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The Unicorn

Vol 03, No. 05

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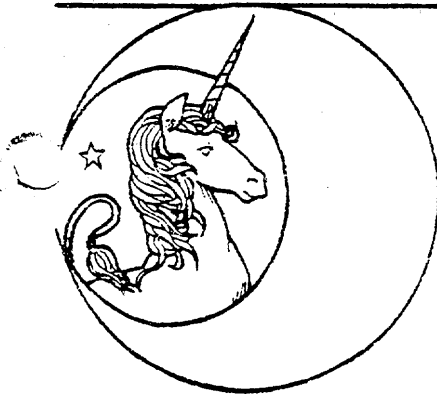
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THE UNICORN

Beltane

BOX 8814 O MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55408 O 871-7287

A PUBLICATION OF the ROWAN TREE
VOL 3 #5



Have you ever seen a Unicorn?

The beautiful sky child

The moon and sun child

Oh to see one is a marvel.

Have you seen one?

Thunderhorned

Flame shod

Foam maned

Earth born

Prancing and dancing

In fine bright starlight.

To please the Lady

To please the Lady

To please the Lady

Roaming spiral galaxies

Racing angry storm clouds

Spotting in frantic sea spray

Laughing in magickaak circles

She dazzles our eyes with her myrth

Her splendor

And waltzes spectre-like

Through our vague dreaming

Have you ever seen a Unicorn?

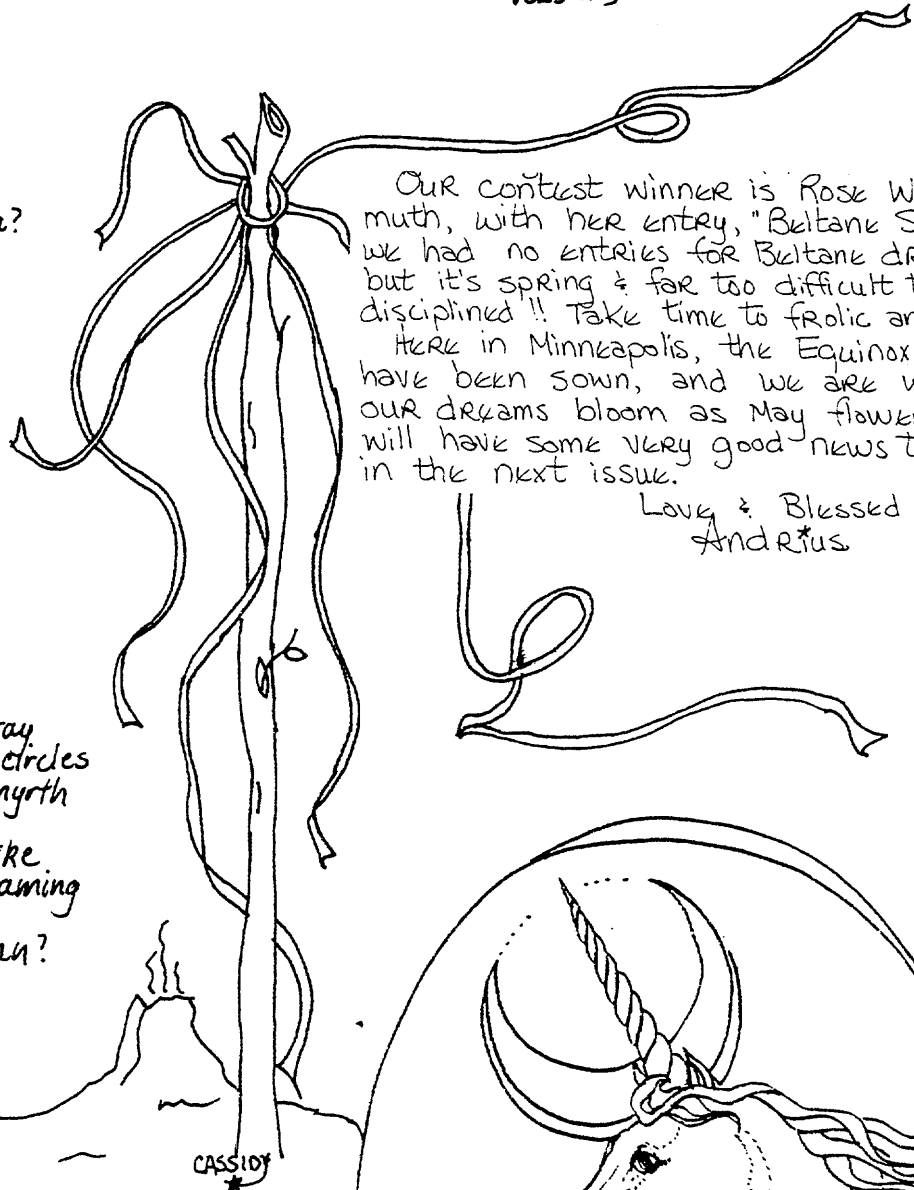
I have

Eric Hanks

Our contest winner is Rose Wildermuth, with her entry, "Beltane Song," & we had no entries for Beltane drawings, but it's spring & far too difficult to be disciplined!! Take time to frolic and play!

Here in Minneapolis, the Equinox seeds have been sown, and we are watching our dreams bloom as May flowers. We will have some very good news to share in the next issue.

Love & Blessed Be,
Andrius



Dear Humans,

A Blessed Beltane to you all. Beltane is a special feast for Unicorns, for it is then we honor our horns, and place magick circles of flowers around the horns of our dear ones. This is the true origin of the Maypole, when humans would dance around their honoured quests, the Unicorns. A time of giving & of sharing, the flower-circles are brought in special baskets. This issue of the Unicorn is in that spirit, & it is filled with extra poetry & goodies, for such is the way the Goddess treats us this season.



The Unicorn Rambles ~

Rosemarie is now in Rural Mo., "surrounded by woods & freedom," and is planning a Pentagram garden. She writes of deer, raccoons, and her beautiful Palomino, Sundance, who is a Unicorn at heart. ★ The newsletter from Unicorn Gardens (Vol II #1) had seeds in it. Comes the magick, comes the spring! ★ Still waiting for the letter Laureli promised in her postcard from Topeka. ★ Marsha Smith Newsom sent an incredible Sabbat card for the Equinox - thank you so much! ★ Finally heard from our "overworked" Wizzard in Kalamazoo, who is "busy putting together a catalog. Looking forward to seeing Terry at Pan-Pagan this year. ★ Joyce Baker writes of spring, "sunshine bo" warm breezes ruffling my hair, the rich scent of the Earth filling my head - Ahh - what a delight! It's amazing how much the simple pleasures of working in the garden can do, I feel full of energy & so very close to the Lady - it's wonderful." ★ Nancy writes that Brockport, N.Y. needs a few more unicorns, and that the Equinox was a time of great weather & geese flying overhead... ★ David is spending spring in Tucson, writing of spring & growth, & watching the planets ★ Our best wishes to Tim & Rose Wildermuth who were hand tested at the equinox. May your dreams all be bliss, and your new house a magick nest. ★ Dearest Karen writes "Spring is here, and urges those who would go skinny-dipping." Karen, say hello & give Uni hugs to Gidge, Liu Shien, and all ★ Congratulations to Davyde. Truly has the Goddess brought you the blessings of spring. Drink of her sylvan breezes & run naked beneath the stars! ★ The Equinox was celebrated as a Celtic Spring Equinox Festival by Circle and friends in Madison. Andreas said several Unicorns had a very good time! ★ Tanya has had an interesting spring... it seems things have been "moving" right along for her. ★ The Order of Gany-mede has been busy. The Goddess told Andreas that the "favorite fallen angel" is a sparkle in her eye. ★ Ted Byers is spending spring in Florida. We hope to see him in August. ★ "Needing to contact someone with a coven in Santa Fe. I have need and don't know what else to do. Now is the time for activity. The blessings of warmth are heating the earth." Adnan, PO Box 703, Leander, TX. 78641. ★ Thanks to the Coven of the Rose for the pretty card of chickadees.. ★ Hello to Nick ★ To Bobbi - use the following herbs in the charm: basil & angelica, and include a moonstone. (R.s. it's M) ★ Tanya, is your grape ivy doing better? Communing with the Devas is really delightful. ★ Looking for other Wicca folk in Eastern-Central Iowa who would like contact with us, who, like us, view the Craft as a positive religion... interested in Welsh traditions, etc. To contact write 'Exling' % The Unicorn. ★

This column will differ, and with the next issue will return to the planetary energies. As part of this issue's Maybasket of treats, I would like to share with you this excerpt from my new herbal which will be published this summer.

