

THE GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER



Beltane 2014

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~SPOTLIGHT~ Lady Rhiannonetain



GNL--When did you Discover Paganism and Wicca? Tell us a bit:

I didn't know what Wicca was until about 15 years ago but it's what I felt like spirituality all my life.

GNL--What tradition did you start in? If any...

I started as a Solitary because I was always the oddball. But in 2001 I did some research and stalked the Georgians. Shonsu was and is my teacher as are all of you.

GNL--Are you a Georgian Initiate? How long have you been interested in the Craft? How long have you been a Georgian? Who dammed you to this Tradition?

I am a Georgian elder

GNL--Children /Grand Children?

I have tethered boys and two girls ranging in ages from 20 to 30 and as far as grandkids, I have 2 boys and 1 girl.

GNL--Describe your life a little these days... What great is going on your life?

I am going thru empty nest Ness. And still learning am an empath. which has slowed me down some but I am trying to get used to it all

GNL--Attended any Mountain Meets?

I have been to three Mountain Meets

GNL--Been to any other gatherings, not just pagan, that you have enjoyed? Any stories you wish to share?

I like pagan pride days and LBGT pride day too. My hubby and I have been married 25 years and he says I am his church which I think I understand now. Best MM story is when Jake woke up and heard bears then saw his Dad making coffee so he got out of his tent and realized that he had heard Bobbie, Allen and Skip sleeping.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

BIRTHDAYS:

BH/RW – April 4
Spiritmother – April 11
Rhiannonetain – April 27
Loye – April 30
Balder (jeff) - May 5
Dorothy Morrison – May 6, 1955
Lady Gaia Rose (Kate) May 17th
Georgia – May 18
Cat - May 22
Bobbie - May 31

Anniversaries:

~30 YEARS! On April 30, Loye and Tiffany celebrated 30 years together!

~April 30th was the 41st Anniversary of Ashleigh McSidhe's first initiation by Pat and Becki of the Aphrodite coven!

Dedications / Initiations:

~1st degree:
Kristina Julie Wright- McGee (Ursa Reyjon Taran) was elevated to 1st Degree on April 6th by Lord Bel Taran of coven Symbollic!



~2nd degree: Lasair of the Coven of the Old Ways on May 3rd, 2014 by Raven Spirit and Serissa!!!

paintbrush to brush the water mixture onto the petals instead.

As you complete each petal, place it on a sheet of wax paper to dry. Drying time is anywhere from 12 hours to two days, depending on the humidity level in your home. If your flower petals aren't drying fast enough for you, place them on a cookie sheet in the oven at 150 degrees for a few hours.

Store your flower petals in an airtight container until it's time to use them. Use to decorate cakes and cookies, add to salads, or just eat as a snack.

Recipes

Candied Flowers



Nothing says spring has arrived quite like flower blossoms -- and what many people don't realize is that not only are they lovely to look at, they can taste good too. With a few fresh flowers, you can create a tasty treat. Use nasturtium, roses, pansies, lilac blossoms, violets, or any other edible flower for this recipe. Be warned, though -- this is a bit time consuming, so plan accordingly.

Prep Time: 1 hour
Total Time: 1 hour
Ingredients:

- Flower petals or blossoms, rinsed and dried
- Water
- 1 egg white, beaten
- Sugar

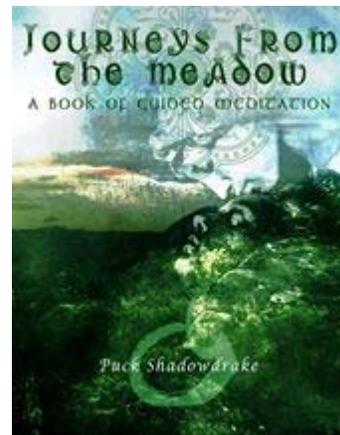
Preparation:

Combine a few drops of water with the egg white in a small bowl, and whisk them together. Hold the flower petal gently between two fingers and dip into the water mixture. Shake off excess water, and then sprinkle sugar on the petal. If your petals seem to soggy, use a

Georgian Corner

BOOK SIGNINGS

Duck and his mighty Pen



One of our very own, Randy Weisner (aka Puck Shadowdrake) has a new book out!



Beltane with Blue Mountain!

So, the day of ritual dawned warm and beautiful for those of us in the central northern California area. Some members of Coven Symbollic and many new faces from all over the sacramento and surrounding areas joined for a Beltane celebration in Wilseyville, Ca...a beautiful mountain retreat on 250 acres, off the grid in Calaveras County. The ritual was put on by some friends from Sacramento and we all participated in "a-maying" to select our king and queen. Once they were chosen, there was fun chaos as the maypole dance began. The rest of the weekend consisted of vendors, belly dancers, fire dancers, music, bonfires, camping and fun! Coven/Circle Symbollic was there in force, with Rose to boot!



Loye, Julie and daughter Kendra, Tessa and daughter Kindal or Ipad...or however she spells her name ☺, Tracy and family, Jenice and daughter Bella, Arthur, Elizabeth, Matt, Rose and Ursa.

