THE GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER

Mabon 2014

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Mabon Celebrations

Coven Symbollic performed their first public ritual in Rancho Cordova at Sacramento Pagan Pride Day 2014 last month. The weather was sunny and warm, but it didn't stop the local Pagan and Pagan-friendly people in the area from coming out and joining us. After Julie and Loye cast the circle, the line of participants extended across the grass. They welcomed everyone in with the traditional blessings and walked to the altar to get started with the ceremony. But not before having to open the circle a few more times to let in participants! Everyone stood almost shoulder to shoulder, some dressed in robes and others dressed in every day garments.

After the ritual, we shared libations and offered a feast of breads, nuts and fruits. Several people asked questions and showed an interest in the Georgian Tradition.

SPOT LIGHT

ELIZABETH STAMEY

GNL- When did you "discover" Paganism and Wicca? Tell us a little bit.

Elizabeth-I first discovered witchcraft when I was ten when I started asking questions of my dad and grandma, whom both practiced witchcraft. They started teaching me at twelve.

GNL- What tradition did you start in (if any)?

Elizabeth- I didn't start in any tradition, but learned from my family.

GNL-How long have you been interested in the craft?

Elizabeth-I have always felt a calling to witchcraft. When I was seven or eight I saw my grandmother's ghost and began to think that there was more than what we see.

GNL- How long have you been a Georgian? Who damned you to this tradition?

Elizabeth-I became a pre-dedicant in April of this year. I learned about the Georgian tradition from Julie and Loye.

GNL- Do you have children? Grandchildren? Fur babies?

Elizabeth-I have three children, five grandchildren and two cats.

GNL- Describe your life a little these days, what great is going on?

Elizabeth–I am currently working on my pre-dedicant studies. It has been enjoyable to practice some of the things I forgot about as a child when I first started practicing. My husband Mark and I have been married for thirty-one years.

GNL-Attended/Missed any Mt Meets (east or west)? Been to any other gatherings, not just pagan, that you enjoyed?

Elizabeth-I haven't been to any Mountain Meets but have attended several events at the Blue Mountain event center in Wilseyville, Ca. I have also been to the Fairy festival and Sacramento Pagan Pride Days.

GNL- Any really good stories you fondly remember or shiver at the thought of these days that you might want to share with us?

Elizabeth-My family and I went on a trip to Utah this summer to spread my husband's mothers ashes. At that time, my stepmother decided to

give me my father's ashes after seventeen years. The first night we had his ashes, at our hotel room, I put my slippers by our bed and later on they were missing. We looked everywhere in our room, even downstairs, and they were gone. When he first died I had a pair of sunglasses disappear and two years later they re-appeared. I know my dad took my slippers and that I will get them back!

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Pre-Dedicants: Tracy Cheri, Elizabeth Stamey and Matt Chapman from Coven/Circle Symbollic

Initiation: Arthur Paletta from Coven/Circle Symbollic on August 23rd by Lord Bel Taran and Lady Tatiana

1ST degree: Tessa Bryce, aka "Persephone" from Coven Symbollic on August 23rd by Lord Bel Taran and Lady Tatiana

BIRTHDAYS and STUFF!!

Jenice—Sept 2nd
Tessa – Sept 4th
Allen - Sept 15th
John (Tali) - Sept 20th
Puck – stone hadn't been invented yet, so no dates were carved on tablets yet.
Kendra-Sept 26
Lord Josh-wa-ah has a birthday on 10-13-1949

Kendra (a Circle Symbollic witchling) turned 9

Upcoming Events

Pantheacon 2015 will be in San Jose, Ca at the DoubleTree Hotel from February 13 to February 16. Tickets are on sale now for $70 until January 1st, 2015
http://pantheacon.com

Norcalrenfaire.com
September 13 through October 12
10am-6pm
10031 Pacheco Pass Highway
Hollister, Ca 95023

All Hallows Fantasy Faire
www.allhallowsfaire.com
October 25-26
Sonora, Ca

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Besom making by
Circle Symbollic members

Robert “Tree Beard” made both of these beautiful pieces!