"The song of herbs is written in the heart of nature. Herbs recall the origins of all birth, for their source of life was the sea, that great, tumultuous ocean that gave birth, the origin of life upon our planet. In the annals of plant life it is written:

"In the beginning was the soil, the earth of life, which fed the waters of time out of which sprung all being. And thus did the Earth Goddess, the Mother of all Nature, bring into being the element Verda, the essence of being, the being of all life..."

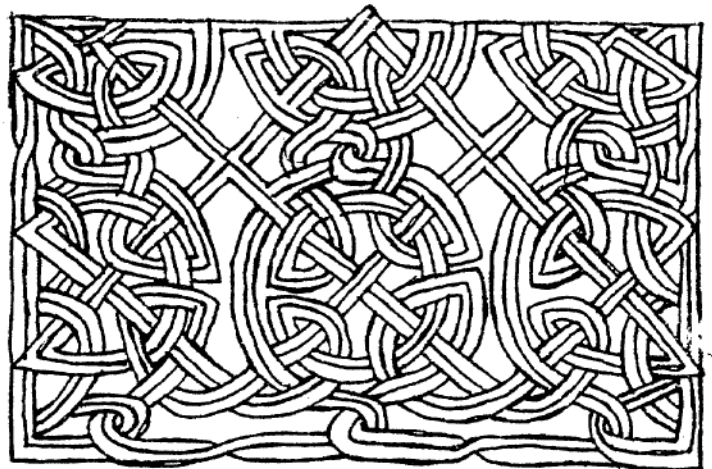
And thus it is recorded in the holy books of the Devas, the plant spirits, how chlorophyll came to be. Chlorophyll is what makes plants plants, of a different consciousness than mammals, stones, & other beings. To the plant kingdom, chlorophyll is one of the sacred elements, often written as 'verda', but not pronounced. It is a holy sound, sung by all the plants as the whispering of breezes, the tidal song of the ocean....."

-Paul

p.s. Illustrations for the book are being created by Prairie Jackson.

Tenth Law - The Traditional Herbalist

Because he practises his Craft within both the smallest laws of the universe and the greatest laws, even to gaze at the stars is to be aware.





THE TAROT

The Tarot &
Elemental Invocations
to the Goddess
-Paul Beyerl

The May gift in the
Tarot column - an extra
card, but Andreus in-
sisted these you
must experience your-
self.

Meditate upon these
cards within a circle.
Light a candle, yellow
in the East for air; red
in the South for fire; blue
in the West for water; &
green in the North for
Earth. As you light the
candle, chant the ele-
mental chant for that
element. After complet-
ing in the North sit
inside & meditate on
the Tarot. You have
called upon the Goddess.

The chants are from
the *Book of Lullaxion*,
of the Rowan Tree, Wob.
They may be used privately
by all who so mention
their source.

△
O Beautiful Lady,
Gentle Goddess fair;
Give to us thy wisdom,
Fill us with thine air!
Bring to us thy wondrous might,
Gracious Goddess of the light;
Ride the wings of Raphael.
And bless this magick rite!!
Help us cast this circle,
And build a Magick Ring!
Guide us to your beauty;
Our love to you we sing!!
Goddess of the dawning light
Kiss the dew of morning's sight!
Light the candle, ring the bell,
And bless this Magick Rite!

△
Greatest Goddess of the fire
Fill my heart with Your desire
Keep my feet upon thy path
Fill my heart with mirth & laugh!
Greatest Goddess, burning bright
Keep me in thy magick might
Dance around the fire bright
Chant the song & do the rite!
Fire burning, fire bright
Give my soul your magick light;
Help me rise anew each day
Keep me in our Lady's Way!

♂
Queen of the Waters,
Sparkling in the moonlight;
Lady of the Heavens,
Dancing in the stars bright;
Dance in the laughing waves,
Call upon the moon
Cast the Circle, chant the song!
Goddess grant this boon!

Take us to thy homeland,
Deep within the sea,
Bring the moon into my heart
Dear Mother Blessed Be!
Dance in the laughing waves
Call upon the moon
Cast the Circle, chant the song,
Goddess, grant this boon.

▽
Walking on the earth this day,
Sensing life within;
Living with the Goddess' song,
We are free from sin!
Dancing in the forest,
Chanting with the trees;
Casting Magick Circles,
Singing Blessed Be's!

Mother of the harvest,
Goddess of the fields;
You who bring our dreams to ripe,
You who bless the yields;
Join us dancing in the wood!
Hear us singing to the trees!
Help us cast our Circle
Hear our Blessed Be's!

Beltane Song

Plant your seed in me in springtime
In the last deep drifting snow
As your sun warms up the earth
The lady's love will surely grow.
The meeting of the seasons makes
The warmth that melts the snow
Bath the Lord and Lady
Makes the early violets grow

Shine on me and make me feel it!
Shine on me you make me grow!
Inside us all the Lord and lady grow.

As the greenbuds on the willows
Glow round us soft and bright
The deep dark still of nighttime
Meets the mornings vernal light.
And, as one, they dance inside us
If we're blessed enough to know
It takes both sides of nature
So let the blossoms grow.

Ring out clear bells of Mayday!
Ring out winters quiet nest!
As we sow the seed for summer
Working soil the gods have blessed.
Dance round the garland Maypole
Dance round the silver moon
As we gather fragrant flowers
Bursting to loves tune.

Moon shine on, you make me feel it.
Shine right on you let me know.
That the circle's everlasting
And at last it's time to grow.
Shine on me cause on the morrow
Beltane bells will start to chime.
I am of the Earth
Her bounty has been mine.

Here the piper as he counts
The dark eyed lady of the night
Feel the promise of the summer
Coming on both full and bright
One by one we come together
Two-by-two - it is so right
The Golden sunshine
And the dark moonlight.

Contest winner by
Rose Wildermuth

Lunar Diana
Forestral Pan
Be with us as man
Worships with man
Teach us wisdom
To live for life
Help us create
Joy from strife
Pan and Diana
Bless us this night
Make us sacred
In your sight

- SCOTT CUNNINGHAM

Who stirs the ashes
Who brings the flame
None but the ancient dream
The old ones we call by name

by flower and fruit
We know them
who still sing to the moon
Running round a circle of time
chanting the forgotten rune

O leap high the dancers
swirling bright with stars
the evening bell
is ringing in
the midnight sabbat hour

O do you remember
do you believe
each is a cell
in the greater life
that no one will leave

O do you hear the echo
that moves us even now
the sound we always know

io evoke lo
evoke lo
evoke lo

© prairie
jackson



Diana of the crescent barge
 Who travels in the night
 Who lights the way to Sabbath ground
 With glowing lunar light
 We call thee to be one with us
 As men we call thee nigh
 Charge us with your love and luck
 And bless us with your sigh
 For though we be but mortal men
 Who dance the ancient round
 We pray that you'll attend to us
 And send your Moon-love down
 -Scott Cunningham



Jowren

I met a gnome, one Sunny day,
 His home? beneath the hill,
 He said "You'll stay? you'll talk with me?"
 O yes, I said, I will.

He told me of his lifetime,
 Past, present future dreams.
 He revealed to me our destiny,
 Life's much more than it seems.

His name, he said, was Jowren,
 A common one, he said.
 His stories enchanted, delighted me,
 We laughed, the time just sped.

His voice was soft and musical,
 But deep, and old and true.
 The music came from o'er the trees,
 We sang - our friendship grew.

We've shared long afternoons, since then,
 He's taught me many things -
 Love and laughter, peace and song -
 And joy, to what life brings.

He said "Accept the way you are,
 Build on what you see,
 You are unique, quite beautiful,
 The only way to be."

"Learn the secrets of the Earth,
 For she is always true,
 Love, protect, remember her
 In every thing you do"

"For she will always be there
 When all the rest is gone,
 And she protects and cares for hers
 From darkness to the dawn."

"Remember these words, my child," he said
 "Let them be your guide,
 For you are a child of the Universe,
 From this you cannot hide."

