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Yule, 1980

The Unicorn

Vol 4, No. 2

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THE UNICORN

BOX 8814 O MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55408 O 871-7287

A PUBLICATION OF THE ROWAN TREE Yule '80 Vol. IV #2

A Unicorn Friend

Unicorns.....

Tall and stately,
Shining a gleaming horn into the starry night.

Unicorns.....

Tossing their thick, wind swept manes,
Pawing with silver hooves.

How I wish I had a unicorn,

A friend to comfort me when I am sad.

How I wish I had a unicorn,

To frolic in the meadows with,

I would bask in the sun on my unicorn's back.

We would sit at night,
Looking up at the stars,
And I would be completely happy.....

If I had a Unicorn.

by Anne Brennan
Curtis Corner Rd.
Peace Dale,
R. I. 02879
Age 11

Dear folk,

Here comes another Yule - and as we begin to move into the era of New thought, the Goddess brings another jewel to dazzle the wintry skies. Last year's in Virgo, this one is in Libra. As Saturn & Jupiter move into conjunction, the coming year brings new balances - sometimes off-setting the old to make way for the new. The U.S. elections show well that balance may be toppled. Relationships will need strengthening and a desire to be made workable. Creativity will need discipline. At New Year's (on the Christian calendar) look to the sky, & you will see the stars shine bright.

News of next year's festivals has begun to emerge. Again, it shows how the balance in relationships has undergone change - the 'old' council has been reshaped. The festivals sound delightful. I recently attended a Retreat at the Rowan Tree over Hallow's, and waltzed between the worlds with Eunice, a very pretty unicorn that came to the retreat with a human from Atlanta.

Unicorns of all persuasions will gather at Yule - it is a vigil from sunset at Yule Eve to sunrise... Each holds a candle, as a light that will encourage the Sun to begin

his cycle of waxing. Since we have such a joy in that season (Justy May?) we place baubles in trees so they will reflect morning sunbeams & encourage the Sun into a year of mirth & frivolity. At sunrise we will trot in a circle and sing, neigh, & chant until we can't stand it - for then follows a rollicking party, feast, dance, & general frolic.

Kick & Patricia came to visit. Oh - what nice auras they have! Another date to keep in mind - March 14-15. Paul will conduct a two day event in Herbal Shamanism, which often brings in Unicorns. Those who wish to attend from other cities will be provided with sleeping accommodations.

There are some interesting things in this issue - such as the poem & drawing on this page. I LOVE drawings of Unicorns! Another appears on page 4 (that's II; for those who have trouble with our numbers - page I is this page. I get to write on page I. Two is II - this time as two candles; Three, Δ; Five, ★, & so forth.

This year for Yule, the Fellowship of Unicorns & the Rowan Tree have a gift for all readers. Beginning Yule Eve, & for seven nights, we will broadcast dreams of dancing Unicorns, flying Unicorns, etc. Tune in with your astral antennae. One of the nights, I will be a disc jockey, & play you chants only heard in astral waves. It will be a delightful time. See you all in your dreams.

Love & Unikisses,
Andreas





The Unicorn Rambles

Thanks to Paul Lewis for the Unicorn mugs he sent us. Andrius has trouble holding them in his hooves, but we fare much better..... A lovely Hallows card came from Francille..... Deep thanks to the following who attended our Hallowsmas Retreat: to Gil for the Unicorn towel; to David for the Russian libation cup; to Chris & Ray for the books; to Gene & Steve for the garden gifts; love to Leesa in Derbyshire as she seeks a mandrake for Lothlorien..... Andrius awaits a new Unicorn poem from Noel-Anne..... Michael (Westhampton)- thanks for the new year's photo. SUPER-TERRIFIC!..... Andrius loves the locket from Bobbi; & sends love to her baby boy, who won't emerge till near Spring Equinox.... Bev & Bob have touched the Eastern point of Lothlorien's gardens..... Hello to Auset & Sunchild..... Hello to Mickey the Moon Mascot.... Sandi says the Unicorn helps her as a solitary. Andrius intends to fly to Houston to visit Sandi, soon..... Thanks to Ray for the glass Unicorn disk now hanging in the temple's bay window..... Andrius reported a delightful gathering held Nov. 7th at a sandstone altar, 'twixt ravine & pond. Said it was a magnificent ritual..... Hello to Rowan Fairgrove, provider of excellent articles on the Goddess & the God in "Spectre". Please do use the invocation..... Unicorns held a baby Welcome in Tucson, Az. for Matthew Lee O'Brien Johnson Nov. 14. Garlands of dreams were presented proud parents Patti & Rik..... Deepfelt thank you's to Chris & Val. I love you both so dearly & long for a hug- Paul.... Hey, McCrillis folk- do you really think Andrius gets high on mistletoe? (You're right!)..... Blessings to Cardea for her union..... Noel-Anne- all poetry we publish remains "right"-fully the poet's..... Laura sent us a delightful coloring book, from "The Studio 208 W. Simpson St., Lafayette, Colo. A beautiful Zodiac book. (thanks, Laura). (ps. pd is \$5.99, & zip code is 80026)..... Thanks to Gil for the article on the Hawaiian Religion.....

The Yule Dance

Dance round the Yule this night,
As the fire blazes bright;
Dance until the sun comes in:
Sing a song and raise a din!

Bring him back from Avalon,
For we are here and time moves on;
Comes he now to take his stand
By her side to rule the land.

Fill the forest with the sun!
Let Pan rule so winters done!
Bring him to this holy night!
Start us now to summers rite!

From this night he grows to full,
Heed his throne and feel his pull;
Dancing round the Yule tree,
Dancing for eternity!!

- Lothlorien



Blessed Yule to all-
Prairie Jackson

A Poem and a Prayer

It's Yuletide ... and I have no gift
 Of gold or diamonds bright.
 I have no silver ring, my Love,
 Nor pearls of soft moonlight.
 I have no necklace made of stars,
 No scarf of purest lace.
 No treasures of this world have I
 To offer in their place.
 I wish I had a magick charm
 To make your dreams come true.
 Then I would spend eternity
 Just weaving dreams for you.
 But it's Yuletide ... and I have no
 gifts,
 No symbol of affection.
 No shining gold or silver chain
 To glow in your reflection.
 It's Yuletide ... and no gifts have I.
 No ... nothing I may share.
 Except this love I feel inside:
 A poem and a prayer.
 - Jim Thomas

Winter Solstice

The voice of the Old One
 Who eats the sun
 Is singing.
 The shortest day
 And down it goes,
 Like a golden egg:
 The night shall remain,
 Shall remain all starred & spangled,
 Silent lights
 In the void of beginnings.
 And on the wind
 That leans toward dusk,
 Careens toward darkness,
 Lifts leaves and souls
 To spin across the sky -
 Dizzying paleness
 Howling in the brain.
 The voice of Her
 Who strides the heaving seas,
 The voice of Her
 Who tears the fabric
 Is singing ...
 She tears all fabrics;
 They change to tears
 And laughter:
 The cosmic joke.
 She, Virgin, Magician,
 Flings back Her sleeve of void,
 Plucks forth from the Nowhere
 Again
 The beginning-egg.
 - Noel-Anne Brennan
 (WomanSpirit, Dec 1979)

The First Athame

Once a woman wished to divide this from that.
 She said to the stag of the woods: "Stag, Stag,
 give me your antler so that I may divide this from
 that." The stag gave as she asked, and for this
 reason stags shed their antlers. As it was, so it is.

From the antler the woman fashioned a knife,
 it was the first knife. But when she began to divide
 this from that, ha! the knife of antler broke in
 her hand.

So the woman said to the mountain of the plain:
 "Mountain, Mountain, give me a stone so that I
 may divide this from that." The Mountain gave as
 she asked, and from the stone the woman fashioned
 a knife: and the stone knife, like the knife of ant-
 ler, broke in her hand.

So the woman turned to the pool of the bog and
 said, "Pool, Pool, where am I to find that which will
 divide this from that?" The Pool gave her iron,
 and the woman began to smithy.

The volcano lent fire to her forge, and a Moun-
 tain was her anvil. The winds were her bellows and
 the ocean tempered the blade. This was the first
 smithcraft, and the sparks from the forging be-
 came the stars. As it was, so it is.

The iron knife was the third knife, and the
 Blackthorn gave wood for its hilt. The woman
 was so eager to divide this from that that she
 grasped the hilt while her hand was still sooty
 from the forge, so that the hilt of the knife was
 blackened.

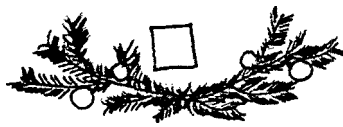
She began to divide this from that, and ha! the
 knife was good in her hand. The woman was
 pleased with the black-hilted blade that she had
 made, and she called the knife, Athame.

As it was, so it is.
 And if you don't believe me, you can go ask
 my old granny, and she'll tell you the same.

