating it out through the palms of your hands (which you should hold over or around the bowl). Visualize a peaceful and easy childbirth. Then, send all the energy out into the bowl in a final burst, while gently breathing onto the

Rituals of Motherhood

herbs (if you breath to heavily, the herbs will not be in the bowl anymore!). Now, place the mixture of herbs into a white bag or cloth and tie it up. You should immediately use the birthing sachet while meditating on a peaceful childbirth.

FULL MOON OF THE MOTHER

When I was pregnant with my second child, I felt a need to experience my pregnancy in a spiritual vein. I set out to find rituals, meditations, myths-anything I could in connection with pregnancy and motherhood. Much to my surprise, I found very little modern material specifically focused on the spiritual experience of pregnancy. This lead me to do my own work in visioning and research in order to come up with practical ideas. I was quite blessed by the Goddess and experienced a depth of the divine within that I had not previously thought possible.

I would like to share a ritual I created. It is a celebration of motherhood and a means of exploring the spiritual implications of motherhood. It is most effective toward the end of pregnancy (the last month or two), but it can also be used by a mother who is not presently pregnant. This is a solitary ritual, but it can be easily adapted for group use.

The Ritual

You will need your basic altar setup for your tradition, milk or juice for the toast, and a personal anointing oil.

Relax, ground and center. Then, cast the circle according to your tradition.

Invoke the Elements:

"Hail! Thou Element of Air,
Lord of the East!
May you bring the knowledge of the
Mother,
And watch over this Circle."

Rituals of Motherhood

"Hail! Thou Element of Fire,
Lord of the South!
May you bring the energy of creation,
And watch over this Circle."

"Hail! Thou Element of Water,
Lord of the West!
May you bring the gift of rebirth,
And watch over this Circle."

Hail! Thou Element of Earth,
Lord of the North!
May you bring the promise of the Child,
And watch over this Circle."

Invite the Lord and Lady:

"Come Thou now, I pray,
Great and Dark Lord
Cernunnos with power of seed.
Bring me strength in body."

"Come thou now, I pray,
Mother Goddess, divine,
Selene, Woman, full and complete.
Bring me wisdom in mystery."

Now, raise the cup in salute the Lord and Lady, and drink a toast in their honor.

At this point I usually do an exercise to open the chakras and build-up the flow of energy. You may wish to do the same, or use another method of building up the flow if energy in your body. Then, stand in an adoration position and call to the goddess (this may be used for drawing-down the Goddess-energy, or simply aligning yourself to the Goddess).

"Hail to You, Great Mother!
Wisdom of the Ages,
Gateway of life,
You who are at the beginning
And the middle and the end,

Rituals of Motherhood

Let Your great power shine through me.

Inspire me with Your passion.
Give me Your strength and gentleness.
Grant me Your wisdom and power.
Lead me through worlds unknown.
Reveal Yourself this night, I pray."

Spend time communing with the Goddess and receiving any messages she has for you.

When you are ready, make the affirmation in preparation for the self-blessing.

Speak in a strong, assured tone:

"Let me claim my power now.

As Woman, whole and complete,
I possess the power of Life,
I possess the power of Death,
I possess the power of Rebirth,
And I am the Threshold."

For the self-blessing, take the oil and anoint each area as you speak the blessing.

Anoint crown:

"Blessed be the Crown
In wisdom and inspiration."

Anoint third eye (above and between your eyes):

"Blessed be the Jewel
In sight and inner knowledge."

Anoint throat:

"Blessed be the Flute
In pure communication."

Anoint heart:

Rituals of Motherhood

"Blessed be the Door
In love and understanding."

Anoint solar plexus:

"Blessed be the Light
That shines within the temple."

Anoint navel:

"Blessed be the Child (or Anchor, if not
pregnant) In strength and fortitude."

Anoint pubis:

"Blessed be the Gateway
Between Death and Life."

You may wish to spend time in meditation or divination. When you are ready, close the Circle according to your tradition.