-Joyce L. Baker

We are fire watchers
 ourselves the ash
 our faces carved by glow
 strong and brimfull
 of life
 we are those among you
 who pour ourselves out
 to drink again
 and deeper still
 into the human current
 we swirl up from the flames
 reaching for the higher sky
 seeking opening
 to be reborn
 as fire
 in the hands of the living
 as fire in the steps
 of those who follow
 the echo across
 the gypsy sand

©prairiejackson

CASSIDY

Open Forum ~

"We are hoping that perhaps you could help us... What we would like to do is to make contact (within a radius of say 300 miles) with other Pagans in this part of the country. Except for the lower Hudson Valley, New York State seems to be sadly underdeveloped as far as the Pagan Community is concerned. ...we thought we might try to see what we could accomplish on a more local basis. We suspect that there must be others in upstate New York, Western Pennsylvania & Canada who would benefit from a common interest coalition, resource center & referral network, ... and possibly sponsoring a gathering."

The Eastern Crescent Pagan Council
PO Box 264
Ellicott Station
Buffalo, N.Y., 14205

Happenings ~

An Open Sabbat celebration will be held on Solstice Day, Saturday, June 21. This gathering will be sponsored by Circle & by Lothlorien, with the intention of forming a Midwest Council of Covenant of the Goddess, also known as COG. (Lothlorien is the coven name for The Rowan Tree & The Unicorn.) The location will be in Southern Wisconsin, so friends from Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, & Illinois may all come together to share rituals, workshops, a potluck feast, and some special events. Songs from Circle's new tape (see reviews) will highlight the songfest, & Paul Beyer (of The Unicorn) will read excerpts from his new herbal, which is written in the tradition of the Devas, & will be published in August. To receive a flyer on this fun weekend, send a SASE to Circle, Box 9013, Madison, Wisc. 53715.

Everyone we know is looking forward to the 4th annual Pan Pagan Festival, August 21-24. It will be held in a beautiful location near Baraboo, Wisconsin, which is near the Wisc. Dells & Devil's Lake State Park - breathtaking scenery & a real sense of the earth abounds here. Registration for the entire event is \$15.00. A multitude of ritual workings will be presented by many varied traditions. Workshops will be given by teachers & leaders from all over the U.S. This is one of the most delightful of all gatherings (we are unabashedly prejudiced) & also one of the largest. Pan Pagan is sponsored by the members of the Midwest Pagan Council, which is an ecumenical, fun-loving collection of Wiccans & Pagans. For free info. on the Festival, write: Circle, Box 9013, Madison, WI. 53715, attn. Pan Pagan Festival.

Covens One is comprised of three Craft-oriented groups in the Illiana Region of the Midwest, which were among the co-founders of the Mid West Pagan Council. Covens One is sponsoring a Summer Solstice gathering - a three day campout weekend at Lake Holiday, Indiana, site of last year's Pan-Pagan Festival. Dates are June 20-22nd, & cost is \$8.50 per adult, \$4.50 per child. Scheduled are rituals, discussion groups, a communal 'witches' stew', & a large group ritual. For more information & for registration forms contact:

Woods Park Pagan Temple
Sanctus Spiritus
PO Box 664
Chicago Heights, Ill.

The third Annual Gathering of the Tribes is being held at Unicoi State Park, Helen, Ga. This is a fine place to spend July 18-22, and an opportunity to meet alot of Pagan friends. More information will appear in the next issue. Write "R. Gawr, Box 4152, Athens, Ga. 30602."

Hey, all you Texans (we have alot of Texans in our file!) contact Nexus, Box 45061, Dallas, Tx., 75245, to find out more about a special gathering for all you folk. It will be held to correspond with the Solstice.

Books ~

"I just bought a fantastic - I repeat, fantastic - book on the Craft entitled The Spiral Dance: A Rebirth of the Religion of the Great Goddess. Written by Miriam Simos (under her cover name of Starhawk) & published by Harper & Row, its maroon cover sports a circle containing four pentagrams which touch each other. Between those covers I found simple & understandable exercises, rituals, invocations, and straightforward explanations of witchcraft (as goddess religions), the coven, and the world view of witchcraft. I have yet to get to the chapters on the Goddess, the God, Creating Sacred Space, Magical Symbols, Energy: The Cone of Power, Trance, Initiation, Moon Rituals, The Wheel of the Year, and Creating Religion: Toward the Future. According to Starhawk, the view of the Craft presented in this book was from the Fairy Tradition, but that shouldn't be held against it. It is a truly excellent book & is the type of material that we non-pagans would do well to latch onto. I give it four stars for its balanced yet positive view of the Craft. Tell your readers to get it!"

Sincerely, Miles
(Miles lives in NYC & is non-pagan).

Earth Magic is the title of Marion Weinstein's new Dianic Book of Shadows. It's a wonderful book, in a most practical format (each page is a readable-by candlelight-8 1/2 x 11"). We found some of the illustrations to be exceptional & deeply moving, such as the wise, old tree on the page of introduction, and other delights signed "mfw". It is good to see material often left out of Books of Shadows, such as a section devoted to familiars which explains the karmic workings of such relationships and wisely includes the responsibilities. Some approaches to ritual are described that are excellent to see in print. Marion wisely avoids a Book of specific rituals, offering, rather, a guideline so that each may practise in her/his own way. This book also is pleasant reading, avoiding the tendency of older (Piscean Age) Books to take on the tone of Witchcraft & the Occult; rather we find a presentation for those who follow the Path to the Lady as natural flow of life. Marion is the author of the book Positive Magic which did so much to demystify, & to take the "cult" out of "occult." She is to be highly commended for her work in teaching Craft thought & occult principles so one doesn't have to sort out all the garbage. Earth Magic is excellent. For further information, write Earth Magic Productions, PO Box 1202, FDR Station, NY, NY, 10022.

Earth Magic is available from Earth Magic Productions, PO Box 1202, FDR Station, New York, N.Y., 10022. Send \$4.95 plus 50¢ postage. See our reviews for more info. on this neat book from Marion Weinstein.

A price list for mail order books of a general metaphysical nature came from "Joan Marie Bruna, 1215 Salom-Bard Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60650". Don't know any more, so write for a copy if you're interested.

Publications ~

"Circle Network News" has grown into a commendable publication. Now published quarterly, it is expanded into a good newspaper, with the potential of presenting news of our Community in a scale beyond other newsletters & journals. It offers a contact service, space for classifieds, and room for articles long enough to contain valuable knowledge. Cost is \$5⁰⁰ (U.S.) per year, and we highly recommend beginning with Vol II No 1, & read the articles by Selena & De-Anna. A large article appears in this issue on the Pagan Sanctuary and Nature Retreat Center. This is a working of Circle worthy of support from all who are able. Write De-Anna for further information - Circle, Box 9013, Madison, Wisc. 53715. Andrius said, about the Sanctuary "it's delightful to see humans create the dreams of the lady..."

The most comprehensive catalogue of astrological books I recall seeing arrived in the mail. As each previous catalogue Doug has sent, "Astrology! (A guide to astrological books & supplies)" is excellent. Each book is briefly (and fairly) reviewed, so you can assess books with which you might not be familiar. Included in the catalogue is a subject index, an authors index, even a suggested reading list for all levels of ability. We understand the catalogue to be free, but feel it is worth including a dollar to help in the postage, etc. Write "Mystic Arts Book Store, 10202-152nd St., Surrey, B.C. Canada. V3R 6N7.

It was with great pleasure that I received a copy of "The Arohn", a quarterly publication of esoterica, gnosis, Christian mysticism & philosophy. Vol 2 No 3 is, for example, filled with 116 pages of incredible reading. A regular column on the mystical use of herbs, an articles on chiropractics, on invocation. This journal is representative of a New Age movement among the Christian faiths and feels itself compatible with the multitude of ancient traditions, including our own. As a special offer to readers of The Unicorn, they will offer a year's subscription at \$6⁰⁰ for the first year. (It is normally \$8⁰⁰.) "The Arohn" is the official voice of the Holy Order of the Rose and Cross, and is a forum for other seekers, particularly occultists & esotericists. I also wish to comment on some pamphlets Fr. Edward sent me on the Liberal Catholic Church, which I was delighted to see includes homage to the Divine Mother. For those of you who wish intelligent reading, write "The Arohn", PO Box 314, Burlington, Wa. 98235

"Rose Runes" is a very nice newsletter from Pittsburgh, Pa., printed 8 times a year (sabbatically) by the Coven of the Rose. Cost is \$9⁰⁰. Poetry, illustrations, and our favorite section, "Little Pagans Pages", a part for children. The spring issue included little reviews of children's books which have magical plots, and also a wonderful story called "The Return of Spring." "Rose Runes" is a good newsletter. We bid some of their staff a special "merry meet!!"