-PRODEA

The Girl Who Loved Trees

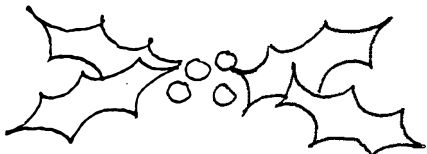
Once there was a little girl
 with long wild golden hair,
 Big blue eyes, a turned up nose
 And skin so smooth and fair.
 But she was not like other girls,
 Her mother shook her head,
 Because she listened to the TREES
 And heard all that they said.
 Into the woods she'd go each morn
 She had a "Special Tree,"
 She'd sit there with her face upturned
 And feel unique and free.
 The wind, she said, will talk with you
 As through the TREES she goes,
 She has told me many things -
 For every thing she knows.
 I've heard such songs, so sweet and clear
 Of Ancient Times gone by,
 I've heard the tune, sung to the Moon,
 The treetops told me why.
 The people, they would not believe,
 They said "Don't talk that way!"
 But they don't know, that little girl
 Can hear those songs today.
 - Joyce Baker



Liberation Day

She survived the barren years,
Denying the magic,
At their command.
It was hard at first
To become accustomed to the flatness,
No future, living their way
In the hackneyed present.
No choice.
The past fading into dreams.
Afraid.
The dreams bothered her, at first,
But eventually she told herself
She was acclimated,
With a soul tough as nails.
Armored. Chained.
She worked at it.
There was no choice.
She was unaware of that secret place
Deep in the pathways of her brain,
A garden hidden in the maze,
Flowering in silence,
Growing virginal.
She would not admit it
Even to herself.
She was unaware
Until one sudden night
Her storm-winds overturned
Her even keel,
Broke the armor, shattered chains,
Blew down the garden walls,
Spilled scented blossoms out.
It was not too late.
In the bright clear air she remembered
it all,
And greeted the moonlit unicorns
With smiling recognition.

- Noel-Anne Brennan



For an Unborn Child that Dies

This rite should be done in as beautiful and natural a place as is possible: a park, flower garden, forest, mountain pass, desert, seashore or wherever you feel at peace with the world and will not be disturbed. The best time is sunset, though need is better than rule.

Face West or the most calming direction, relax and meditate on the child. When you feel the time is right, say:

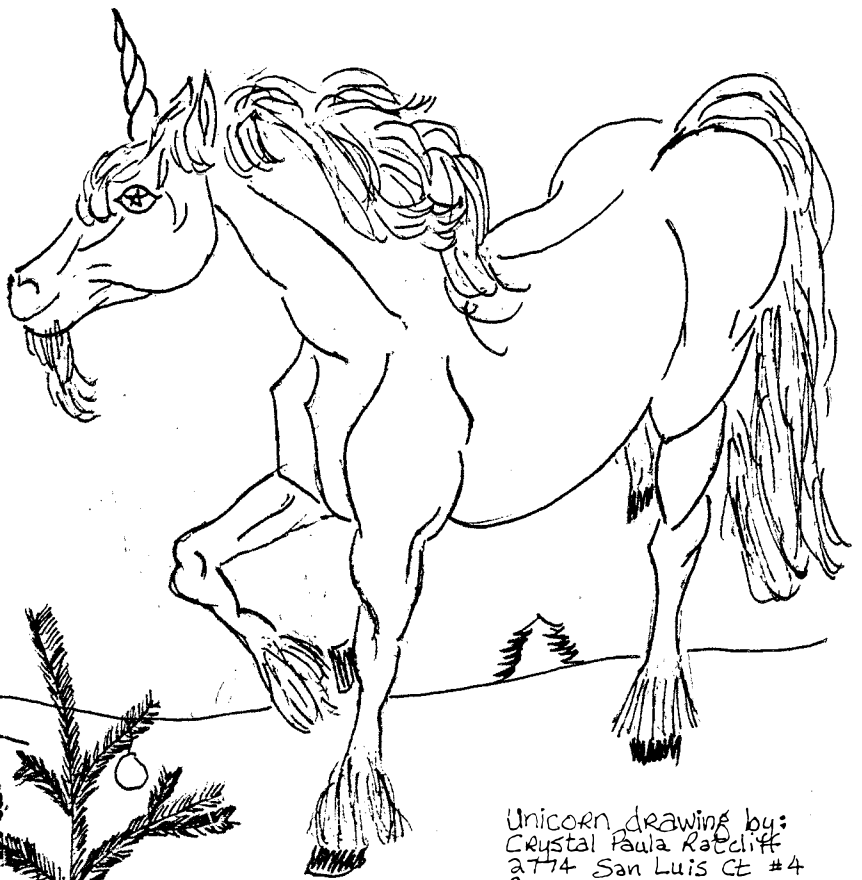
Farewell, my child; grieve not for your lost life,
The time is not yet right for you to come.
Lord of Death, Take this soul of our unborn child
And care for it, make it strong until his next birth.

Lady of Life, care for our child that never was
And return him to our life and our love.

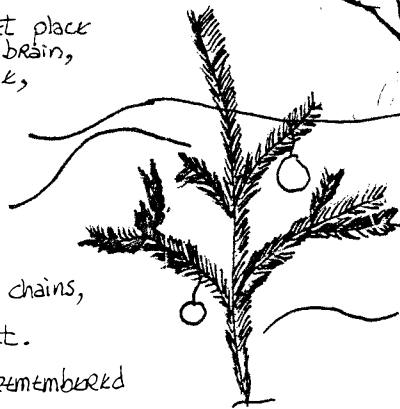
Farewell, my child; grieve not for your lost life,
For soon, you will return to us to begin life anew.

Meditate on the child being cared for in the Summerland and being returned to you at a later date. Make the sign of the Pentacle or Celtic Cross and leave with the knowledge that you will meet again in happier times.

- Rik Johnson



Unicorn drawing by:
Crystal Paula Radcliff
2774 San Luis Ct #4
Sacramento, Cal. 95818
She's also wanting letters
& contacts...



How do you show the Moon you love her?

We are PRODEA, "for the Goddess." We want to commission (in lunar alabaster or immortal marble) a life-size statue of the Maiden Moon, for all her lovers & children to adore. She will be Black, White, and Red like the Moon. Like a clear pool, she will reflect the Moon on Earth. (It is an ancient and awesome mystery that the Moon may be drawn down into a properly-prepared receptacle.)

The Goddess says: "What is foul, I make fair." We can transform patriarchy's blood money into She Who Shines for All. PRODEA needs your financial assistance; but more than this, we need your psychic aid to visualize Her Coming. Will you help?

To learn more, call 1-612-0207, or write:

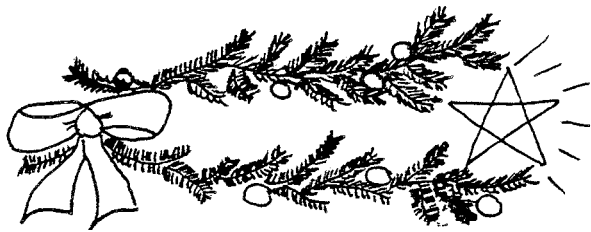
PRODEA
% S. W. Posch
909 W. Franklin Ave. # 35A
Mpls. Mn. 55405



Earthsky Covenant & Sothistar Cohen are seeking to reverse trash journalism appearing in print which portrays the Craft as including animal sacrifice, etc. Some cases of animal mutilation prompted the "Newschronicle" to publish a long article speculating on it being the work of witches. They seek letters stating positively (sent to Newschronicle) that we do not mutilate nor sacrifice animals. Please respond. Write the "Newschronicle"

2595 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd.
Thousand Oaks, Ca. 91360

Go ahead - even if it's anonymous....



Many thanks to K.A. for her practical instruction in the beautiful rite of sex magick. Love and Blessed Be from Maud Reinertsen.

To All Pagans, & Neo-pagans:

Having been an observer (of many years' experience) of humans, and their life situations and questions, I have noticed a controversy building over the physical altering of a particular animal in order to produce a "unicorn" type animal.

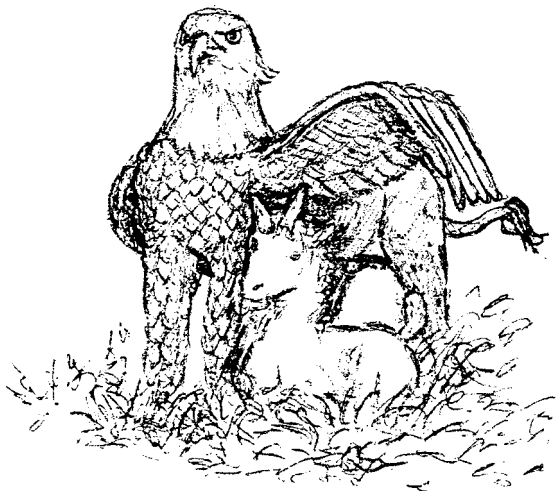
Because I am attempting to overcome a lifetime habit of interfering with humans, I cannot, in good conscience, offer advice or opinion on this situation. I must ask, however, that you do not condemn the beast just because he has been changed from his original form.

I put forth this appeal because, even though his outward appearance has been changed, his behavior patterns have not been. As he grows older and matures, he will, as all of his kind do, become more and more territorial, and feel the need to defend this territory. This is unfortunate, however, because, as he attempts to defend himself and his territory, he will follow his instincts in combat. Since his form has been altered, this will make him a very dangerous opponent. This alteration may also make him a danger to humans: after all, the comical picture of a goat butting into a person who has just bent over, is based on a well known behavior pattern of a territory-defending male.

Therefore, please, should an "accident" occur, don't condemn Lancelot just because he has followed a behavior pattern that has been ingrained into his true species for thousands of years. Please try to make a correlation between such an incident, and a statement that has been on your "bumper stickers" for years: Guns don't kill people, people kill people. Just substitute "Altered species" for "guns" & "species alterers" for the second "people."