This may seem to be a simple ritual, but I have found it immensely helpful in opening myself up to communing with the Goddess as mother and receiving visions in connection with that Mother-Goddess-energy. I hope that it will bring some fulfillment to other mothers. Blessed be!

OFFERING THANKS FOR SAFE CHILDBIRTH

This is a mini-ritual of thanksgiving to be offered sometime after childbirth. It is in the form of pouring a libation in honor of the Goddess. You may wish to offer some of your lochia or breast milk as the libation offering.

Raise the cup, saying:

"Hail and thanks to you, Great Mother!
You who have guided me through the
darkness.
To the gates of Death you brought me.

Rituals of Motherhood

And safely have I returned
With s/he who was waiting, in love,
To be reborn.
For this, Great Mother, I give thanks
And honor you this night."

Pour the libation.

History of Mother's Day

May 11th 2008

Submitted by: CeCe

Mother's Day is the nation's third-largest card-sending holiday, and according to Hallmark cards, 136 million Mother's Day cards will be sold this year. But card companies had nothing to do with the holiday's creation. Here's a history of this holiday set aside to honor parenting:



Mother's Day rituals can be found throughout the world. Most of civilization's earliest cultures were matriarchal in nature and paid tribute to female goddesses. Perhaps the earliest Mother's Day can be traced back to celebrations of spring in ancient Greece in honor of Rhea, the mother of the gods. The Romans also had a mother of all the gods, named Cybele. A temple on the Palatine Hill in Rome was built for her. Each year starting on March 15, a three-day celebration called the Festival of Hilaria honored her. Gifts were brought to the temple to please this powerful mother-goddess.

History of Mother's Day

May 11th 2008

With the emergence of Christianity, a celebration developed to honor the "Mother Church." On the fourth Sunday in Lent, people brought gifts to the church where they had been baptized. As an increasing number of people left their birthplaces to seek work elsewhere, the holiday emerged as the one day a year they could return home to see their mothers. In 17th century England, the day was called "Mothering Sunday," and mothers often received a "mothering cake" for the occasion.

In the United States, author and reformer Julia Ward Howe (1819 - 1910) suggested a celebration of a Mother's Day in 1872 as a day dedicated to peace. During the Civil War, Howe was famous as an ardent abolitionist and was inspired to write the words to "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" by a visit to a Union army camp. After the war, she used her influence for the women's suffrage movement, becoming the first president of the American Woman Suffrage Association in 1869. She also became an outspoken advocate for peace and headed the American branch of the Woman's International Peace Association.

Howe envisioned Mother's Day as "a worldwide protest of women against the cruelties of war." She organized Mother's Day meetings in her hometown of Boston for several years, but these meetings never developed into a national holiday.

A schoolteacher named Anna M. Jarvis (1864 - 1948) is credited with gaining recognition for our modern celebration of Mother's Day. She created the holiday to honor her departed mother, Anna Reese Jarvis of Grafton, W. Va. The younger Jarvis remembered her mother's comments that men were always being honored, but not women or mothers, and that the scars of the Civil War could be healed if mothers were treated with more respect.

History of Mother's Day

May 11th 2008

In 1907, Jarvis, then living in Philadelphia, began a campaign to establish a national Mother's Day. She persuaded her mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia, to celebrate Mother's Day on the second anniversary of her mother's death, the second Sunday of May. The next year, Mother's Day was also celebrated in Philadelphia. Jarvis also began the custom of wearing a carnation, her mother's favorite flower.

Jarvis and her supporters organized a grassroots campaign and wrote to politicians, ministers and businessmen in their quest to establish a national Mother's Day. The governor of West Virginia issued the first Mother's Day proclamation in 1910. By 1911, almost every state celebrated Mother's Day. The U.S. House of Representatives voted in 1913 to request that the president, the Cabinet, members of the House and Senate, and government officials wear a white carnation on Mother's Day.