"The Upper Triad" began in 1974, in Albuquerque, NM, as a group meditation effort. The creation of the journal happened a few months later, and since that time "The Upper Triad" has been a creative, well-thought journal of metaphysics, theosophical & esoteric materials. The journal is distributed free of charge, but we ask that you send along a contribution. Non-Pagan journals can use our support, particularly when they are of such fine quality. For information, write: The Upper Triad, PO Box 1370, Manassas, Va., 22110.

Merchandise ~

Songs of Pagan Folk is the name of the new tape that comes from Circle. As Circle has grown, so has the sound of their music, and on this tape we hear more voices, more instruments, a fuller, richer sound - that of friends. Each side of the tape opens & closes with one of Selena's chants, and in between a selection of Jim Alan's new songs. There is one old song, "The Circle Round" which has a wonderful flavor, with the exotic beat of drums in the magic of the music. The tape seems far too short, and there seem to be far too few of the beautiful songs that we hear Circle sing in concert, but listening to it brings memories of songfests of Jim & Selena at home, playing music, & of the joys of friendship. Cost is \$9⁰⁰ plus 95¢ for postage from Circle, Box 9013, Madison, Wisc., 53715.

The Rites of Summer is the title of two musical fantasies offered by Gwydion, at \$4⁵⁰ ea. For more information write: Nemeton, PO Box 212, Redwood Valley, Cal. 95470

Received a nice flyer from Arcane Crafts, PO Box 385, Mastic Beach, NY, 11951. They are an excellent source of jewelry & tools for ritual workings. If you haven't seen their selection, write for their catalogue.

"The Unicorn" - a newsletter dedicated to sharing all the good news of our Craft & Pagan friends, since Yule, 1977

Paul - Editor
Cassidy - Layout
Andrius - Advice

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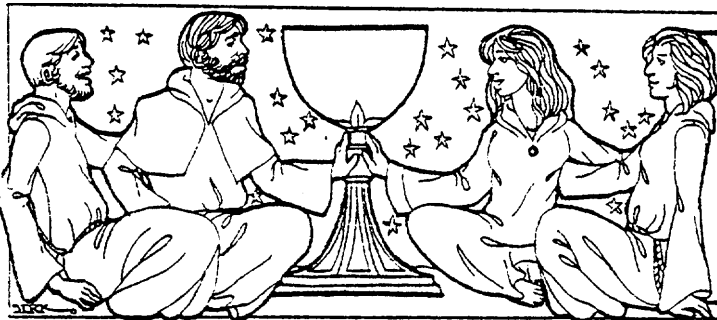
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- ☐ You may also give my address in the Unicorn
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(Please check all boxes that apply.)

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The Unicorn Provides These Extra Pages to aid communication between Gay and Lesbian Pagans

Pan Pagan 1980

This year's Pan-Pagan Festival should be a lot of fun. The Midwest Pagan Council (sponsors of the festival) have approved a workshop called "Gays, Lesbians, and their Spirituality." I am not certain just what we will cover in this workshop, but it is to guarantee that we have a scheduled time to all get together, to find each other, and to be able to talk about our common situations. Cassidy & I are looking forward to meeting many of you, for a larger number of gays & lesbians will be attending than in past years. Quite a few readers of "the Extra Pages" will attend this year, from many states (& states of being!)

A Spiritual Gathering For Radical Fairies

"to be held August 11th thru 15th in the Colorado Mts." \$900 fee includes campsite fee & vegetarian meals. We have heard only the highest praise from those who attended last year. This year promises to share healing, dance, music, a Fairy circle, and more. Write:

Spiritual Gathering For Radical Fairies
P.O. Box 18583
Denver, Colorado, 80218

People Talk ~

Dear Everyone,

What an exciting time this has been since the Equinox. So much response to the last issue of the Extra Pages has me doing this issue in fine print. Please continue to send your comments, letters, opinions, questions, etc.

May we encourage you to try and attend Pan Pagan this year? It is perhaps the largest pagan gathering to be held this year, & having the gay & lesbian peoples well represented would be of incredible value. If any of you need more info., write us. We'll be going & having a great time. We are not attending the Gathering in Denver, due to time and money, but would appreciate hearing from any of you who plan to attend.

Good news is that we will be doing a handfasting for two gay men this summer. They will have been together a year, & wish to celebrate their union. Sex - there are stories of magic & happy endings.

Apologies to Adiran for incorrectly listing his address last issue, & special thanks to each of you who took time to write us with your comments. Chris Sherbak is now in San Francisco, & Ted Byers is in Florida. Everyone else has the same address, & we have new readers. That's what spring is all about. Beltane in Mpls. is a ritual at the River, & we've been sunning skyclad for these wonderfully hot & sunny weeks.

Love to you all,
Paul & Cassidy

Miles Michael II:

"I have noticed in my involvement with the Occult (which is outside the Craft) that there is a pronounced bias toward heterosexuality as the micro-cosmic reflection of the interaction of the 'male' & 'female' principles in Nature - and a corresponding antagonism toward homosexuality (and by application homosexuals) as 'aberrations' of the 'natural' law. Despite claims to the contrary, what has been labeled as 'unnatural' outside the Occult community has been similarly labeled within it - thus offering no alternative for us in what has been called part of the alternative-reality tradition! If such an attitude exists within the Craft it would account for the alienation of gay Pagans & the difficulties experienced by gay people trying to deal with straight Pagans."

Mel:

"Gee Paul, pagans (sincere, positive ones) seem to be far & few between.... But finding a gay, positive pagan is almost like looking for a needle in a haystack. Out of the few pagans there are, the gay population of that is even smaller. ... It's hard for me to talk about a pagan gay relationship because I've never had one.... Being dedicated to Wicca can cause problems, because it takes a lot of time, and other people aren't crazy about your being mixed up in something really unorthodox. How does one cope with Wicca and a person you like who's antagonistic towards it? I guess if the issue is pressed, it depends on which you consider most important: the answer isn't easy, but relationships don't survive on dishonesty either. That's probably why there are a lot of gay pagans out there who are still alone."

Try Every Witch Way

"The most common complaint that runs through my correspondence with other gay witches is the futility or difficulty of forming stable relationships. While this is by no means unusual in the gay community, a further strain develops between a Wiccan-Non Pagan relationship."

I myself know that only another like myself will be able to feel what I feel for the Craft and be able to understand and share my joy. I therefore turn to my own kind for anything stable or of any depth. This does not mean that I deny or refrain from all other gay contacts. As followers of the Craft, a deeper more meaningful feeling can be brought into our contacts. "An it harm none, do what you will."

I find that card reading & palmistry are readily accepted by my non-pagan gay friends. I feel no need to tell them I am a witch. It often leads the conversation to deeper levels and starts them on a clearer vision of their path. Just as our overall task in the Craft is to enlighten the public that we have parallel paths going to the same Creative Source, our gay community should be guided to accept us."

Blessed Be,
Ted Byers

Scott Cunningham:

"I, too, feel that my homosexuality has deepened my religious & spiritual development. It is easier to attune myself with the Goddess and God, because I am aware of both of them within; unlike [heterosexuals], who usually identify only with that God/Goddess that fits their genitalia. Also, being of a minority, it has helped me to strengthen my own beliefs and values in every aspect of my life, in addition to Wicca. Being a member of a racial minority is one thing; a sexual [minority] is quite another, but it has had almost totally positive results. ... most of my Wiccan friends are aware of my sexual orientation. In fact, it usually draws me closer to the straight women - not the men, necessarily, but I have had no problems with this at all... I guess I have been lucky..."

"O Great God Pan,
Lover to Man,
Shepherd of goats and Lord of the Land;
We call thee to attend our rites
On this the magic night of nights.
God of the Wine,
God of the Vine,
God of the cattle & God of the kine,
Attend our Circle with your love
And send your energy from above.
Help us to heal,
Help us to feel
Help us to bring forth love & weal.
Pan of the Forests, Pan of the glade;
Be with us as our magic is made!"