Thank you,
HEGO pABUTE7b
"Ruler of the skies"

[Ed. note: the accompanying photo was taken of Nebo and Lancelot, when Nebo, the Griffin, was interviewed by Lady Cantonia, reporter for "The Unicorn".]



Dear Unicorn,

I went to visit the Natural Science Church at Fountain, FL. It does not exist. It is phony, nor do they have herbs for sale as advertised. J. Dawson & wife are not witches nor Wiccans, but using the Craft as a money maker.... a disgrace to the Goddess; no congregation, no incorporation, no Craft... I left soon as I could. -- sorry I cannot give a good report

Grace E.
Warrington, FL.

Thoughts on the living unicorn: don't be so cynical, folks, until you've read the historical literature on the centuries of unicorn realities; even more important, until you've seen the beastie. Certainly he's a bit different from the horned horse that's come down in legend, but remember that many mythological creatures bear little resemblance to their real ancestors. (Witness dragons, who are invariably pictured with 4 legs and 2 wings, making them totally alien to any species of bird, mammal or reptile that ever existed on earth.) Since a functioning unicorn was a herd leader, he was able to skewer jackals & lions who attempted to cull the herd. A bitly wouldn't be as successful.

Love & Blessings... Guydion

It seems that the majority of neo-pagans, while claiming to honor both the God & Goddess, tend to place the greater importance in the Goddess. If balance is that which is sought - is it to be found when one "side" out does the other? The justification used seems to be that since the last cycle was male dominated, that the pendulum must, by rights, swing back the other way. I believe this to be a very foolish statement. If we are enlightened, why do we have to be the slave of the pendulum? We claim Divine roots.... yet the foliage seems to have failed the promise. Balance can only be achieved through homage of 'both' as equals and I, for one, chose not to be a slave of the pendulum.

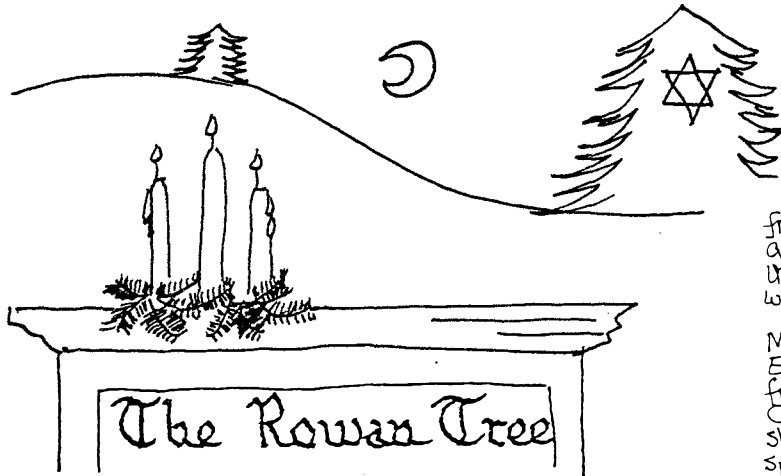
The next point of contention deals with the idea that wicca &/or neo-pagan religions are the 'olde way' and predate christianity. That seems like quite a claim - unfortunately not true. At best what would exist today would be a re-creation and I dare say that I would not believe anyone who claimed even that much. Yet that does not affect the viability of any neo-pagan group. Any belief that is practised - even by one person - is a viable religion (even atheism). It also bears mention that some of the Gnostic Christian groups (the 1st & 2nd centuries) seemed to be very God/dess oriented.

The reason I classify myself as a neo-pagan is by virtue of my being gay, I can recognize the male & female aspects in myself. Hence my gravitation to a religion that has both god/dess and why I cannot ascribe to a belief that one is more important than the other. I do not, however, wish to be mistaken as a proponent of "divine androgyny."

Man creates his own religion and I have done likewise. The myths I chose to follow are labeled "pagan". Yet there have been a few great pagan philosophers since the time of the Nazarene - namely the Emperor Julian - called the apostate, and his friend Sallust. They take us out of the realm of just myth, and take us into the realm of philosophy. I would be interested in corresponding with anyone for the exchange of ideas on the nature of the Gods & man & their relationship - one to the other.

Thank you for supplying the vehicle for cross dialogue between members of the pagan community.

Blessed Be,
Randall Schultz
2801 So King DR. #1307
Chicago, Ill. 60616



MPC, Circle, &
Pan Pagan 1981

We have received many pages of press releases from the folks who put on the 1980 pan-pagan gathering. Unable to add six extra pages to the Unicorn to cover the 12 pages of typed news, we will attempt to let you know what's up.

Pan-Pagan Festival '81 will be June 11-14 in Delton, Michigan, sponsored by the Council of the Sacred Earth, a coalition of Midwest Council members from past festivals. The festival will be held at Circle Pines, a 284 acre site of meadows, lake shore, pine groves & forests. Even plenty of space for skydial ritual & romping. This year sounds wonderful. Fee is \$2000, so cheap! If you wish to present a program, hurry! Deadline is Feb. 1st this year.

Write: Temple of the Pagan Way
1532 W. Victoria
Chicago, Ill. 60660

We also have pages devoted to the changes in the Midwest Pagan Council. Due to space, we will not print it all. Wish we could. The Council has gone through many changes, & we feel it is for the better, as we are very impressed with the direction the 1981 festival is taking. Yes, Circle is not a member of the Sacred Earth, as we know at present. Circle is at work, as always.

Circle & Cleveland's Chameleon Club are planning another Pagan Spirit Seminar for Ohio, to be held in April or May of 1981. Circle also hosts Pagan Festivals at all 8 Sabbats. Two of these are fun, outdoor Nature Retreats. (The other six are fun, indoor events). These will be at the Nature Sanctuary in Southwestern Wisc. for the Summer Solstice & the Fall Equinox. Dates are June 18-21 & Sept. 18-20, respectively.

Write: Circle
Box 9013
Madison, Wisc. 53715

Creative thinking sessions continue to meet on Monday nights at the Rowan Tree, 7:00-9:00pm. Each class includes guided meditation/trance work, & discussions of esoteric things such as healing by stones & colors, dreams, numerology, etc.

A study in group dynamics in ritual work will be conducted by Paul Beyrel of the Rowan Tree. Classes will be arranged, will meet once during each waxing moon, & will have no fee. Contact Paul at 871-7287 for info.

Upcoming classes at the Rowan Tree: Herbal Awareness - Jan. 13 (Six Tuesdays) - a variety of aspects of herbcraft - can take one or more sessions; Practical Astrology - Feb. 24 (Five Tuesdays) - how to understand the planetary positions & make use of the knowledge. March 14-15 - a two day seminar in HERBAL SHAMANISM. Call us for details; stop in at Evenstar or at the Rowan Tree (herb shop open every Saturday noon-4:00pm) for winter quarter calendars.

Contacts

"I am just beginning my study of the craft & the Goddess. I wish to contact people who are interested in letter writing or visiting if near. I draw, do ceramics & stain glass, & very interested in learning about the Goddess. Some of my artwork can be seen in the Book of the Goddess."

Crystal Paula Ratcliff
2774 #4 San Luis Court
Sacramento, Calif. 95818

NYC - Paul Lewis, formerly of Ohio, now in New York pursuing concert piano career. Wanting to meet area Pagans & Wiccans.

Paul Lewis
200 E. 33rd St #14F
NYC, NY 10016
1-212-686-0350

Happenings

Ravenswood has its Center at 3537 27th Ave So, Mpls. Mn. 55406 (1-612-724-2862). Dirk has published a beautiful catalogue of their studies and offerings. Don't know if they're available by mail or not. Upcoming classes include Advanced Tarot and Psychic Healing. Lots of good wishes to Dirk.

"Channeling the Goddess Within: Feb 1, 1981, Noon-8 p.m. in Madison, Wisc. Workshop & Ritual for Gay & Straight Women interested in exploring the Goddess. For more details, write: Circle, Box 9013, Madison, Wisc. 53715"

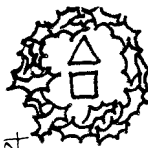
Publications

"Children of the Earth", Rt 2, Box 305, Philippi, W. Va., 26416 is a newsletter for Pagan families, to provide a forum for the sharing of the joys & hassles of raising pagan children. They invite letters sharing questions, problems, ideas, experiences, etc; also articles on Pagan parenthood, & articles by & for Pagan kids. Will publish whenever we have sufficient material, so expect a per chance erratic schedule (but quite possibly frequent) charter subs. \$5.00 for 4 issues.

New Council & Newsletter... "The Council was formed to serve as a means of communication between the different traditions of magical practise." for further information, write:

Spectrum of the Seven Keys
538 Hammond Ave
San Antonio, Texas 78210

"Stillwaters" one of the loveliest of quarterly journals had a new address:
P.O. Box 9154
DENVER, Colo. 80209



One of the most fun-to-read newsletters. Not solemn, not pompous; witty, ascerbic, irreverent. We feel it deserves attention!

The Deva's Advocate
 90 Ringmaker
 521 N. 8th Ave.
 Sturgeon Bay,
 Wisc. 54235

If you haven't been in touch with Arcane Crafts of late, you may have missed their newest catalogue. The jewelry they offer is of excellent quality and design. They also offer tarot decks, tools for magick & divination.... Wish Minnesota had a lottery to win. Write for their catalogue....