In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson officially proclaimed Mother's Day a national holiday to be held each year on the second Sunday of May. Wilson, who had often thrown obstacles in the way of women's winning the right to vote, may have seen the proclamation as an appeasement to the nation's women, but suffragists were unimpressed. To them, the gesture appeared trite and condescending, even insulting; they viewed the Mother's Day proclamation as a message that women should be content with motherhood, go home and stop organizing for suffrage. (Fortunately for us, they did not.) Jarvis herself intensely disliked the commercialization of the holiday, particularly the marketing of cards and flowers. She even filed a lawsuit to stop a 1923 Mother's Day festival and was arrested for disturbing the peace at a war mothers' convention where women sold white carnations to raise money. "This is not what I intended," Jarvis said. "I wanted it to be a day of sentiment, not profit!"

History of Mother's Day

May 11th 2008

Shortly before her death in 1948 at age 84, Jarvis told a reporter she was sorry she had ever started Mother's Day. She spoke these words from a nursing home where, on every Mother's Day, her room was filled with cards from all over the world. She never married or had children of her own. Before she became disenchanted with Mother's Day, Jarvis organized the International Mother's Day Association, and as a result, more than 40 countries observed Mother's Day by the time she died. While many countries celebrate at different times throughout the year, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia, Japan and Belgium all celebrate Mother's Day on the second Sunday in May.

In South Africa and France, Mother's Day is celebrated on the first Sunday in May. Norway observes Mother's Day on the second Sunday in February, and Argentina celebrates it on the second Sunday in October. Lebanon celebrates Mother's Day on the first day of spring. In both Spain and Portugal, Mother's Day is celebrated on Dec. 8 as a day of thanks to the Virgin Mary, but also a day when children honor their mothers. Sweden celebrates Mother's Day on the last Sunday in May; the Swedish Red Cross sells tiny plastic flowers to raise funds to give vacations to mothers with many children.

Herb of the Month

Submitted by: Rhonda

Honeysuckle



Herb of the Month

Planet: Jupiter **Gender:** Masculine **Tarot:** The Magician

Zodiac Sign: Aries **Animal:** Mouse **Color:** Yellow

Rune: Daeg **Common Names:** Woodbine, Goat's Leaf,

Magical Properties: Psychic awareness, Prosperity, Healing, Weight Loss

Honeysuckle belongs to the plant family, Caprifoliaceae and has over 180 species. The most common of these are: (Lonicera sempervirens – woodbine or trumpet vine; Lonicera japonica – Japanese honeysuckle; and Lonicera periclymenum – European honeysuckle).

Caprifoliaceae relates to the goat and its ability to climb. Another member of this plant group is the Elder: thus lending some of its properties to the honeysuckle. The name Woodbine aptly describes the honeysuckle's twisting branches. Honeysuckle is classified as a shrub, but is also a strong and quick climbing vine.

MAGICAL USES: Psychic awareness, weight loss, protection, health, luck, beauty, wisdom, confidence and balance, peace, and prosperity and it represents secrets and hidden knowledge, making it a true occult herb. There are many ways to apply Honeysuckle to magical intent. In addition to using the flowers (which dry beautifully and can be crushed into powder easily), the vines and branches can be used for wreaths, wands, staffs and incense. Crushed dried honeysuckle flowers rubbed on the forehead induces psychic visions. In folk magic it has long been used to manifest the sweet scent of money. During the Victorian era, it was used by women to encourage erotic dreams, making it a perfect ingredient for dream sachets. Honeysuckle is used during Ostara to decorate the altar and to welcome fresh new beginnings. It is also used during Mabon to represent life emerging from winter's death.

Honeysuckle also attracts fairies and they often make their homes in the dense vines.

Herb of the Month

HEALTH: The health benefits of honeysuckle tea are well known as a sore throat treatment and all-around detoxifier. It has been used for years to aid in the cure of colds, staph and strep infections, salmonella, urinary tract infection, and fever. It shows promise in its ability to lower blood pressure and cholesterol, and in treatment of food poisoning and tuberculosis.

Chewing the leaves and using the ground flower mixture on bee stings, poison oak, and other rashes eases the itching and stinging.

In Asian medicine Honeysuckle is widely praised and ranked as one of its 10 most valuable medicinal ingredients used. It is extensively used there to combating tonsillitis, colds, flu and strep throat.