Upcoming Events

Mountain Meet 2014 is scheduled!
July 30-August 6 RSVP to Beltane@prodigy.net
ASAP so we can get the numbers and cost figured out.

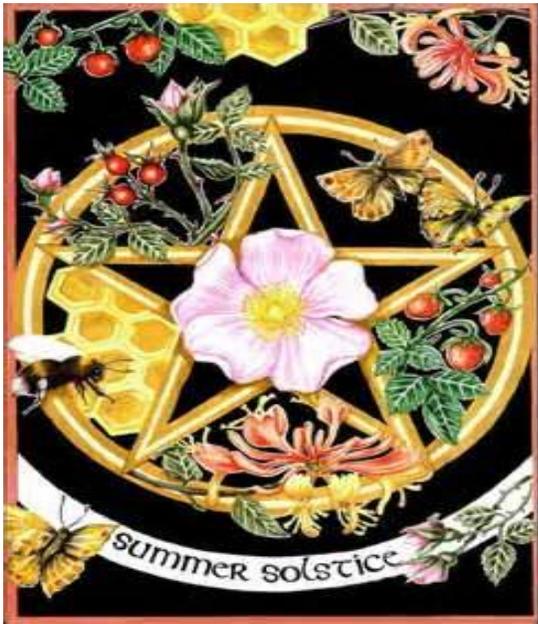
July 12-15th there is a Spiritual Learning Weekend at the Blue Mountain Event Center in Wilseyville, CA
Contact bluemountainpagancommunity@gmail.com
for more information

September 13-14 is Sacramento Pagan Pride Festival
at the VFW Hall in Rancho Cordova
Find them on Facebook for more information

Upcoming Sabbat Information

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Litha...the Summer Solstice



The gardens are blooming, and summer is in full swing. Fire up the barbeque, turn on the sprinkler, and enjoy the celebrations of Midsummer! Also called Litha, this summer solstice Sabbat honors the longest day of the year. Take advantage of the extra hours of daylight and spend as much time as you can outdoors.

Here we are, approaching the longest day and the shortest night of the year. The Goddess is now full and pregnant with Child, and the Sun God is at the height of His virility. This is the peak of the Solar year and the Sun is at the height of its life-giving power. The Earth is awash with fertility and fulfillment and this is a time of joy and celebration, of expansiveness and the celebration of achievements.

Yet within this climax is the whisper and promise of a return to the Dark. As the Light reaches its peak so this is also the moment when the power of the Sun begins to wane. From now on the days grow shorter and the nights grow longer and we are drawn back into the Dark to complete the Wheel of the Year.

At this time the God, as Oak King, is rich in abundance, but he too surrenders his reign to his brother twin, the Holly King, and the descent begins. But before we welcome the return to the Dark side of the year, and acknowledge this great turning point of the Wheel, we celebrate!

Traditionally people stayed up all night on Midsummer's Eve to welcome and watch the sunrise. Bonfires were lit on tops of hills, by holy wells, at places held sacred, to honour the fullness of the Sun. At Litha the bonfire really represents a reflection of the Sun at the peak of its strength. The chosen wood would often be Oak and aromatic herbs were scattered into the fire. People danced around the fires and leap through them. Blazing herbs from the sacred bonfire were used to bless the animals. Blazing torches were carried sunwise around homes and fields. Coals from the Midsummer fire were scattered on fields to ensure a good harvest.

Elderflower Champagne

A traditional favourite, Elderflowers peak at Midsummer. Pick them in the fullness of a sunny day, ideally on Midsummer's Day. The Elder is sacred to the Mother Goddess and is often called the Witch's Tree, the Elder Mother, or Queen of the Trees. It is protective with wonderful healing properties. It aids transformation, change and renewal, and we are at a major turning point in the Wheel of the Year, so the gift of Elderflowers is welcome.

Ingredients:

8 litres water
1.25 kg sugar
8 large elderflower heads
4 lemons
4 tablespoons mild white wine vinegar

Do use screw top bottles - large plastic bottles used for squash etc are perfect. This stuff will fizz and if not bottled tightly it can explode! I keep mine in the garden so should the worst occur it isn't going to make a mess all over the kitchen or larder... Before you begin make sure the elderflowers are clean - no little wandering insects or bugs.

Boil the water and dissolve the sugar into it (Fairtrade is good) When the water is cool, add the elderflowers, juice of two of the lemons and slices of the other two, plus the vinegar.

Cover with a clean cloth and leave for a day.

Strain through a fine sieve or piece of muslin, carefully squeezing the flowers to extract as much flavour as possible.

Store in clean screw top bottles.

Leave well alone for 10 days or so. Drink within a month. Enjoy and give thanks to the Spirit of Elder.

With that, this concludes the Beltane 2014 issue of the Georgian Newsletter, may you all be blessed this coming year!

Lord Bel Taran and Ursa Reyjon Taran, Newsletter Staff