Arcane Crafts
 Po Box 383
 Mastic Beach, Ny. 11951

"Magickal Unicorn Messenger" is a new newsletter in the Great Lakes area. Special features include a page for young pagans of games & puzzles. This alone makes it worthwhile. Lots of articles and fun reading to be had... Check it out!

Temple of Wicca
 Po Box 1302
 Findlay, Ohio 45840

Did you go to Pan Pagan - did you wish you had gone?? Stan & Brenda (who looks lovely in the Chicago papers) have cassette tapes available recorded live at the festival... Margot Adler, Cyrián, Karen of Moonfire... Tapes are inexpensive, with part to be returned to the workshop speakers (as royalties). Write Stan for the price list...

Sanctus Spiritus
 Po Box 664
 Chicago Heights, Ill. 60411

Merchandise

Okay folks - you've heard Andrius talk about his incredible t-shirt from the folk at Blue Moon. Now they've gone & done it again - an illustrated catalog - so you can see t-shirts of the Unicorn Talisman, Pan, and a variety of designs. Write Harry & Jeanne to see this nifty news:

Blue Moon
 561 W. Orange St.
 Lancaster, Pa. 17603

"Theater Masks" of New York is a completely customized design service intended to meet the special art needs of the Pagan community. We design, invent, and make to-order items that groups or individuals require, but which cannot be found from other sources. We intend to bridge the gap between expensive collector's items from antique dealers, and amateur attempts at art which fail to enhance Ritual.

Theater Masks of New York
 179 W. Houston St.
 NY 10014 NY

Sound of Light, Po Box 38234, Dallas, Tx. 75238 sent us some of their materials to examine and review. We received a set of "Magickal Images" by William G. Gray. This is one of the most inspiring approaches to understanding the true of life I have ever seen.... My personal training included some books by Gray my mentor recommended, and they affected me profoundly, enhancing my grasp of symbols & of ritual. These, the "images," are beautiful - and wonderful educational tools. They include a very sensitive book on their use. For those who seek a daily & personal exploration of the Tree, we suggest the "Office," which has daily meditations to take you into the mysteries. We also received a copy of The Vision & the Voice by A. Crowley. Excellent reading. What I'd like to say is that the materials offered by Sound of Light are of excellent quality. If any of you (& pagans & Craft people often do) seek to understand the True of Life, or any of many magickal paths, let us recommend a source of materials. Write for their booklist....

Sound of Light
 Po Box 38234
 Dallas, Tx. 75238

The Unicorn began July, 1977, as a newsletter dedicated to sharing the good news of our Craft & Pagan friends. It is a Rowan Tree publication, with eight issues to coincide with the Sabbats.

Editor: Paul V. Szekel
 Production Editor: Cassidy
 Associate Artist: Franke Jackson
 Resident Unicorn: Andrius

Enclosed is my hard-earned money for the following:

- \$60 - a one-year subscription to The Unicorn, (3 issues)
- \$80 - not only The Unicorn, but also the Extra Pages for gays & lesbians
- \$70 - The Holy Books of the Devas (Vol. 1) an Herbal for the Aquarian Age
- \$50 - Andrius' Colouring Book of Numbers - numerology & mythology
- \$50 - A Child's Wish Book - a book of delight for little people
- enclosed is a S.A.S. Please send a copy of your catalogue

Total enclosed is Make checks and money orders payable to The Rowan Tree

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The Unicorn

Box 8814 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408 871-7287

A publication of the Rowan Tree Yule '80 Vol. IX #2

A Unicorn Friend

Unicorns...

Tall and Stately,

Shining a gleaming horn into the starry night

Unicorns...

Tossing their thick, wind swept manes,

Pawing with silver hooves

How I wish I had a unicorn,

A friend to comfort me when I am sad

How I wish I had a unicorn

To frolic in the meadows with,

I would bask in the sun on my unicorn's back

We would sit at night,

Looking up at the stars,

And I would be completely happy...

If I had a unicorn

By Anne Brennan

Curtis corner Rd. Peace Dale, R.I. 02879 Age 11

Dear folk,

Here comes another Yule - and as we begin to move into the era of New Thought, the Goddess brings another jewel to dazzle the wintry skies. Last year's in Virgo, this one is in Libra. As Saturn and Jupiter move into conjunction, the coming year brings new balances - sometimes off-setting the old to make way for the new. The U.S. elections show well that balance may be toppled. Relationships will need strengthening and a desire to be made workable. Creativity will need discipline. At New Year's (on the Christian calendar) look to the sky, and you will see this 'star' shine bright.

News of next year's festivals has begun to emerge. Again, it shows how the balance in relationships has undergone change - the 'old' council has been reshaped. The festivals sound delightful. I recently attended a retreat at the Rowan Tree over Hallows, and waltzed between the worlds with Eunice, a very pretty unicorn that came to the retreat with a human from Atlanta. Unicorns of all persuasion will gather at Yule - it is a vigil from sunset at Yule eve to sunrise... Each holds a candle, as a light that will encourage the sun to begin his cycle of waxing. Since we have such a joy in that season (lusty May?) We place baubles in trees so they will reflect morning sunbeams and encourage the sun into a year of mirth and frivolity. At sunrise we will trot in a circle and sing, neigh, and chant until we can't stand it - for then follows a rollicking party, feast, dance and general frolic.

Rick and Patricia came to visit. Oh-what nice auras they have! Another date to keep in mind- March 14-15. Paul will conduct a two day event in Herbal Shamanism, which often brings in

Unicorns. Those who wish to attend from other cities will be provided with sleeping accommodations.

There are some interesting things in this issue- such as the poem and drawing on this page, I love drawings of unicorns!! Another appears on page 4 (that's square; for those who have trouble with our numbers - Page 1 is this page.) I get to write on page 1, two is Roman numeral two - this time as two candles; three, trine; five is a pentagram, and so forth.

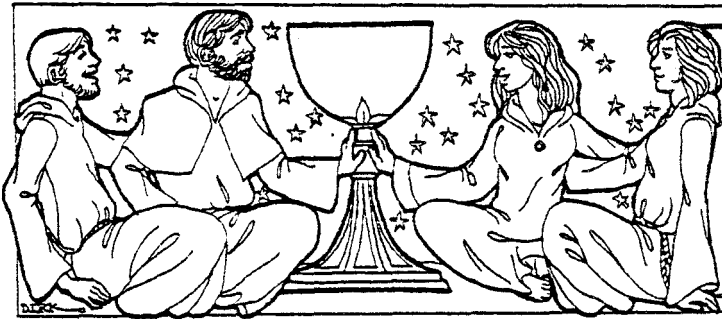
This year for Yule, the Fellowship of Unicorns and the Rowan Tree have a gift for all readers. Beginning Yule Eve, and for even nights, we will broadcast dreams of dancing unicorns, flying unicorns, etc. Tune in with your astral antennas. One of the nights, I will be disc jockey, and play you chants only heard in astral waves. It will be a delightful time. See you all in your dreams. Love and unikisses, Andrius

The Unicorn rambles

Thanks to Paul Lewis for the unicorn mugs he sent us. Andrius has trouble holding them in his hooves, but we fare much better... A lovely Hallows card came from Francille... Deep thanks to the following who attended our Hallowmas Retreat: to Gil for the Unicorn towel; to David for the Russian liberation cup; to Chris and Ray for the books; to Gene and Steve for the garden gifts; ... love to Leesa in Derbyshire as she seeks a mandrake for Lothlorien... Andrius awaits a new Unicorn poem from Noel Anne... Michael (Westhampton) - thanks for the new year's photo. Super=terrific! ... Andrius loves the locket from Bobbi; and sends love to her baby boy, who won't emerge til near Spring Equinox ... Beu and Bob have touched the Eastern point of Lothlorien's gardens. Hello to Auset and Sunchild Hello to Mickey the Moon Mascot .. Sandi says the Unicorn helps her as a solitary. Andrius intends to fly to Houston to visit Sandi, soon ... Thanks to Ray for the glass Unicorn disk, now hanging in the Temple's bay window ... Andrius reported a delightful gathering held Nov. 7th at a sandstone altar, 'twixt ravine and pond. Said it was a magnificent ritual ... Hello to Rowan Fairgrove provider of excellent articles on the Goddess and the God in "Spectru." Please do use the invocation ... unicorns held a baby welcome in Tucson, Az. for Matthew Lee O'Brien Johnson Nov. 14. Garlands of dreams were presented proud parents Patti and Rik ... Deep felt thank you's to Chris and Val. I love you both so dearly and long for a hug - Paul Hey, McCrillis folk - do you really think Andrius gets high on mistletoe? (you're right!) ... Blessings to Candea for her union ... Noel-Anne - all poetry we publish remains "right"-fully the poets ... Laura sent us a delightful coloring book, from "The Stud; 208 w. Simpson st. Lafayette, Colo. A beautiful zodiac book. (thanks, Laura). (ps. P..d is \$5.50 and zip code is 80026) ... thanks to GIL for the article on the Hawaiian Religion ...

The Yule Dance

Dance 'round the Yule this night,
As the fire blazes bright;
Dance until the sun comes in:
Sing a song and raise the din!
Bring him back from Avalon,
For we are here and time moves on;
Comes he now to take his stand
By her side to rule the land



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

Faggots ARE A Man's Best Friend

The poet Robert Graves, though he could easily be called "Grand-Daddy of Neo-Paganism," is well-known among modern heathens as a notorious sexist and homophobic. How surprised I was, then, while rereading The White Goddess several weeks ago, to find that he has reclaimed for us a symbol of our priesthood in the ancient courts of the Goddess.