Honeysuckle is one of Edward Bach's flower remedies. It promotes emotional healing and is recommended for those who obsessively yearn for the past and missed opportunities. It helps in overcoming negativity. It helps people move past painful memories and experiences and instill optimism about the present and future. This is especially helpful for people who can't seem to overcome the loss or separation of a loved one. It may also help children who are homesick or who are being separated from friends due to moving, divorce and other traumatic changes in their lives.

BEAUTY: Honeysuckle has been used to scent bath products, perfumes and room fragrances for centuries. Add fresh honeysuckle to your bath and catch the delicious aroma as it lifts your mood, enhances your psychic ability, and helps you lose a pound or two. For weight loss, inhale the scent of a few strands of honeysuckle while visualizing yourself the size you want to be. Do this whenever you feel the urge to binge. I keep a strand hanging near the fridge when available.

HONEYSUCKLE IN THE GARDEN: Honeysuckle is a very strong plant. In fact, fire cannot destroy it. You should be very careful when placing it in your garden as it will take over and smother everything else if left unattended. It can be trained to grow

Herb of the Month

over a trellis or arbor or an unsightly fence to make a beautiful landscaping statement that will also attract wildlife, including butterflies and hummingbirds. For the White Admiral Butterfly, honeysuckle is its sole source of food. Honeysuckle is an important food staple for white tailed deer, birds and bees. The strength and density of the vines provide protection for small animals and birds. Larger animals use it for bedding. Another commercial use today is for cat toys using small slithers of the of the woody vine. Some give this to their cats instead of Catnip.

Native Americans used the vines for weaving baskets after boiling them for several hours to soften the fibers enough to work with. Honeysuckle has also been used historically to make rope, tobacco pipes, walking sticks, and the teeth of rakes.

If you take a good look at a vine on the Japanese honeysuckle you will notice that the flowers are arranged in pairs – one yellow and one white. Nectar produced from these flowers is deliciously, light and sweet. It has been used to make wine, syrups, jellies, and puddings. In fact, the flowers themselves are candied. Some honeysuckle leaves can be boiled and eaten (after repeated washing – they also contain saponin which are toxic). They are very rich in potassium, magnesium and calcium.

The many uses of honeysuckle makes it a must in the Witches garden. Just make sure you plant yours in a controlled area and prune often for a wonderful addition to your very own garden. Honeysuckle is considered a nuisance to many gardeners due to its abundance in America. Take advantage of this wonderful flower for a brighter outlook on life.

Caution: Some species of honeysuckle produce berries (which in some cases are poison), so it is best to leave the berries alone unless you have extensive knowledge of the plant.

Blessed Be, Porschalyln

The History of Beltane

Submitted by: CeCe

The Fires of Tara:

Beltane kicks off the merry month of May, and has a long history. This fire festival is celebrated on May 1 with bonfires, Maypoles, dancing, and lots of good old fashioned sexual energy. The Celts honored the fertility of the gods with gifts and offerings, sometimes including animal or human sacrifice.

Cattle were driven through the smoke of the balefires, and blessed with health and fertility for the coming year. In Ireland, the fires of Tara were the first ones lit every year at Beltane, and all other fires were lit with a flame from Tara.

Roman Influences:

The Romans, always known for celebrating holidays in a big way, spent the first day of May paying tribute to their *Lares*, the gods of their household. They also celebrated the Floralia, or festival of flowers, which consisted of three days of unbridled sexual activity. Participants wore flowers in their hair (much like May Day celebrants later on), and there were plays, songs, and dances. At the end of the festivities, animals were set loose inside the Circus Maximus, and beans were scattered around to ensure fertility. The fire festival of Bona Dea was also celebrated on May 2nd.

A Pagan Martyr:

May 6 is the day of Eyvind Kelve in Norse celebrations. Eyvind Kelve was a pagan martyr who was tortured and drowned on the orders of King Olaf Tryggvason for refusing to give up his pagan beliefs. A week later, Norwegians celebrate the Festival of the Midnight Sun, which pays tribute to the Norse sun goddess. This festival marks the beginning of ten straight weeks without darkness.