Adinan:

"I thank you for publishing my letter in 'The Unicorn'. There is one small problem, however. In publishing my address the zero was left out of my box number."

Adinan's address should read,

"Adinan,
Box 703
Leander, Tx. 78641"

Adinan is open to corresponding, and is most interested in what is going on with gay craft. Would every one include in their requests of the Goddess a boon for him, so he makes it to Pan Pagan Festival this August!!

Eric Hanks:

"My Priestess is writing a book of rituals for Wiccan couples, and she would like me to write one or two rituals designed for Gay couples. Since I'm not an initiate yet and I'm not too sure on several aspects of the task (i.e. How would the couple handle the God & Goddess roles; how they would raise energy, etc.) I was hoping for some advice from someone who knows. I would appreciate all the advice I could get from all quarters. Also we would like some input on Lesbian rituals if possible... I'm definitely coming to Pan Pagan this summer if I have to hitchhike..."

"Eric Hanks
2604 W. Idaho
Boise, Idaho, 83702"

Bruce Hadley:

"I am in the process of revising many Craft rituals to fit gay men. I feel the structure of the Craft is loose enough to do the revising (if it isn't - it needs to be). Actually, the Craft probably needs as

many new traditions and rituals as possible. How else can we provide for every Pagan-Crafter what he/she needs?" Bruce writes of a weekend in the mountains, "we backpacked up, set up camp on the North slope & built a fire in front of the cave we planned on sleeping in. We sang praises to the Gods and drank libations 'till the wee hours.... On our drive home everyone promised to come to at least one Pagan Way meeting to see what it is all about. Shows you what happens when you throw me into a group of open-minded agnostics for one night."

Ron Paul:

"There appears to be a major Rightist, Conservative Christian movement going on. This poses a threat to the freedom of not only Gay People and Women (in regards to their bodies & abortion) but eventually to Pagan/Wiccan Folk as well. I ask if we are being confronted with the possibility of a 'New Burning?'"

I suggest that all Pagan/Wiccans should make conscious efforts to protect and guard our freedoms. As the Briton Brethren and Sisters have done (the Spanish Armada, the Isle of Man, etc.) may we also unite our efforts to use our power to stop the wave of persecution which even now is gaining in strength. May the Gods preserve the Craft.

ONE OF OUR OWN

Charlie Murphy

Recently Cassidy & I went to hear Charlie Murphy perform here in Minneapolis at a benefit for the Minnesota Gay Defense Fund. Charlie has a growing reputation as singer/songwriter who is active in the men's movement and in gay politics. It was a pleasant evening - songs of gay liberation, of saving the earth, of people opening up & being alive. The concert concluded with a wonderful story of the burning time, & a Goddess chant we all sang together. Charlie appears throughout the U.S., & we'd like to encourage you to hear him if he appears in your area.

One final note - the Pan-Pagan brochure has arrived, with a beautiful illustration by Dirk Dykstra. In the workshop listing is the following:

"Homosexuality & Witchcraft, with Herman Slater (New York)."

It's good to see two scheduled workshops dealing with homosexuality. The workshop we of Minneapolis will be giving is still unwritten. (It may be even as we give it...) We would ask of our readers to let us know what topics you wish discussed, what information you wish shared, etc. Again - try & attend. We're going to look at the site in May.

We plan to use topics of the Extra Pages for the workshop. If any of you cannot attend - feel free to write an open letter - we will read it at the workshop. (If you wish your name confidential, please so indicate.)

Bye for now - & enjoy the lusty month of May!

The Unicorn

Box 8814 - Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408 - 871-7287

A publication of the Rowan Tree Vol 3 #5 Beltane

Have you ever seen a Unicorn?

The beautiful sky child

The moon and sun child

Oh to see one is a marvel

Have you seen one?

Thunder horned

Flame shod

Foam maned

Earth born

Prancing and dancing

In fire bright starlight

To please the lady

To please the lady

To please the lady

Roaming spiral galaxies

Racing angry storm clouds

Sporting in frantic sea spray

Laughing in magick oak circles

She dazzles our eyes with her myrth

Her splendor

And waltzes spectre-like

Through our vague dreaming

Have you ever seen a unicorn?

I have

Eric Hanks

Dear Humans

A blessed Beltane to you all. Beltane is a special feast for unicorns, for it is then we honor our horns, and place magick circles of flowers around the horns of our dear ones. This is the true origin of the Maypole, when humans would dance around their honoured guests, the Unicorns. A time of giving and of sharing, the flower-circles are brought in special baskets. This issue of the Unicorn is in that spirit, and it is filled with extra poetry and goodies, for such is the way the Goddess treats us this season.

Our contest winner is Rose Wildermuth, with her entry, "Beltane song" and we had no entries for Beltane drawings, but it's spring and far too difficult to be disciplined!! Take time to frolic and play!

Here in Minneapolis, the Equinox seeds have been sown, and we are watching our dreams bloom as May flowers. We will have some very good news to share in the next issue.

Love and Blessed Be
Andrius

The Unicorn Rambles

Rosemarie is now in rural Mo., "surrounded by woods and freedom," and is planning a Pentagram garden. She writes of deer, racoons, and her beautiful Palomino, Sundance, who is a Unicorn at heart. The newsletter from Unicorn Gardens (vol. II, no. 1) had seeds in it. Comes the magick, comes the spring! Still waiting for the letter Laureli promised in her postcard from Topeka. Marsha Smith Newsom sent an incredible Sabbat card for the Equinox - thank you so much! Finally heard from our "overworked" Wizzard in Kalamazoo, who is busy putting together a catalog. Looking forward to seeing Terry at Pan Pagan this year. Joyce Baker writes of spring "sunshine 60 degrees warm breezes ruffling my hair, the rich scent of the Earth filling my head - Ahh - what a delight! It's amazing how much the simple pleasures of working in the garden can do, I feel full of energy and so very close to the Lady - it's wonderful" Nancy writes that Brockport, N.Y. needs a few more Unicorns, and that the Equinox was a time of great weather and geese flying overhead... Da'oud is spending spring in Tucson, writing of spring and growth of watching the planets. Our best wishes to Tim and Rose Wildermuth, who were handfasted at the Equinox. May your dreams all be blest and your new house a magick nest. Dearest Karen writes "Spring is here, and urges those who would go skinny dipping. Karen say hello and give unihugs to Gwyr, Liu Shien and all. Congratulations to Davvyd. Truly his Goddess brought you the blessings of spring. Drink of her sylvan breezes and run naked beneath the stars! The Equinox was celebrated as a Celtic Spring Equinox Festival by Circle and friends in Madison! Andrius said several unicorns had a very good time! Tanya has had an interesting spring... it seems things have been moving right along for her. The Order of Ganymede has been busy. The Goddess told Andrius that the favorite fallen angel is a sparkle in her eye. Ted Byers is spending spring in Florida. We hope to see him in August. Needing to contact someone with a coven in Santa Fe. I have need and don't know what else to do. Now is the time for activity. The blessings of warmth are heating the Earth!" Adinan, P.O. Box 703, Leander, Tx. 78641. Thanks to the Coven of the Rose for the pretty card of chickadees... Hello to Nick. To Bobbi - use the following herbs in a charm: basil and angelica and include a moonstone (P.S. it's Virgo) Tanya is your grape ivy doing better? Communing with the Deva's is really delightful. Looking for other Wicca folk in Eastern Central Iowa who would like contact with us, who, like us view the craft was a positive religion... interested in Welsh traditions, etc. to contact write Erling c/o The Unicorn

Notes from and Herbal - cont'd

This column will differ, and with the next issue will return to the planetary energies. As part of this issue's Maybasket of treats I would like to share with you this excerpt from my new herbal which will be published this summer.

"The song of herbs is written in the heart of nature. Herbs recall the origins of all birth, for their source of life was the sea, that great, tumultuous ocean that gave birth, the origin of life upon our planet. In the annals of plant life it is written:

'In the beginning was the soil, the earth of life, which fed the waters of time out of which sprung all being. And this did the Earth Goddess, the Mother of all Nature, bring into being the element Verda, the essence of being, the being of all life...'