Creative Purchases

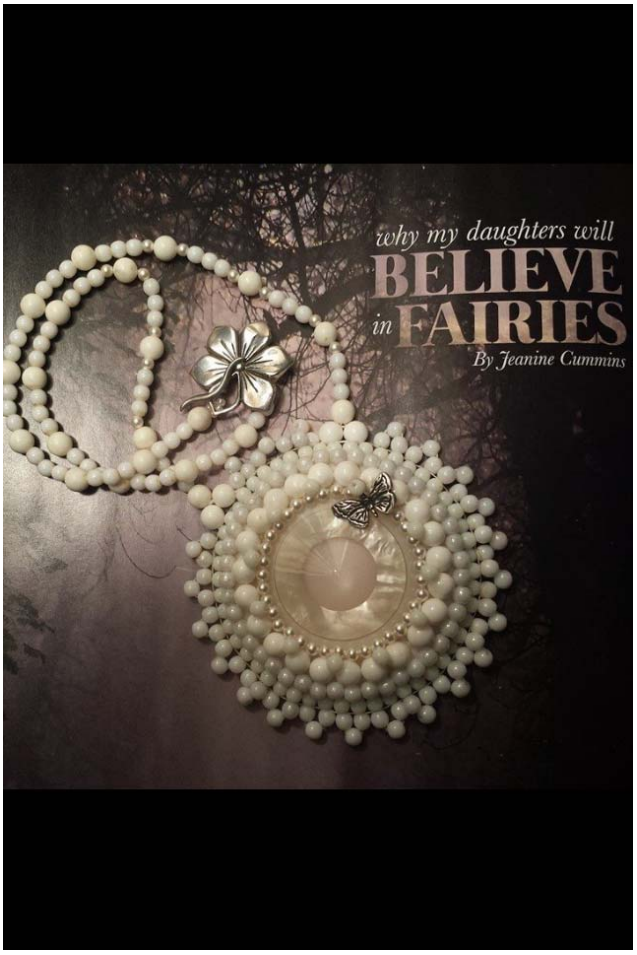
This section is dedicated to items available for purchase from our many Georgian and Georgian-friendly members. If you are interested in posting an item for sale, please let us know! beltane@prodigy.net

This month's featured items are hand-made jewelry from recycled materials by

MaCheri Designs

Contact Tracy at tracycherijones@gmail.com if interested in any pieces:

Perfect for Samhain!



Georgian Writings and Musings

Georgian Writings and Musings

By Ursa Reyjon Taran

A year and a half ago my son came home with a flat stone. It looked like a type of gray agate; translucent but not as colorful as some of the agates I had seen. "Where'd you get that?" I asked him. "My friend Dani gave it to me," he replied. "She said it's a portal to another world and she wants me to go there with her. She said as long as we have this stone we can make it back." He looked at me with the biggest grin on his face and lowered his voice. "Her mom is a witch."

I didn't know how to respond. This child was reaching out to my son and offering him a chance to believe in magick. Her mother was teaching her the craft and it was apparent in the way she interacted with my son. I had spent all my time learning about the craft from books and other Wiccans. We interacted and circled together, but I had never included my children. If other religions began teaching their children at a young age, why couldn't I teach mine? My mind began reeling with the possibility that my children could walk down the Wiccan path with me! Many religions are pushed on children. There is a mentality that "you have to believe this" or "it can only be done this way." I didn't want to push my religion and beliefs onto my children. I wanted to give them an opportunity to experience, question and choose what they felt was best for them.

My middle child and oldest daughter, Kendra, showed an interest first. She was going to Wednesday night Awana class with her friends from school and she came home one day and asked if Jesus was real. "Yes, I believe he was." "Is he a God?" She asked.
"No, I believe he was more like a prophet. He was a man and he inspired many people," I told her.
"Do you believe in God?"
"I believe in a God and Goddess," I answered.
"Oh," she said and dropped the subject.
My goal was not to overwhelm her, but to simply answer her questions as honestly as I knew how. I knew she would think about what I said and formulate new questions. I bought her a book called "Growing Up Pagan-A Workbook for Wiccan Families" by Raine Hill. She sat down one afternoon and read the first story about the goddess Dana. She retold the story to me about Cernunnos and giants and gods and goddesses with a temperment of excitement and curiosity. I knew she was ready to learn more and I was excited to teach her more; about the male and female aspects, the triple moon, the wheel of the year, the elements, divination, and the traditions and rituals of my circle. The first logical step would be to include her in our next ritual.

...to be continued

Well, that's all we have this time around. We are looking for submissions for the Samhain Newsletter. Please contact beltane@prodigy.net if you are interested. Have a blessed Samhain!

Georgian Newsletter Staff, Loye and Julie