The Greeks and Plynteria:

Also in May, the Greeks celebrated the Plynteria in

The History of Beltane

honor of Athena, the goddess of wisdom and battle, and the patroness of the city of Athens (which was named after her). The Plynteria includes the ritual cleansing of Athena's statue, along with feasting and prayers in the Parthenon. On the 24th, homage is paid to the Greek moon-goddess Artemis (goddess of the hunt and of wild animals). Artemis is a lunar goddess, equivalent to the Roman moon-goddess Diana – she is also identified with Luna, and Hecate.

The Green Man Emerges:

A number of pre-Christian figures are associated with the month of May, and subsequently Beltane. The entity known as the Green Man is often found in the legends and lore of the British Isles, and is a masculine face covered in leaves and shrubbery. In some parts of England, a Green Man is carried through town in a wicker cage as the townsfolk welcome the beginning of summer. Impressions of the Green Man's face can be found in the ornamentation of many of Europe's older cathedrals, despite edicts from local bishops forbidding stonemasons from including such pagan imagery.

Jack-in-the-Green:

A related character is Jack-in-the-Green, a spirit of the greenwood. References to Jack appear in British literature back as far as the late sixteenth century. Sir James Frazer associates the figure with mummers and the celebration of the life force of trees. Jack-in-the-Green was seen even in the Victorian era, when he was associated with soot-faced chimney sweeps. At this time, Jack was framed in a structure of wicker and covered with leaves, and surrounded by Morris dancers. Some scholars suggest that Jack may have been an ancestor to the legend of Robin Hood.

Ancient Symbols, Modern Rites:

Today's Pagans and Wiccans celebrate Beltane much like their ancestors did. A Beltane ritual usually involves lots of fertility symbols, including the

The History of Beltane

obviously-phallic Maypole dance. The Maypole is a tall pole decorated with flowers and hanging ribbons, which are woven into intricate pattern by a group of dancers. Weaving in and out, the ribbons are eventually knotted together by the time the dancers reach the end.

In some Wiccan traditions, Beltane is a day in which the May Queen and the Queen of Winter battle one another for supremacy. In this rite, borrowed from practices on the Isle of Man, each queen has a band of supporters. On the morning of May 1, the two companies battle it out, ultimately trying to win victory for their queen. If the May Queen is captured by her enemies, she must be ransomed before her followers can get her back.

There are some who believe Beltane is a time for the faeries -- the appearance of flowers around this time of year heralds the beginning of summer and shows us that the fae are hard at work. In early folklore, to enter the realm of faeries is a dangerous step -- and yet the more helpful deeds of the fae should always be acknowledged and appreciated. If you believe in faeries, Beltane is a good time to leave out food and other treats for them in your garden or yard.

For many contemporary Pagans, Beltane is a time for planting and sowing of seeds -- again, the fertility theme appears. The buds and flowers of early May bring to mind the endless cycle of birth, growth, death and rebirth that we see in the earth. Certain trees are associated with May Day, such as the Ash, Oak and Hawthorn. In Norse legend, the god Odin hung from an Ash tree for nine days, and it later became known as the World Tree, Yggdrasil. If you've been wanting to bring abundance and fertility of any sort into your life -- whether you're looking to conceive a child, enjoy fruitfulness in your career or creative endeavors, or just see your garden bloom -- Beltane is the perfect time for magical workings related to any type of prosperity.

Margaret Mitchell

“Gone with the Wind”

Submitted by: Windy Lajoie

UXL Encyclopedia of World Biography, (2003)

Margaret Mitchell

Author of *Gone With the Wind*, the most popular novel ever written, Margaret Mitchell (1900-1949) was born on November 8 in Atlanta, Georgia, the burning of which became a spectacular scene in the immensely successful motion picture made from the book.