It is well-known that the Goddess was once served in temples all around the Mediterranean by priestly brotherhoods of gay men. (Modern scholarship often calls these "Eunuch priests," but then, patriarchy has long regarded gay males as "castrated," i.e. less than manly.) In Hebrew Scripture these men were known by two names: the "Holies" (Kedeshim) and the "Dogs." It has long been customary to regard this latter as a title of opprobrium, but Graves claims it as mythically apt, a title of pride.

Male dogs have a reputation for "sodomizing" each other. We still, of course, speak of "doggy style sex." Dogs, in addition, are well-known howlers by night, and the music of their baying is none other than the Moon herself. What more appropriate emblem of men who sing to the Moon and worship her with their loving, than the holy Dog?

Whenever you come across a mythological dog, reconsider its possible meaning in this light. Cerberus immediately springs to mind: we are the Goddess' temple watchdogs. One remembers the virgin Artemis and her Hunting Pack, and Hecate who rides the night skies of Europe as Queen of the Wild Hunt, her baying dogs before her. Consider the fact that the very Sothis-star of Isis herself is called Sirius, the "Dog-Star." The very brightest star of all the heavens, my brothers, is ours by traditional right.

Graves, in fact, claims that the Dog Days (approximately 3 July — my birthday! — to 11 August), ushered in by the heliacal rising of Sirius, were commemorated in the Goddess' temples by gay love-orgies: a custom perhaps worth re-instituting!

Centuries of patriarchal oppression have brought the Goddess, gay people, and dogs into disrepute. But we have found our pride again. We're not only man's best friends: we're the very special pets of the Goddess herself.

— Steve Posch
 Prodea

New book to investigate: The Dream Horse, newly available from the Seal Press (a Northwest Feminist Cooperative) for five dollars plus handling from 535 11th East, Seattle, Wa., 98102. Book is by Jerah. If we see a review copy will tell you more, but look for it anyway.

Dear Friends of the Unicorn,

May Pan's season find all of you at your highest magic. Truly the Gays' power is one of the most potent to be found. To think of the magic we have raised in the astral at Pan Pagan makes me proud, & tingle with happiness and glee. May we all be able to meet and raise the cone of power again.....
 Egorus, Wisc.

Dear Friends,

Plans for 1981 Pan-Pagan are underway. The Council has been reborn, and the site is described as ideal. A workshop is scheduled again for gays & lesbians — men & womyn, womyn & fairy men — all of us, and the Council has written me that we are even more welcome than last year.

My personal request: (Requests?) First, that as many of us attend as is possible. There were a few, minor incidents of homophobia. Yes, minor, in the light of the freedoms we took, the openness we exhibited, and those incidents were a major part of the catalyst that led to the changes we will see in this year's festival. I strongly feel the changing was affected by our visible numbers.

Second, that the gays & lesbians be mutually supportive. We will have less strength, less magic & growth if we are divisive. Let the fairy-men aid an all womyn's circle, so it may have free-flowing magic; let the womyn lend the men similar aid. Let this year be a celebration of joy.

Third, that we have lots of activities for our own. They don't all have to be pre-scheduled. Put it on the bulletin board, etc.

So much good came of last year (&, in truth, some very real hassles...) but to do justice to our beliefs, we must build upon the good. Interact with the hetero crowd, & in the process, if you so will, let them know us as we are. Separatism breeds distrust. They can too easily feel misleading things. For the few days we shall all mingle, let us be the radiant example of the beauty of a New Age.

So much for Pan-Pagan. Many of us will also attend the two festivals sponsored by Circle. These seem more conducive to our freedom, so apply the same as needed. We shall have a brilliant 1981. May the Jupiter-Saturn conjunct in Libra bring our being into a better balance within the whole.

Love, Kisses, Hugs,
 Blessed Be's,
 Paul

Gary Gary Gary in Texas,
 Thank you, thank you, thank you for the wonderful birthday present. I will treasure it long and lovingly. Blessed be and blessed blessed yule
 Cassidy

A limerick due to our error came, & we'd like to share it:
There was a man who, say the sages,
To resubscribe sent off his wages.
The Unicorn came,
But the man went insane,
Because there were no extra pages!
- Scott Cunningham
(we immediately sent them out...)

Hallows Retreat

It was a joyous, loving & giving weekend. We gathered in the ritual garden of Lothlorien to pass between worlds on Friday night, Saturday were workshops, chanting, & lots of fun playing together. Cassidy provided excellent food, and we completed our magick with a glorious Sunday Ritual. Comments from those who were here to share with us:

"It was so good to see all the traditions and all the many rituals being brought out in the open for all of us to absorb... I am grateful for all of you and the special love that each of you radiated..."
Gil, Kansas City

"...an enlightening & fantastic weekend. Gene is alive & back in Penn-sea."

Gene, Croydon, Pa.

"...one of the highest magickal times and came at a span of time when I was in need of connecting with fellow Pagans. Eunice sends her love and thanks - she's presently playing Super Unicorn here..."

Belle, Atlanta

"My heart is full and I cannot find the words. I want to bless you for the good work done. I felt like a child running off to play..."

Kay, Chicago

"Thanks again for the great weekend."

Chris, San Francisco

Welcome to the men who bring forth "RFD." We have now a subscription exchange, & encourage you all to read RFD, if you haven't. The magick & essence of the Goddess are more & more to be found in each issue.

Fairy Moon Retreat

The Rowan Tree has tentatively scheduled a Fairy Moon Retreat for May 15-17, to coincide with the final days of a waxing moon in Scorpio. The weekend will begin with a Friday evening Fairy Circle, and have workshops and music, meals and fun.... More details will follow in the next issue (Candlemas). We are exploring some changes, possibly to include a picnic along the Mississippi with a Circle at a sacred circle at the gay beach; possibly expanded accommodation space, etc. Total cost will be \$50-60; Pre-registration will be \$10.

Seeking contacts with gays and lesbians...
"Those are the friends I would love to correspond with."

Blessed Be,
MR. Th. Carson
Box 19811
Milwaukee, Wisc. 53219

A very wonderful, national newsletter which provides a forum for men in the lives of children:

Nurturing News
Box 1813
Santa Ana, Ca. 92702

Write these people for exciting news and contact with a men's group doing a lot of fine artistic work for all men & women:

Good Fairy Productions
Box 12188
Seattle, Wa. 98102

"Whosoever abides in loving friendship abides in the Goddess and the Goddess in her/him. I am a Gay historian, free verse poet, mystic, Uranian disciple of Edward Carpenter - very into constructing/investigating gay and lesbian mythologies, rituals, runes, ceremonies, etc. We can all use or have used. I love all of you. Please write if you can. Blessed Be."

Daniel Ledford
Phillips Court
Box 21 Rte 1
Berta, Ky. 40403

"I appreciate & enjoy both [The Unicorn & The Extra Pages]. I was one of the people at Pan-Pagan this year at the Gay-Lesbian Pagan Spirituality workshop... I hope things like Extra Pages will be a consciousness raiser,..."

A Massachusetts woman

Edward Carpenter (1844-1929) "The Prophet of Homogenic Love" was a poet, anarcho-socialist, pagan-theosophist, writer on many subjects, but he was especially a great pioneer of same-sex love, history & gay emancipation. He was a visionary who saw a future age of indescribable beauty where love was all, when the Goddess-force of the Universe and Nature would transform the world through the Transfiguring Metamorphosis of love between people, especially love between two men, or two women, which as the "Uranian Race" would be the ones who first would behold the road to a new civilization as it had been in the past.

His books are:

Toward Democracy (1885 - perhaps his greatest book), The Intermediate Sex (1908), Homogenic Love (1894), Love's Coming of Age (1895), Iolaus, An Anthology of Friendship (1902), Angel's Wings (1906), My Days and Dreams (1920, an autobiography), Civilization, Cause and Cure (1890) and Intermediate Types Among Primitive Folk (1914) in which he went into great detail about the honored status of gay people in ancient history and primitive society.

Jonathan Katz' Gay American History (1976) has many references to Carpenter. His "Towards Democracy," "Love's Coming of Age" and "The Intermediate Sex" are in most large libraries....

Carpenter had a Gay commune in Millthorpe, England in the late 1890's. He and his lover George Merrill lived together in a blissful relationship from 1892 till George died in 1928, Carpenter dying not long afterward.

The Other Country/The Reign of Wheat

Farm Country. We stand in a field, our shadows flotsam on the water worked into wheat.

You draw your fingers down my face like a blind man. I say nothing -- your eyes sky and sea, a blue I'd seen only from a distance:

Horizon eyes I lean toward, our bodies outlined with the swirling stalks, the surf.

- Jerah
Good Fairy Productions

Looking for NYC & area contacts. Dear friend Paul Lewis, concert pianist, Pagan man, neat person, now living in New York City: 200 E. 33 St., #14F, NYC. 10016 ph 686-0350

Fill the forest with the sun
Let pan rule so winters done
Bring him to this holy night
Start us now to summers rite
From this night he grows to full
Heed his throne and feel hispull
Dancing round the Yule Tree
Dancing for eternity
- Lothloriën

A poem and a prayer
It's Yuletide... and I have no gift
Of gold or diamonds bright
I have no silver ring, my love,
Nor pearls of soft moonlight
I have no necklace made of stars
No scarf of purest lace
No treasures of this world have I
To offer in their place
I wish i had a magick charm
To make your dreams come true
Then i would spend eternity
Just weaving dreams for you
But it's Yuletide ... and I have no gifts
No symbol of affection
No shining gold or silver chain
To glow in love's reflection
It's Yuletide ... and no gifts have I
No ... nothing I may share
Except this love i feel inside:
A poem and a prayer
- Jim Thomas

The first Athame

Once a woman wished to divide this from that.