And this it is recorded in the holy book of Devas, the plant spirits, how chlorophyll came to be Chlorophyll is what makes plants plants, of a different consciousness than mammals, stones, and other beings. To the plant kingdom, chlorophyll is of the sacred elements, often written as 'verda' but not pronounced. It is a holy sound, sung by all the plants as the whispering of breeze, the tidal song of the ocean..."

P.s. Illustrations for the book are being created by Prairie Jackson

Tenth law - traditional herbalist

Because he practises his craft within both the smallest laws of the Universe and the greatest laws, even to gaze at the stars is to be aware.

The Tarot

The Chariot Ace of Cups by Prairie Jackson

The tarot and elemental invocations to the Goddess - Paul Beyerl

The May gift in the Tarot column - an extra card, but Andrius insisted these you must experience yourself.

Meditate upon these cards within a circle. Light a candle, yellow in the East for Air; Red in the South for Fire; Blue in the West for Water; and Green in the North for Earth. As you light the candle, chant the elemental chant for that element. After completing in the North, Sit inside and meditate on the Tarot. You have called upon the Goddess.

The chants are from the Coven of Lothlorien of the Rowan Tree. Mpls. They may be used privately by all who so mention their source.

O beautiful Lady

Gentle Goodes fair;

Give to us thy wisdom,

Fill us with thine air!

Bring to us they wondrous might,

Gracious Goddess of the light;

Ride the wings of Raphael

And bless this magick rite!

Help us cast this circle

And build a magick ring!

Guide us to your beauty;

Our love to you we sing!

Goddess of the dawning light

Kiss the dew of morning sight!

Light the candle, ring the bell

And bless this magick rite!

Greatest Goddess of the fire
Fill my heart with your desire
Keep my feet upon thy path
Fill my heart with mirth and laugh!
Greatest Goddess, burning bright
Keep me in thy magick might
Dance around the fire bright
Chant the song and do the rite!
Fire burning, fire bright
Give my soul your magick light;
Help me rise anew each day
Keep me in our lady's way!

Queen of the waters
Sparkling in the moonlight;
Lady of the heavens
Dancing in the stars bright;
Dance in the laughing waves
Call upon the moon
Cast the circle, chant the song.
Goddess grant this boon!
Take us to thy homeland.
Deep within the sea.
Bring the moon into my heart
Dear Mother Blessed Be!
Dance in the laughing waves
Call upon the moon
Cast the circle, chant the song/
Goddess, grant this boon!

Walking on the Earth this day
Sensing life within;
Living with the Goddess' song.
We are free from sin!
Dancing in the forest
Chanting with the trees
Casting magick circles
Singing Blessed Be's!
Mother of the Harvest
Goddess of the fields;
You who bring our dreams to ripe.
You who bless the yields!

Join us dancing in the wood!
Hear us singing to the trees!
Help us cast our circle
Hear our Blessed Be's!

Beltane Song

Plant your seed in me in springtime
In the last deep drifting snow
As your sun warms up the earth
The Lady's love will surely grow.
The mating of the seasons makes
The warmth that melts the snow
Bath the Lord and Lady
Makes the early violets grow

Shine on me and make me feel it!
Shine on me you make me grow!
Inside us all the Lord and Lady grow.

As the green buds on the willows
Glow round us soft and bright
The deep dark still of nighttime
Meets the mornings vernal light
And, as one, they dance inside us
If we're blessed enough to know
It takes both sides of nature
So let the blossoms grow.

Ring out clear bells of Mayday!
Ring out winter's quiet nest!
As we sow the seed for summer
Working soil the gods have blessed
Dance 'round the garland Maypole
Dance 'round the silver moon
As we gather fragrant flowers
Bursting to love's tune

Moon shine on, you make me feel it
Shine right on you let me know
That the circle's everlasting
And at last it's time to grow
Shone on me cause in the morrow
Beltane bells will start to chime
I am of the Earth

Her bounty has been mine.

Hear the piper as he courts
The dark eyed Lady of the night
Feel the promise of the summer
Coming on both full and bright
One by one we come together
Two by two - it is so right
The golden sunshine
And the dark moonlight.

Contest winner by Rose Wildermuth

Lunar Diana
Forestral Pan
Be with us as man
Worships with man
Teach us wisdom
To live for life
Help us creates
Joy from strife
Pan and Diana
Bless us this night
Make us sacred
In your sight
- Scott Cunningham

Who stirs the ashes
who brings the flame
none but the ancient dream
the old ones we call by name

by flower and fruit
we know them
who still sing to the moon
running round a circle of time
chanting the forgotten rune

O leap high the dancers
swirling bright with stars
the evening bell
is ringing in
the midnight Sabbat hour

O do you remember
do you believe

each is a cell
in the greater life
that no one will leave

O do you hear the echo
that moves us even now
the sound we always know

io evohe lo
evohe lo
evohe lo

- Prairie Jackson

Diana of the crescent barge
Who travels in the night
Who lights the way to sabbat ground
With glowing lunar light
We call thee to be one with us
As men we call thee nigh
Charge us with your love and luck
And bless us with your sigh
For though we be but mortal men
Who dance the ancient round
We pray that you'll attend to us
And send your moon love down

- Scott Cunningham

Jowren
I met a gnome, one sunny day,
His home? Beneath the hill,
He said "you'll stay? You'll talk with me?"
O yes, I said, I will.

He told me of his lifetime,
Past, present future dreams.
He revealed to me our destiny,
Life's much more than it seems.

His name, he said, was Jowren,
A common one, he said.
His stories enchanted, delighted me,
We laughed, the time just sped.

His voice was soft and musical,

But deep, and old and true.
The music came from o'er the trees,
We sang - our friendship grew.

We've shared long afternoons, since then,
He's taught me many things -
Love and laughter, peace and song -
And joy, to what life brings.

He said "Accept the way you are,
Build on what you see,
You are unique, quite beautiful,
The only way to be."

"Learn the secrets of the Earth,
For she is always true,
Love, protect, remember her
In every thing you do"

"For she will always be there
When all the rest is gone,
And she protects and cares for hers
From darkness to the dawn."

"Remember these words, my child," he said
"Let them be your guide
For you are a child of the universe,
From this you cannot hide."

- Joyce L. Baker

We are fire watchers
Ourselves the ash
Our faces carved by glow
Strong and brimfull
Of life
We are those among you
Who pour ourselves out
To drink again
And deeper still
Into the human current
We swirl up from the flames
Reaching for the higher sky
Seeking opening
To be reborn

As fire
In the hands of the living
As fire in the step's
Of those who follow
The echo across
The gypsy sand
- Prairie Jackson

Open Forum

"We are hoping that perhaps you could help us... What we would like to do is to make contact (within a radius of say 300 miles) with other Pagans in this part of the country. Except for the lower Hudson Valley, New York State seems to be sadly underdeveloped as far as the Pagan Community is concerned ... we thought we might try to see what we could accomplish on a more local basis. We suspect that there must be others in upstate New York, Western Pennsylvania and Canada who would benefit from a common interest coalition, resource center and referral network, ... and possibly sponsoring a gathering."

The Eastern Crescent Pagan Council
P.O. box 264
Ellicott Station
Buffalo, N.Y. 14205

Happenings

An Open Sabbat celebration will be held on Solstice Day, Saturday, June 21. This gathering will be sponsored by Circle and by Lothlorien, with the intention of forming a Midwest Council of Covenant of the Goddess, also known as COG. (Lothlorien is the coven name for the Rowan Tree and The Unicorn.) The location will be in Southern Wisconsin. So friends from Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois may all come together to share rituals, workshops, a potluck feast, and some special events. Songs from Circle's new tape (see reviews) will highlight the songfest, and Paul Beyerl (of the Unicorn) will read excerpts from his new herbal, which is written in the tradition of the Devas and will be published in August. To Receive a flyer on this fun weekend, send a SASE to Circle, Box 9013, Madison, Wisc, 53715.

Everyone we know is looking forward to the 4th annual Pan Pagan Festival, August 21-24. It will be held in a beautiful location near Baraboo, Wisconsin, which is near the Wisc. Dells and Devil's Lake State Park - breathtaking scenery and a real sense of the Earth abounds here. Registration for the entire event is \$15.00. A multitude of ritual workings will be presented by many varied traditions. Workshops will be given by teachers and leaders from all over the U.S. This is one of the most delightful of all gatherings (we are unabashedly prejudiced) and also one of the largest. Pan Pagan is sponsored by the members of the Midwest Pagan Council, which is an ecumenical, fun loving collection of Wiccans and Pagans. For free info in the Festival, write: Circle, Box 9013 Madison, Wisc. 53715, attn. Pan Pagan Festival.