As a child Margaret Mitchell was saturated with stories of the Civil War told to her by family members who had lived through it. They indoctrinated her so effectively that Mitchell was ten years old before she learned that the South had lost the war. Her venturesomeness as a young woman, which included a year at Smith College and a subsequent career in Atlanta journalism, reflected the influence of her mother, Maybelle, an ardent supporter of woman suffrage. After her mother's death of influenza during the epidemic of 1918 Mitchell returned to Atlanta. Four years later she married Berrien Kinnard Upshaw, an attractive, romantic, but violent and unstable man who is often regarded as the prototype of *Gone With the Wind* Rhett Butler. Their marriage lasted only three months, although they were not divorced until 1924. The following year Mitchell wedded John Marsh, a union that would last her lifetime.

Mitchell had become a feature writer for the *Atlanta Journal* in 1922, and by the time she resigned in 1926 she was considered the paper leading feature writer. These years were, she would later say, the happiest of her life. Yet, despite her success and the pleasure she took in her work, Mitchell bowed to the still powerful convention that a wife should be supported by her husband, leaving the *Journal* as soon as John finances permitted. Childless and with no outside obligations, Mitchell turned her

Margaret Mitchell

“Gone with the Wind”

hand to fiction and was soon writing what would become *Gone With the Wind*. She had largely completed the novel in 1935 when Harold Latham, an acquisitions editor at Macmillan, arrived in Atlanta looking for manuscripts. Mitchell served as his guide, and when Latham departed he took with him the huge, unpolished manuscript Mitchell had stuffed into numerous envelopes. Although it was in the worst physical condition of any manuscript he had ever seen, Latham was the first of millions to find it compulsively readable despite its length which would come to 1,037 printed pages.

Gone With the Wind tells the story of Scarlett O’Hara, whose father owns a plantation named Tara during the Civil War and Reconstruction. At its start she falls in love with Ashley Wilkes, a neighbor, who loves and marries the virtuous Melanie Hamilton rather than herself. Out of spite, Scarlett marries Melanie’s brother, Charles, who soon dies of various diseases after enlisting in the Confederate Army. Scarlett, now a mother, spends most of the war with Melanie in Atlanta, from which Scarlett and her son and Melanie and her newborn child barely escape when the city is fired, making their way to Tara. In order to save the ruined plantation Scarlett marries again, and is again widowed when her husband is slain leading a Ku Klux Klan attack on the Black section of Atlanta, where Scarlett had been molested by a freedman. After this she marries Rhett Butler, a dashing and dangerous man who has loved her for years and whose wealth will ensure her ownership of Tara. Eventually she realizes that it is Butler she loves after all, not Wilkes, but as by this time she has thoroughly alienated Butler he leaves her with the line immortalized by Clark Gable in the film version: My dear, I don’t give a damn.

Gone With the Wind was a Book-of-the-Month Club main selection even before it was published in 1936. The movie rights were quickly purchased by Selznick- International for \$50,000, an immense

Margaret Mitchell

“Gone with the Wind”

sum during the Great Depression. In 1937 Mitchell was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. Two years later David Selznick brilliant film adaptation opened in Atlanta to rapturous acclaim, not just in the South but everywhere. Like the book, which had sold eight million copies as of 1949, *Gone With the Wind* became one of the most popular and durable motion pictures every made. It won ten Academy Awards in 1940 and was the world’s highest grossing picture for over 20 years.

Mitchell never wrote again, refusing even to collaborate on the screenplay despite Selznick entreaties. During World War II she threw herself into defense-related activities, but otherwise spent the rest of her life shepherding her book through many foreign editions, protecting her financial and copyright interests, and answering her extensive fan mail. Considering her extraordinary fame and the fortune her book brought her, happiness seems to have eluded Mitchell. She was subject to bouts of depression. Her last years were clouded by her husband invalidism following a near-fatal heart attack. Unexpectedly, she died first on August 16, 1949, after being struck by a drunk driver while crossing an Atlanta street.

Among critics *Gone With the Wind* has always been controversial. Few regard it as great literature, but beginning with the Pulitzer Prize Committee many critics have admired Mitchell gift for storytelling and the breadth of her canvas. The book has been hailed as a contribution to feminism, held up as an allegory for the development of the United States, and condemned as racist and even sadomasochistic.