She said to the stag of the woods: "Stag, Stag, give me your antler so that I may divide this from that." The stag gave as she asked, and for this reason stags shed their antlers. As it was, so it is.

From the antler the woman fashioned the knife,, and it was the first knife. But when she began to divide this from that, ha! The knife of antler broke in her hand

So the woman said the the mountain of the plain: "Mountain, Mountain, give me a stone so that I may divide this from that." The Mountain gave as she asked, and from the stone the woman fashioned a knife: and the stone knife, like the knife of antler, broke in her hand.

So the woman turned to the pool of the bog and said, "Pool, Pool, where am I to find that which will divide this from that?" The Pool gave her iron, and the woman began to smithy.

The volcano lent fire to her forge, and a mountain was her anvil. The winds were her bellows and the ocean tempered the blade. This was the first smithcraft, and the sparks from the forging became the stars. As it was so it is.

The iron knife was the third knife, and the Blackthorn gave wood for its hilt. The woman was so eager to divide this from that that she grasped the hilt while her hand was still sooty from the forge, so that the hilt of the knife was blackened.

So began to divide this from that, and ha! The knife was good in her hand. The woman was pleased with the black-hilted blade that she had made and she called the knife, Athame.

As it was, so it is.

And if you don't believe me, you can go ask my old granny and she'll tell you the same.

- PRODEA

Winter Solstice

The voice of the Old One

Who east the sun

Is singing

The shortest day

And down it goes.

Like a golden egg:

The night shall remain,

Shall remain and starred and spangled,

Silent lights

In the void of beginnings,

And oh the wind

That leans toward dusk,

Careens toward darkness,

Lifts leaves and souls

To spin across the sky

Dizzying paleness

Howling in the brain

The voice of Her

Who strides the heaving seas,

The voice of Her

Who tears the fabric

Is singing...

She tears all fabrics;

They change to tears

And laughter:

The cosmic joke

She, virgin, magician

Flings back here sleeve of void

Plucks forth from the nowhere

Again

The beginning egg

- Noel-Anne Brennan (Womanspirit, Dec 1979)

The girl who loved trees
Once there was a little girl
With long wild golden hair
Big blue eyes, a turned up nose
And skin so smooth and fair.
But she was not like other girls,
Her mother shook her head,
Because she listened to the trees
And heard all that they said
Into the woods she'd go each morn
She had a "special tree"
She'd sit there with her face upturned
And feel unique and free
The wind, she said, will talk with you
As through the trees she goes
She has told me many things-
For everything she knows
I've heard such songs, so sweet and clear
Of ancient times gone by
I've heard the tune, sung to the Moon
The treetops told me why
The people, they would not believe
They said 'Don't talk that way!'
But they don't know, that little girl
Can hear those songs today
- Joyce Baker

Liberation Day

She survived the barren years,
Denying the magic.
At their command
It was hard at first
To become accustomed to the flatness,
No future, living their way
In the hackneyed present
No choice
The past fading into dreams
Afraid
The dreams bothered her, at first,
But eventually she told herself

She was acclimated,
With a soul tough as nails.
Armored. Chained
She worked at it.
There was not choice.
She was unaware of that secret place
Deep in the pathways of her brain,
A garden hidden in the maze
Flowering in silence
Growing virginal
She would not admit it
Even to herself
She was unaware
Until one sudden night
Her storm-winds overturned
Her even keel
Broke the armor, shattered chains,
Blew down the garden walls
Spilled scented blossoms out
It was not too late
In the bright clear aid she remembered it all
And greeted the moonlit unicorns
With smiling recognition
- Noel-Anne Brennan

For a unicorn child that dies
This Rite should be done in a beautiful and natural a place as is possible: a park, flower garden, forest, mountain pass, desert, seashore or wherever you feel at peace with the world and will not be disturbed. The best time is sunset, though need is better than rule.
Face West or the most calming direction, relax and meditate on the child. When you feel the time is right, say:
Farewell, my child; grieve not for you lost life, the time is not yet right for you to come. Lord of Death, take this soul of our unborn child and care for it, make it strong until his next birth. Lady of life, care for our child that never was and return him to our life and our love. Farewell, my child; grieve not for you lost life, for soon, you will return to us to begin life anew.
Meditate on the child being cared for in the Summerland and being returned to you at a later date. Make the sign of the Pentacle or Celtic Cross and leave with the knowledge that you will meet again in happier times.
- Rik Johnson

Unicorn drawing by: Crystal Paula Ratcliff 2774 San Luis Ct #4 Sacramento, Cal. 95818 She's also wanting letters and contacts

How do you show the Moon you love Her?

We are PRODEA, "For the Goddess." We want to commission (in lunar alabaster or immortal marble) a life-size statue of the Maiden Moon, for her lovers and children to adore. She will be Black, White, and Red like the Moon on Earth. (It is an ancient and awesome mystery that the Moon may be drawn down into a properly-prepared receptacle.)

The Goddess says: "What is found, I make fair." We can transform patriarchy's blood money into She who Shines for All. PRODEA needs your financial assistance; but more than this, we need your psychic aid to visualize Her coming. Will you help?

To learn more, call 1-612-02017, or write:

PRODEA c/o S. W. Posch 909 W. Franklin Ave. #35A Mpls. Mn. 55405

Open Forum

Earthsky Covenant and Sothistar Coven are seeking to reverse trash journalism appearing in print which portrays the Craft as including animal sacrifice, etc. Stone cases of animal meditation prompted the "News Chronicle" to publish a long article speculating on it being the work of Witches. They seek letters stating positively (sent to News Chronicle) that we do not mutilate nor sacrifice animals. Please respond write the

News Chronicle 2595 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd. Thousand Oaks, Ca. 91360

Go ahead - even if it's anonymous

Many thanks to K.A. for her practical instruction in the beautiful Rite of Sexual Magick. Love and Blessed Be from Maud Reinertsen.

To All Pagans and Neo-pagans

Having been an observer (of many years' experience) of humans, and their life situations and questions, I have noticed a controversy building over the physical altering of a particular animal in order to produce a "unicorn" type animal.

Because I am attempting to overcome a lifetime habit of interfering with humans, I cannot, in good conscience, offer advice or opinion on this situation. I must ask, however, that you do not condemn the beast just because he has been changed from his original form.

I put forth this appeal because, even though his outward appearance has been changed, his behavior patterns have not been. As he grows older and matures, he will, as all of his kind do, become more and more territorial, and feel the need to defend this territory. This is unfortunate, however, because, as he attempts to defend himself and his territory, he will follow his instincts in combat. Since his form has been altered, this will make him a very dangerous opponent. This alteration may also make him a danger to humans: after all, the comical picture of a goat butting into a person who has just bent over, is based on a well known behavior pattern of the territory-defending male.

Therefore, please, should an "accident" occur, don't condemn Lancelot just because he has followed a behavior pattern that has been ingrained into his true species for thousands of years. Please try to make a correlation between such and incident, and a statement that has been on your "bumper stickers" for years: Guns don't kill people, people kill people. Just substitute "altered species" for "guns" and "species alterors" for the second "people"

Thank you Небо правитель "Ruler of the skies"

[Ed. note: the accompanying photo was taken of Nebo and Lancelot, when Nebo, the Griffin, was interviewed by Lady Cantonia, reporter for "The Unicorn".]

Dear Unicorn,

I went to visit the National Science Church at Fountain, FL. It does not exist. It is phony, nor do they have herbs for sale as advertised. J. Dawson and wife are not witches nor Wiccans, but using the Craft as a money maker ... a disgrace to the Goddess; no congregation no incorporation, no Craft ... I left soon as I could ... sorry I cannot give a good report.
Grace E., Warrington, FL.

Thoughts on the Living Unicorn: don't be so cynical, folks, until you've read the historical literature on the centuries of unicorn realities and, even more important, until you've seen the beastie. Certainly he's a bit different from the horned horse that's come down in legend; but remember that many mythological creatures bear little resemblance to their real ancestors. (Witness dragons who are invariably pictured with four legs and two wings, making them totally alien to any species of bird, mammal or reptile that ever existed on earth.) Since a functioning unicorn was a herd leader, he was able to skewer jackals and lions who attempted to cull the herd. A billy wouldn't be as successful.

- Love and Blessings... Gwydion

It seems that the majority of neo-pagans, while claiming to honor both the God and Goddess, tend to place the greater importance in the Goddess. If balance is that which is sought - is it to be found when one "side" out does the other? The justification used seems to be that since the last cycle was male dominated, that the pendulum must, by rights, swing back to other way. I believe this to be a very foolish statement. If we are enlightened, why do we have to be the slave of the pendulum. We claim Divine roots... yet the foliage seems to have failed the promise. Balance can only be achieved through homage of 'both' as equals and I, for one, chose not to be a slave of the pendulum.