Covens One is comprised of three craft-oriented groups in the Illiana Region of the Midwest, which were among the co-founders of the Mid West Pagan Council. Covens One is sponsoring

a Summer Solstice gathering - a three day campout weekend at Lake Holiday, Indiana, site of last years Pan Pagan Festival. Dates are June 20-22nd and cost is \$8.50 per adult, \$4.50 per child. Scheduled are rituals, discussion groups, a communal 'witches stew' and a large group ritual. For more information and for registration forms contact:

Woods Park Pagan Temple
Sanctus Spiritus
P.O. Box 664
Chicago Heights, Ill.

The third annual Gathering of the Tribes is being held at Unicoi State Park, Helen, Ga. This is a fine place to spend July 18-22, and an opportunity to meet a lot of Pagan friends. More information will appear in the next issue. Write: 'R. Gawr, Box 4152, Athens, Ga. 30602.

Hey, all you Texans (we have a lot of Texans in our file!) contact Nexus, Box 45061, Dallas, Tx., 75245, to find out more about a special gathering for all you folk. It will be held to correspond with the Solstice.

Books

"I just bought a fantastic - I repeat, fantastic - book on the Craft entitled The Spiral Dance: A Rebirth of the Religion of the Great Goddess. Written by Miriam Simos under her Coven name of Starhawk and published by Harper & Row, it's maroon cover sports a circle containing four pentagrams which touch each other. Between those covers I found simple and understandable exercises, rituals, invocations, and straightforward explanations of witchcraft (as Goddess religions), the coven, and the worldview of witchcraft. I have yet to get to the chapters on the Goddess, the God, creating sacred space, magical symbols, energy, the Cone of Power, trance, initiation, moon rituals, the Wheel of the Year, and creating religion : toward the future. According to Starhawk, the view of the Craft presented in this book was from the Faery Tradition, but that shouldn't be held against it. It is truly excellent book and is the type of material that we non-Pagans would do well to latch onto. I give it four stars for its balanced yet positive view of the Craft. Tell your readers to get it!

Sincerely, Miles

Miles lives in NYC and is non-Pagan

Earth Magic is the title of Marion Weinstein's new Dianic Book of Shadows. It's a wonderful book, in a most practical format (each page is a readable - by candlelight 8 1/2 x 11 in) We found some of the illustrations to be exceptional and deeply moving, such as the wise, old tree on the page of introduction, and other delights signed "mfw." It is good to see material often left out of Books of Shadows, such as a section devoted to familiars which explains the karmic workings of such relationships and wisely includes the responsibilities. Some approaches to ritual are described that are excellent to see in print. Marion wisely avoids a book of specific rituals, offering, rather a guideline so that each may practise in her/his own way. This book also is pleasant reading, avoiding the tendency of older (Piscean Age) books to take on the tone of Witchcraft and the occult; rather we find a presentation for those who follow the path to the Lady as natural flow of life. Marion is the author of the book Positive Magic which did so much to

demystify, and to take the cult out of the occult. She is to be highly commended for her work in teaching Craft thought and occult principles so one doesn't have to sort out all the garbage. Earth Magic is excellent. For further information, write Earth Magic Productions, P.O. Box 1202, FDR Station, NY NY 10022.

Earth Magic is available from Earth Magic Productions, P.O. Box 1202, FDR Station New York, N.Y. 10022. Send \$4.95 plus 50¢ postage. See our reviews for more info. On this neat book from Marion Weinstein.

A pricelist for mail order books of a general metaphysical nature came from "Joan Marie Bruna, 1215 So. Lombard Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60650." Don't know any more, so write for a copy if you're interested.

Publications

Circle Network News has grown into a commendable publication. Now published quarterly, it is expanded into a good newspaper, with the potential of presenting news of our community in a scale beyond other newsletters and journals. It offers a contact service, space for classifieds, and room for articles long enough to contain valuable knowledge. Cost is \$5.00 (U.S.) per year, and we highly recommend beginning with Vol. II No.1, and read the articles by Selena and De-Anna. A large article appears in this issue on the Pagan Sanctuary and Nature Retreat Center. This is a working of Circle worthy of support from all who are able. Write De-Anna for further information - Circle, Box 9013, Madison, Wisc., 53715. Andrius said, about the Sanctuary, 'it's delightful to see humans create the dreams of the Lady ...'

The most comprehensive catalogue of astrological books I recall seeing arrived in the mail. As each previous catalogue Doug has sent, "Astrology! (A guide to astrological books and supplies)" is excellent. Each book is briefly (and fairly) reviewed, so you can assess books with which you might not be familiar. Included in the catalogue is a subject index, and author index, even a suggested reading list for all levels of ability. We understand the catalogue to be free, but feel it is worth including a dollar to help in the postage, etc. Write "Mystic Arts Book Store; 10202 152nd St., Surrey, B.C. Canada Y3R 6N7.

It was with great pleasure that I received a copy of "The Arohn," a quarterly publication of esoterica, gnosis, Christian mysticism and philosophy. Vol. 2 No. 3 is, for example, filled with 116 pages of incredible reading. A regular column on the mystical use of herbs, and articles on chiropractics, on invocation. This journal is representative of the New Age compatible with the multitude of ancient traditions, including our own. As a special offer to readers of The Unicorn, they will offer a year's subscription at \$6.00 for the first year.) It is normally \$8.00) "The Arohn" is the official voice of the Holy Order of the Rose and Cross, and is a forum for other seekers, particularly occultists and esotericists. I also wish to comment on some pamphlets Fr. Edward sent me on the Liberal Catholic Church, which I was delighted to see includes homage to the Divine Mother. For those of you who wish intelligent reading, write "The Arohn," P.O. Box 314, Burlington, Wa. 98235

"Rose Runes" is a very nice newsletter for Pittsburgh, Pa., printed 8 times a year (sabbatically) by the Coven of The Rose. Cost is \$9.00. Poetry, illustrations, and our favorite section, "Little Pagans' Page: a part for children. The Spring issue included little reviews of children's books which have magickal plots, and also a wonderful story called "the Return of Spring." "Rose Runes is a good newsletter. We bid some of their staff a special "merry meet!"

"The Upper Triad" began in 1974, in Albuquerque, NM, as a group meditation effort. The creation of the journal happened a few months later, and since that time "The Upper Triad" has been a creative well thought journal of metaphysics, theosophical and esoteric materials. The journal is distributed free of charge, but we ask that you send along a contribution. Non-Pagan journals can use our support particularly when they are of such fine quality. For information, write: The Upper Triad, P.O. Box 1370, Manassas, Va., 22110.

Merchandise

Songs of Pagan Folk is the name of the new tape that comes from Circle. As Circle has grown, so has the sound of their music, and on this tape we hear more voices, more instruments, and fuller, richer sound - that of friends. Each side of the tape opens and closes with one of Selena's chants, and in between a selection of Jim Alan's new songs. There is one old song, with the exotic beat of drums in the magick of the music. The tape seems far too short, and there seem to be far too few of the beautiful songs that we hear Circle sing in concert, but listening to it brings memories of songfests, or Jin and Selena at home, playing music, and of the joys of friendship. Cost is \$9.00 plus 95¢ for postage, from Circle, Box 9013, Madison, Wisc., 53715.

The Rite of Summer is the title of two musical fantasies offered by Gwydion, at \$4.50 ea. For more information write: Nemeton, P.O. Box 212, Redwood Valley, Cal. 95470

Received a nice flyer from Arcane Crafts, P.O. Box 383, Mastic Beach, NY 11951. They are an excellent source of jewelry and tools for ritual workings. If you haven't seen their selection write for their catalogue.

"The Unicorn" - a newsletter dedicated to sharing all the good news of our craft and Pagan friends, since Yule 1977

Paul - editor

Cassidy - Layout

Andrius - Advice

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The Unicorn provides these Extra pages to aid communication between Gay and Lesbian Pagans

Pan Pagan 1980

This year's Pan Pagan Festival should be a lot of fun. The Midwest Pagan Council (sponsors of the festival) have approved a workshop called "Gays, Lesbians, and their Spirituality." I am not certain just what we will cover in this workshop, but it is the guarantee that we have a scheduled time to all get together, to find each other, and to be able to talk about our common situations. Cassidy and I are looking forward to meeting many of you, for a larger number of gays and lesbians will be attending than the past years. Quite a few readers of the Extra Pages will attend this year, from many states (and states of being!)