Racist it unquestionably is almost inevitably so, given the time and place of its composition. Beyond that, it gives powerful support to damaging stereotypes that for long helped sustain racial segregation. It romanticizes the slave-owning class, and, except perhaps for D.W. Griffith classic *Birth of a Nation*, no work has done more to misrepresent

Margaret Mitchell

"Gone with the Wind"

Reconstruction as a cruelty visited upon an innocent white South whereas today historians generally agree that it was an honest, if flawed, attempt to bring real democracy to a region that had never known it. In light of the book's continuing sales the controversy over it seems destined to persist, like *Gone With the Wind* itself.

"Margaret Mitchell". UXL Encyclopedia of World Biography. (2003). FindArticles.com. 14 Apr. 2008. http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_gx5229/is_2003/ai_n19148781

May 08 Horoscopes

By Rev Aziel



Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18)

Stop looking for wine and roses in your relationships. You're only going to be disappointed if that's what you think it's all about. You have to face the realities and hardships that accompany any romance if you want to make it work this time.

Key Word: Railroad

Lucky Numbers: 46, 33, 31, 34, 45



Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20)

Now is the time to put that great idea into effect. If you combine the desire with the deed, you will inevitably experience success. All you need is a little push to get going, then run as hard and as fast as you can with it if you really want it to work.

Key Word: Shepherd

May 08 Horoscopes

Lucky Numbers: 52, 21, 48, 39, 49



Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19)

Don't let your self-confidence and arrogance get the better of you. Opportunities and invitations are on the way. These may seem to be initially unimportant, but this is a time of promise. If ever there was a time for wisdom, this is it!

Key Words: Amor

Lucky Numbers: 42, 19, 3, 43, 27



Taurus (Apr 20-May 20)

If you really want that job, you have to go for it now if you haven't already. A financial windfall is just around the corner; you just have to work for it. Be sure to consider other people's feelings or you could suffer an acute loss.

Key Word: Ring

Lucky Numbers: 23, 35, 47, 22, 7



Gemini (May 21-Jun 21)

Try to put a curb on those mood swings. You're pushing those people closest to you away. Don't get worked up about that brief relationship. You'll meet someone soon that will appreciate you for who you really are.

Key Word: Children

Lucky Numbers: 12, 8, 29, 25, 38

May 08 Horoscopes



Cancer (Jun 22-Jul 22)

Stop putting everything off until the last minute. You're only going to make things worse for yourself. Go out and buy a daily planner, write little reminders to yourself, or tie a string around your finger. You've really got to get it together and soon!

Key Word: Roses

Lucky Numbers: 41, 44, 37, 50, 15



Leo (Jul 22-Aug 22)

Try not to let your pride get injured so easily. You are a wonderful person, and you need to see teasing for what it is. It's not meant to hurt your feelings. Successful ventures in business and love are forthcoming.

Key Word: Anchor

Lucky Numbers: 28, 16, 5, 13, 18



Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 23)

You need to slow down and start taking your time. Don't get involved with too many things at once. It's good that you want to do it all, but just make sure that you can do everything you've committed to without jeopardizing what really matters to you.

Key Word: Wine

Lucky Numbers: 40, 9, 32, 1, 11

May 08 Horoscopes



Libra (Sept 24-Oct 22)

You've been holding a grudge for far too long. It's time to let it go and move on with your life. Once you can move on from the past, good news and a happy life are imminent. Certain success is forthcoming.

Key Word: Rider

Lucky Numbers: 14, 36, 2, 20, 4



Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21)

Go out on a limb for once. Be daring and spontaneous. Face your problems – they're not going to go away by themselves. Don't choose the easy path this time or family quarrels and pecuniary losses will be unavoidable.

Key Word: Rod

Lucky Numbers: 30, 26, 24, 10, 6



Sagittarius (Nov 22- Dec 21)

Your opinions mean a lot to others right now, but only state them when they are asked for. People are going to look up to you and value highly what you have to say. Your popularity is going to get a major boost soon.