The next point of contention deals with the idea that Wicca and or neo-pagan religions are the 'olde way' and predate Christianity. That seems like quite a claim - unfortunately not true. At best what would exist today would be a re-creation and I dare say that I would not believe anyone who claimed even that much. Yet that does not affect the viability of any neo-pagan group. Any belief that is practised - even by one person - is a viable religion (even atheism). It also bears mention that some of the Gnostic Christian groups (the 1st and 2nd centuries) seemed to be very God Goddess oriented.

The reason I classify myself as a neo-pagan is by virtue of my being 'gay', I can recognize the male and female aspects in myself. Hence my gravitation to a religion that has both God Goddess and why I cannot ascribe to a belief that one is more important than the other. I do not, however, wish to be mistaken as a proponent of 'divine androgyny'.

Man creates his own religion and I have done likewise. The myths I chose to follow are labeled "Pagan". Yet there have been a few great pagan philosophers since the time of the Nazarene - namely the Emperor Julian - called the apostate, and his friend Sallust. They take us out of the realm of just myth and take us into the realm of philosophy. I would be interested in

corresponding with anyone for the exchange of ideas on the nature of the Gods and man and their relationship one to the other.

Thank you for supplying the vehicle for cross dialogue between members of the Pagan community. Blessed Be. Randall Schültz 2801 So King Dr. #1307 Chicago, Ill. 60616

The Rowan Tree

Creative thinking sessions continue to meet on Monday nights at the Rowan Tree, 7:00-9:00pm. Each class includes guided meditation trance work and discussions of esoteric things such as healing by stones and color, dreams, numerology, etc.

A study in group dynamics in ritual work will be conducted by Paul Beyerl of the Rowan Tree.

Classes will be arranged, will meet once during each waxing moon, and will have no fee.

Contact Paul at 871-7287 for info.

Upcoming classes at the Rowan Tree: Herbal awareness - Jan. 13 (Six Tuesdays) - a variety of aspects of herbcraft - can take one or more sessions; Practical Astrology - Feb. 24 (Five Tuesdays) - how to understand the planetary positions and make use of the knowledge. March 14-15 - a two day seminar in Herbal Shamanism. Call us for details; stop in at Evenstar or at The Rowan Tree (herb shop open every Saturday noon-4:00pm) for winter quarter calendars.

Contacts

"I am just beginning my study of the craft and the Goddess. I wish to contact people who are interested in letter writing or visiting if near, I draw, do ceramics and stain glass, and very interested in learning about the Goddess. Some of my artwork can be seen in The Book of the Goddess"

Crystal Paul Ratcliff 2774 #4 San Luis Court Sacramento, Calif. 95818

NYC - Paul Lewis, formerly of Ohio, now in New York pursuing concert piano career. Wanting to meet area Pagans and Wiccans.

Paul Lewis 200 E. 33rd #14F NYC, NY 10016 1-212-606-0350

Happenings

Ravenswood has its center at 3537 27th Ave So, Mpls. Mn 55406 (1-612-724-2862). Dirk has published a beautiful catalogue of their studies and offerings. Don't know if they're available by mail or not. Upcoming classes include Advanced Tarot and Psychic Healing. Lots of Good wishes to Dirk.

MPC, Circle, and Pan Pagan 1981

We have received many pages of press releases from the folks who put on the 1980 Pan Pagan gathering. Unable to add six extra pages to the Unicorn to cover the 12 pages of typed news, we will attempt to let you know what's up.

Pan-Pagan Festival '81 will be June 11-14 in Delton, Michigan and sponsored by the Council of the Sacred Earth, a coalition of Midwest Council members from past festivals. This festival will be held at Circle Pines, a 284 acre site of meadows, lake shore, pine groves and forests. Even plenty of space for skyclad ritual and romping. This year sounds wonderful. Fee is \$20.00, so cheap! If you wish to present a program,, hurry! Deadline is Feb. 1st this year.

Write: Temple of the Pagan Way 1532 W. Victoria Chicago Ill. 60660

We also have pages devoted to the changes in the Midwest Pagan Council. Due to space, we will not print it all. Wish we could. The Council has gone through many changes and we feel it is for the better, as we are very impressed with the direction the 1981 festival is taking. Yes, Circle is not a member of the Sacred Earth, as we know at present. Circle is at work, as always. Circle and Cleveland's Chameleon Club are planning another Pagan Spirit Seminar for Ohio, to be held in April or May of 1981. Circle also hosts Pagan Festivals at all 8 Sabbats. Two of these are fun, outdoor Nature Retreats/ (The other six are fun, indoor events) These will be at the Nature Sanctuary in southwestern Wisc for the Summer Solstice and the Fall Equinox. Dates are June 18-21 and Sept 18-20, respectively.

Write: Circle Box 9013 Madison, Wisc. 53715

"Channeling the Goddess Within : Feb 1, 1981, Noon - 8 pm. In Madison, Wisc. Workshop and Ritual for Gay and Straight women interested in exploring the Goddess. For more details write: Circle Box 9013 Madison, Wisc. 53715

Publications

"Children of the Earth" Rt. 2 Box 305, Philippi, W. Va. 26416 is a newsletter for Pagan families, to provide a forum for the sharing of the joys and hassles of raising Pagan children. They invite letters sharing questions, problems, ideas, experiences, etc.; also articles on Pagan parenthood and articles by or for Pagan kids. Will publish whenever we have sufficient material so expect a perchance erratic schedule (but quite possible frequent) Charter subs. \$5.00 for 4 issues

New Council and newsletter ... "The Council was formed to serve as a means of communication between the different traditions of magical practise." for further information, write: Spectrum of the Seven Keys 538 Hammond Ave. San Antonio, Texas 78210

"Stillwaters" one of the loveliest of quarterly journals has a new address:

P.O. Box 9154 Denver, Colo. 80209

One of the most fun to read newsletters. Not solemn, not pompous; witty, acerbic, irreverent. We feel it deserves attention!

The Deva's Advocate c/o Ringmaker 521 N. 8th Ave. Sturgeon Bay, Wisc. 54235

"Magickal Unicorn Messenger" is a new newsletter in the Great Lakes area, Special features include a page for young Pagans of games and puzzles. This alone makes it worthwhile. Lots of articles and fun reading to the had... check it out!

Temple of Wicca P.O. Box 1302 Findlay, Ohio 45840

Merchandise

Okay folks 0 you've heard Andrius talk about his incredible t-shirt from the folk at Blue Moon. Now they're gone and done it again - an illustrated catalog - so you can see t-shirts of the Unicorn Talisman, Pan, and a variety of designs. Write Harry and Jeanne to see this nifty news: Blue Moon 561 W. Orange St. Lancaster, Pa. 17603

"Theater Masks" of New York is a completely customized design service intended to meet the special art needs of the Pagan community. We design, invent, and make to-order items that groups or individuals require, but which cannot be found from other sources. We intend to bridge the gap between expensive collector's items from antique dealers, and amateur attempts at art which fail to enhance ritual."

Theater Mask of New York 179 W. Houston St. NY 10014 NY

If you haven't been in touch with Arcane Crafts of late, you may have missed their newest catalogue. The jewelry they offer is of excellent quality and design. They also offer tarot decks, tools for magick and divination... Wish Minnesota had a lottery to win.

Write their catalogue... Arcane Crafts P.O. box 383 mastic Beach, NY 11951

Did you go the Pan Pagan - did you wish you had gone? Stan and Brenda (who looks lovely in the Chicago papers) have cassette tapes available recorded live at the festival... Margot Adler with part to be returned to the workshop speakers (as royalties). Write Stan for a price list: Sanctus Spiritus P.O. Box 664 Chicago Heights, Ill. 60411

Sound of Life, P.O. Box 38234, Dallas, Tx. 75238 sent us some of their materials to examine and review. We received a set of "Magickal Images" by William G Gray. This is one of the most inspiring approaches to understanding the Tree of Life I have ever seen ... My personal training included some books by Gray my mentor recommended, and they affect me profoundly, enhancing my grasp of symbols and of ritual. These, the "images" are beautiful - and wonderful educational tools. They include a very sensitive book on their use. For those who seek a daily and personal exploration of the Tree, we suggest the "Office" which has daily meditations to take you into the mysteries. We also received a copy of THE Vision and the Voice, by A. Crowley. Excellent reading. What I'd like to say is that the materials offered by Sound of Light are of excellent quality. If any of you (and Pagan and Craft people often do) seek to understand the Tree of Life, or any of many magickal paths, let us recommend a source of materials Write for their booklist

Sound of Light P.O. Box 38234 Dallas, Tx. 75238

The Unicorn began Yule 1977, and is a newsletter dedicated to sharing the good news of our Craft and Pagan friends. It is a Rowan Tree publication, with eight issues to coincide with the Sabbats.

Editor: Paul V. Beyerl

Production editor: Cassidy

Associate artist: Prairie Jackson

Resident unicorn: Andrius

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Hallows '80

Enclosed is my hard-earned money for the following:

\$6.00 - a one year subscription to the Unicorn (8 issues)

\$8.00 - not only The Unicorn, but also the Extra Pages for gays and lesbians

\$7.00 - The Holy Books of the Devas (Vol. 1) an heball for the Aquarian Age

\$5.00 - Andrius Colouring book of numbers - numerology and mythology

\$5.00 - A child's wish book - a book of delight for little people

Enclosed is a S.A.S.S. Please send a copy of your catalogue

Total enclosed is Make checks and money orders payable to The Rowan Tree

Name

Mailing Address

I wish to remain secrecy

I am interested in making contact with others

You may mention my name in The Unicorn

You may give my address, also

I love Unicorns and nice Pagans

\$10.00 US Currency outside of U.S. and Canada

Please mail to: The Rowan Tree, Box 8814, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55408

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

Faggots are a Man's Best Friend

The poet Robert Graves, though he could easily be called "Grand-Daddy of Neo-Paganism" is well known among modern Heathens as a notorious sexist and homophobe. How surprised I was, then, while rereading *The White Goddess* several weeks ago, to find that he has reclaimed for us the symbol of our priesthood in the ancient courts of the Goddess.