A spiritual gathering for Radical Faeries

To be held August 11th thru 15th in the Colorado Mts. \$90.00 fee includes campsite fee and vegetarian meals. We have heard only the highest praise from those who attended last year.

This year promises to share healing, dance, music, a fairy circle, and more. Write:

Spiritual Gathering for Radical Faeries

P.O. Box 18583

Denver, Colorado, 80218

People Talk

Dear everyone,

What an exciting time this has been since the Equinox. So much response to the last issue of the Extra Pages has me doing this issue in fine print. Please continue to send your comments, letters, opinions, questions, etc.

May we encourage you to try and attend Pan Pagan this year? It is perhaps the largest Pagan gathering to be held this year, and having the gay and lesbian peoples will represented would be of incredible value. If any of you need more info, write us. We'll be going and having a great time, we are not attending the gathering in Denver due to time and money, but would appreciate hearing from any of you who plan to attend.

Good news is that we will be doing a handfasting for two gay men this summer. They will have been together a year and wish to celebrate their union. See - there are stories of magick and happy endings.

Apologies to Adinan for incorrectly listing his address last issue, and special thanks to each of you who took the time to write us with your comments. Chris Sherbak is now in San Francisco and Ted Byers is in Florida. Everyone else has the same address and we have new readers. That's what spring is all about. Beltane is Mpls. is a ritual at the river and we've been sunning skylad for these wonderfully hot and sunny weeks.

Love to you all,
Paul and Cassidy

Miles Michael II

"I have noticed in my involvement with the occult (which is outside the craft) that there is a pronounced bias toward heterosexuality as the microcosmic reflection of the interaction of the "male" and "female" principles in nature - and a corresponding antagonism toward honosexuality (and by application homosexuals) as 'aberrations' of the 'natural' law. Despite claims to the contrary, what has been labeled as 'unnatural' outside the occult community has been similarly labeled within it - thus offering no alternative for us in what has been called part of the Alternative Reality Tradition! If such an attitude exists within the Craft it would account for the alienation of gay Pagans and the difficulties experienced by gay people trying to deal with straight Pagans."

Mel:

"Gee Paul, Pagans (sincere, positive ones) seem to be far and few between ... But finding a gay positive Pagan is almost like looking for a needle in a haystack. Out of the few Pagans there are, they gay population of that is even smaller... It's hard for me to talk about a Pagan gay relationship because I've never had one... Being dedicated to Wicca can cause problems, because it takes a lot of time, and other people aren't crazy about your being mixed up in something really unorthodox. How does one cope with Wicca and a person you like who's antagonistic towards it? I guess if the issue is pressed, it depends on which you consider most important. The answer isn't easy, but relationships don't survive on dishonesty either. That's probably why there are a lot of gay Pagans out there who are still alone."

Try Every Witch Way

"The most common complaint that runs through my correspondence with other gay witches is the futility or difficulty of forming stable relationships. While this is by no means unusual in the gay community, a further strain develops between a Wiccan non-Pagan relationship.

I myself know that only another like myself will be able to feel what I feel for the Craft and be able to understand and share my joy. I therefore turn to my own kind for anything stable or of any depth. This does not mean that I deny or refrain from all other gay contacts. As followers of the Craft, a deeper more meaningful feeling can be brought into our contacts. 'And it harm none, do what you will.'

I find that card reading and palmistry are readily accepted by my non-pagan gay friends. I feel no need to tell them I am a witch. It often leads to conversation to deeper levels and starts them

on a clearer vision of their path. Just as our overall task in the Craft is to enlighten the public that we have parallel paths going to the same Creative Source, our gay community should be guided to accept us."

Blessed Be,
Ted Byers

Scott Cunningham:

"I too feel that my homosexuality has deepened my religious and spiritual development. It is easier to attune myself with the Goddess and God, because I am aware of both of them within; unlike [heterosexuals], who usually identify only with the God Goddess that fits their genitalia. Also, being of a minority, it has helped me strengthen my own beliefs and values in every aspect of my life, in addition to Wicca. Being a member of a racial minority is one thing; a sexual minority is quite another, but it has had almost totally positive results. ... most of my Wiccan friends are aware of my sexual orientation. In fact, it usually draws me closer to the straight women - not the men, necessarily, but I have had no problems with this at all... I guess I have been lucky..."

"O Great God Pan,
Lover to Man,
Shepherd of goats and Lord of the Land;
We call thee to attend our rites
On this the magic night of nights.
God of the Wine,
God of the Vine,
God of the Cattle and God of the Line,
Attend our Circle with your love
And send your energy from above.
Help us to heal,
Help us to feel
Help us to bring forth love and weal
Pan of the Forests, Pan of the glade;
Be with us as our magic is made!

Adinan:

I thank you for publishing my letter in "The Unicorn" there is one small problem, however, In publishing my address the zero was left of my box number.

Adinan's address should read

Adinan
Box 703
Leander, Tx. 78641

Adinan is open to corresponding, and is most interested in what is going on with gay craft. Would everyone included in their requests of the Goddess a boon for him, so he makes it to Pan Pagan Festival this August!

Eric Hanks:

My Priestess is writing a book of rituals for Wiccan couples, and she would like me to write one or two rituals designed for Gay couples and since I'm not an initiate yet and I'm not too sure on several aspects of the task (i.e., How would the couple handle the God and Goddess roles; how they would raise energy, etc.) I was hoping for some advice from someone who knows. I would appreciate all the advice I could get from all quarters. Also we would like some input on lesbian rituals if possible... I'm definitely coming to Pan Pagan this summer if I have to hitchhike...

Eric Hanks
2604 W. Idaho
Boise, Idaho 83702

Bruce Hadley:

I am in the process of revising many Craft rituals to fit gay men. I feel the structure of the Craft is loose enough to do the revising (if it isn't - it needs to be). Actually, the Craft probably needs as many new traditions and rituals as possible. How else can we provide for every Pagan Crafter what he she needs? Bruce writes of a weekend in the mountains "we backpacked up, set up camp on the North slope and built a fire in front of the cave we planned on sleeping in. We sang praises to the Gods and drank libations 'till the wee hours... on our drive home everyone promised to come to at least one Pagan Way meeting to see what it is all about. Shows you what happens when you throw me into a group of open minded agnostics for one night.

Ron Paul:

There appears to be a major Rightist, Conservative Christian movement going on. This poses a threat to the freedom of not only Gay people and Womyn (in regards to their bodies and abortion) but eventually to Pagan Wiccan folk as well. I ask if we are being confronted with the possibility of a New Burning?

I suggest that all Pagan Wiccans should make conscious efforts to protect and guard our freedoms. As the Briton Brethren and Sistren have done (the Spanish Armada, the Isle of Mans, etc.) may we also unite our efforts to use our power to stop the wave of persecution which even now is gaining in strength! May the Gods preserve the Craft.

One of Our Own
Charlie Murphy

Recently Cassidy and I went to hear Charlie Murphy perform here in Minneapolis at a benefit for the Minnesota Gay Defense Fund. Charlie has a growing reputation as singer songwriter who is

active in the men's movement and in gay politics. It was a pleasant evening - songs of gay liberation of saving the Earth of people opening up and being alive. The concert concluded with a wonderful story of the burning times, and a Goddess chant we all sang together. Charlie appears throughout the U.S. and we'd like to encourage you to hear him if he appears in your area.

One final note - the Pan Pagan brochure has arrived with a beautiful illustration by Dirk Dykstra. In the workshop listing is the following. In the workshop listings is the following:

Homosexuality and Witchcraft with Herman Slater, New York

It's good to see two scheduled workshops dealing with homosexuality. The workshop we of Minneapolis will be giving is still unwritten. (It may be even as we give it...) We would ask of our readers to let us know what topics you wish discussed What information you wish shared, etc.

Again - try and attend we're going to look at the site in May.

We plan to use topics of the Extra pages for the workshop. If any of you cannot attend - feel free to write an open letter - we will read it at the workshop. (If you wish you name confidential, please so indicate.)

Bye for now - and enjoy the lusty month of May!