Key Word: Fish

Lucky Numbers: 17, 45, 31, 24, 23

May 08 Horoscopes



Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19)

Don't start to feel overwhelmed so soon. Your work load will even out and you'll have time on your hands to do whatever it is that you want. Now is the time to get a head start on vacation planning or else you'll fall far behind: you won't be pleased with your last minute decisions.

Key Word: Book

Lucky Numbers: 22, 9, 52, 37, 6

Monthly Tarot Reading

Tarot Reading by Thora

This month features the Robin Wood deck.

May 1-3= Nine of Wands reversed

May 4-10=Chariot

May 11-17=4 of Swords

May18-23=King of Pentacles

May 24-31= World

The first three days of the month are influenced by the nine of wands reversed. This card tells us to not be lax in our vigilance because enemies to one's health, safety and property are at stake. Safeguard your property with whatever you need to feel safe. Safeguard your and your family's health and wellbeing by going to the doctor and getting a checkup. Be careful because even though things look fine now, unforeseen forces are looming on the horizon, ready to take advantage of the unwary guardsman's situation.

The second week reveals the chariot, which advises circumspection and caution, especially

Monthly Tarot Reading

when dealing with strangers and especially adversaries. The chariot does give a person the power to run rough shod over whomever the client sees as a foe, but that is inadvisable at this time. Take the advice of the chariot to heart and you successfully conquer your enemies through sound reasoning and good judgment and charisma. Even though there will be times when you want to duke it out with your covenors, family or co-workers, don't. Let the chariot navigate you to victory through discipline and strength of character.

The third Week brings us the four of swords. The good knight resting on his tomb and not inside it advises us to relax especially after these past few months of war and strife. Rest, clear your mind and let your heart turn to spiritual concerns. For soon you will have the chance to turn your sword into a plowshare.

The Forth Week ushers in the King of Pentacles. He is a man concerned with finances, security and well being. Especially financial well being. He is slow to change, but someone reliable and reasonable and someone you can deal with, especially on a monetary basis. Garner a friendship with this man should actually happen to step into your life, otherwise, watch for the energies that the king produces for this week and harness them into doing the most good.

The Fifth week is the World. The world being so close to such a wonderful and prosperous card as the King of Pentacle tells us that now is the time to focus on and put to use all the abundance that is coming your way. You may also feel an awareness of your limitations and wish to spread your wings, to bring your potential into fruition. Further you might find yourself overwhelmed by a complicated and all encompassing experience. It may even be a life changing experience, but not a bad one. Adapt, grow wings and fly. It's spring. The dance of life has arrived at last. Enjoy every precious moment of it.

Summary: although the unfavorable energies of April seem to spill into the first week of May, things seem to calm down by the second week when the

Monthly Tarot Reading

chariot arrives with strength, discipline and sound judgment. In this instance the chariot is all about discipline and creating a charismatic personality to win over enemies instead of When the Four of swords arrives, it depicts an end to war and strife. Now is the time to turn to matters of the heart and soul. Turn your swords into plowshares and cultivate prosperity on this fabulous spring month. The King of pentacles pleases us by granting us a

Monthly Tarot Reading

bounty of wonderful things, such as financial stability, fruits and flowers and prosperity of the spirit. The World wraps up the month of May by offering to take us on a dance of life, teaching us to enjoy everything this marvelous planet has to offer. You might feel limited or somewhat overwhelmed by what the world has to give you but relax, all gifts belong to you.

May Sudoku Puzzle

					1			2
	1				9	7	5	
4	9						6	
	7	6		1			3	
	3		8		4		7	
	5			6		9	1	
	2						4	7
	4	5	1				2	
9			7					

April's Sudoku Answers

9	2	7	6	5	3	1	8	4
4	3	6	7	2	8	9	5	1
8	1	5	4	6	2	3	7	9
7	8	1	9	3	4	6	2	5
5	4	2	3	9	1	7	6	8
6	7	8	5	1	9	2	4	3
3	9	4	8	7	6	5	1	2
1	5	3	2	4	7	8	9	6
2	6	9	1	8	5	4	3	7

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