It is well known that the Goddess was once served in temples all around the Mediterranean by priestly brotherhoods of gay men. (Modern scholarship often calls these "Eunuch Priests"; but then, patriarchy has long regarded gay males as "castrated" i.e., less than manly.) In Hebrew scripture these men were known by two names: the "Holies" (Kedeshim) and the "Dogs." It has long been customary to regard this latter as a title of opprobrium; but Graves claims it as mythically apt., a title of pride.

Male dogs have a reputation for "Sodomizing" each other. We still, of course, speak of "doggy style" sex. Dogs, in addition, are well-known howlers by night, and the Muse of their baying is none other than the Moon herself. What more appropriate emblem of men who sing to the Moon and worship her with their loving, than the holy dog?

Whenever you come across a mythological dog, reconsider its possible meaning in this light. Cerberus immediately springs to mind: We are the Goddess' temple watchdogs. One remembers the virgin Artemis and the hunting pack, and Hecate who rides the night skies of Europe as Queen of the Wild Hunt, her baying does before her. Consider the fact that the very Sothis star if Isis herself is called Sirius, the Dog Star. The very brightest star of all the heavens, my brothers, is ours by traditional right.

Graves, in fact, claims that the Dog Days (approximately 3 July - my birthday! - to 11 August), ushered in by the heliacal rising of Sirius, were commemorated in the Goddess' temples by gay love orgies: a custom perhaps worth reinstating.

Centuries of patriarchal oppression have brought the Goddess, gay people, and does into dispute. But we have found our pride again. We're not only man's best friends: we're the very special pets of the Goddess herself. Steve Posch PRODEA

New book to investigate: *The dream horse*, newly available from the Seal Press (a Northwest Feminist Cooperative) for five dollars plus handling from 535 11th East, Seattle, Wa. 98102. Book is by Jerah. If we see a review copy will tell you more, but look for it anyway.

Dear friends of the Unicorn,

Man Pan's season find all of you at your highest magic. Truly the gays' power is one of the most potent to be found. To think of the magic we have raised in the astral at Pan Pagan makes me proud and tingle with happiness and glee. May we all be able to meet and raise the cone of power again... Egorus, Wisc.

Dear Friends,

Plans for 1981 Pan-Pagan are underway. The council has been reborn, and the site is described as idea, A workshop is scheduled again for gay and lesbians - meen and wimmin,

womyn and faery men - all of us, and the Council has written me that we are even more welcome than last year.

My personal request: (Requests?) First, that as many of us attend as is possible. There were a few, minor incidents of homophobia. Yes, minor, in the light of the freedoms we took, the openness we exhibited, and those incidents were a major part of the catalyst that led to the changes we will see in this year's festival. I strongly feel the changing was affected by our visible numbers.

Second, that the gays and lesbians be mutually supportive. We will have less strength, less magick and growth if we are divisive. Let the faery men aid an all wimmin's circle, so it may have free flowing magick; let the wimmen lend the men similar aid. Let this year be a celebration of joy.

Third, that we have lost of activities for our own. They don't all have to be pre-scheduled. Put it on the bulletin board, etc.

So much good came of last year (and in truth, some very real hassles...) but to do justice to our beliefs, we must build upon the good. Interact with the hetero crowd, and in the process, if you so will, let them know us as we are. Separatism breeds distrust. They can too easily feel misleading things. For the few days we shall all mingle, let us be the radiant example of the beauty of a New Age.

So much for Pan-Pagan. Many of us will also attend the two festivals sponsored by Circle. These seem more conducive to our freedom, so apply the same as needed. We shall have a brilliant 1981. May the Jupiter-Saturn conjunct in Libra bring out being into a better balance within the whole. Love, Kisses, Hugs, Blessed Be's Paul

Gary Gary Gary in Texas

Thank you Thank you Thank you for the wonderful birthday present. I will treasure it long and lovingly. Blessed Be and Blessed Blessed Blessed Yule Cassidy

A limerick due to our error came, and we'd like to share it:

There was a man who, say the sages,

To resubscribe sent off his wages.

The Unicorn came,

But the man went insane,

Because there were not extra pages!

- Scott Cunningham
- (we immediately sent them out ...)

Hallows Retreat

It was a joyous, loving and giving weekend. We gathered in the Ritual Garden of Lothloriën to pass between worlds in Friday night. Saturday were workshops, chanting and lots of fun playing together. Cassidy provided excellent food, and we completed our magick with a glorious Sunday ritual. Comments from those who were here to share with us:

"It was so good to see all the traditions and all the many rituals being brought out in the open for all of us to absorb... I am grateful for all of you and the special love that each of you radiated..."

Gil, Kansas City

"An enlightening and fantastic weekend. Gene is alive and back in Penn-See."

Gene, Croydon, Pa.

"One of the highest magickal times and came at a span of time when I was in need of connecting with fellow Pagans. Eunice send her love and thanks - she's presently playing Super Unicorn here..." Belle, Atlanta

"My heart is full and I cannot find the words. I want to bless you for the good work done. I felt like a child running off to play..."

Ray, Chicago

"Thanks again for the great weekend"

Christ, San Francisco

Welcome to the men who bring forth "RFD" We have now a subscription exchange and encourage you all to read RFD, if you haven't. The magick and essence of the Goddess are more and more to be found in each issue.

Fairy Moon Retreat

The Rowan Tree has tentatively scheduled a Fairy Moon Retreat for May 15-17, to coincide with the final days of a waxing moon in Scorpio. The weekend will begin with a Friday eventing Fairy Circle, and have workshops and music; meals and fun ... More details will follow in the next issue (Candlemas). We are exploring some changes, possibly to include a picnic along the Mississippi with a circle at a Sacred circle at the gay beach; possibly expanded to accommodation space, etc. Total cost will be \$50-\$60; pre-registration will be \$10.00.

Seeking contact with gays and lesbians... "Those are the friends I would love to correspond with." Blessed Be, Mr. TH. Carson Box 19811 Milwaukee, Wisc. 53219

A very wonderful, national newsletter which provides a forum for men in the lives of children: Nurturing news Box 1813 Santa Ana, Ca. 92702

Write these people for exciting news and contact with a men's group doing a lot of fine artistic work for all men and women.

Good Fairy Productions Box 12188 Seattle, Wa. 98102

"Whosoever abides in loving friendship abides in the Goddess and the Goddess in her him. I am a gay historian, free verse poet, mystic, Uranian disciple of Edward Carpenter - very into constructing investigating gay and lesbian mythologies, rituals, runes, ceremonies, etc., we can all use or have used. I love all of you Please write if you can. Blessed Be
Daniel Ledford Phillips Court Box 21 Rte 1 Berea, Ky. 40403

"I appreciate and enjoy both [The Unicorn and the Extra Pages]. I was one of the people at Pan-Pagan this year at the Gay-Lesbian Pagan Spirituality Workshop... I hope things like Extra Pages will be a consciousness raiser... " A Massachusetts Woman

Edward Carpenter (1844-1929) "The prophet of homogenic love" was a poet, anarcho-socialist, Pagan-Theosophist, writer on many subjects, but he was especially a great pioneer of same sex love, history and gay emancipation. He was a visionary who saw a future age of indescribable beauty where love was all, when the Goddess Force of the Universe and Nature would transform the world through the Transfiguring Metamorphosis of love between people, especially love between two men, or two women, which as the "Uranian Race" would be the ones who first would behold the road to a new civilization as it had been in the past.

His books are:

Toward Democracy (1885 - perhaps his greatest book) The Intermediate Sex (1908), Homogenic Love (1894), Love's Coming of Age (1895), Iölaus, An Anthology of Friendship (1902), Angel's Wings (1906), My Days and Dreams (1920, an Autobiography), Civilization, Cause and Cure (1890) and Intermediate Types Among Primitive Folk (1914) in which he went into great detail about the honored status of gay people in ancient history and primitive society. Jonathan Kate' Gray American History (1976) has many references to Carpenter. His "Towards Democracy" "Love's Coming Age" and "The Intermediate Sex" are in most large libraries.. Carpenter had a gay commune n Millthorpe, England in the late 1890's. He and his lover George Merrill lived together in a blissful relationship from 1892 till George died in 1928, Carpenter dying not long afterward.

The Other Country/The Reign of Wheat

Farm Country, We Stand

In a field, our shadows flotsam

On the water worked

Into wheat

You draw your fingers

Down my face like a blind man

I say nothing.. Your eyes

Sky and sea, a blue

I'd seen only from a distance

Horizon eyes I lean toward,

Our bodies outlined

With the swirling stalks,

The surf

- Jerah Good Fairy Productions

Looking for NYC and are contacts. Dear friend Paul Lewis, concert pianist, Pagan man, neat person. Now living in New York City: 200 E 33 St., #14F, NYC 10016 ph 686-0350