

Beltane 2009

May 1st - 3rd, 2009

at Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve
near Barneveld, Wisconsin

It is Beltane! The Earth softens under the caress of the sun and all the world is new. We emerge from the darkness of a long, difficult winter; our eyes drink in rolling green hills budding branches and tender shoots. We breathe deeply the fresh fragrance of radiant blossoms. Merriment calls!

Featuring:

* Maypole * Labyrinths * Bardic Circle * Morris Dancing * Priestess Ordination * Bagpiping *
Magical Merchants Faire * Green Cemetery Rite * Kids Activities * Bonfires * Feasting * Pagan
Folklore Workshops * Drum Circle * May Court * And Our Presenters:

Bronwen Forbes grew up in Berea, Kentucky where she began to study and perform various English folk rituals and songs when she was nine years old. Her book on the English folk tradition, [Make Merry in Step and Song](#), has recently been published by Llewellyn. She lives in Manitowoc, WI with her family.

Bella Mahri and Sky Cat. Lima, OH

Bella and Sky Cat are HPS and HP of the L.S.G.S.C. (founded 1993) and the founders of the Earth Spirituality Education Center (ESE Center) in Lima, Ohio. They have been to P.S.G. 16 times since 1993.

Bella (Mahri) was ordained as a Circle minister at P.S.G. in 2008.

Sky Cat is retired and Bella teaches engineering courses at an area college. Both have written articles for Circle magazine and have been involved in Paganism for more than 40 years each, eclectic and Celtic traditions. Facilitators of the Bast Cat Ritual for 13 years and coordinators of the Candlelight Labyrinth for 12 years and the Bast Shrine all PSG.

E-mail:

Beltane Festival 2009

FRIDAY, May 1

10 am	Merchant arrivals and setup begins.
Noon	Registration opens and arrivals begin. Magical Faire opens: visit booths with a variety of Pagan wares, including books, clothing and jewelry.
1 pm	Welcome to Circle Sanctuary: Opening Circle
1:30 pm	Unwrapping the Maypole and replacing Maypole ribbons
2 - 4 pm	Gloria Villanueva Creains Interment <i>facilitated by Selena Fox</i> Join us in the Circle Cemetery as we honor the life and mark the passing of Circle minister Gloria Villanueva. Click Here for Gloria's Memoriam Page
4 - 5 pm	The God and Goddess Marry in the English Wooing Mummer's Play <i>workshop by Bronwen Forbes</i> Most English mummer's (death/rebirth) plays were and are performed at Midwinter. But the Wooing Play, collected in the late 1800s, celebrates a completely different time of year. Let us hasten to the wedding!
5:30 - 7 pm	Dinner
7:30 - 10 pm	Bardic Circle <i>facilitated by Michael Doran</i> Join us around the Festival Circle fire for an evening of song and performance. We invite all instrumentalists and vocalists to share their talents with the community!
9 pm - midnight	Self-guided Spiral Labyrinth The Labyrinth will be open and lit for silent meditative journeying.

SATURDAY, May 2

8 am	Open for Arrivals
7 - 8:30 am	Breakfast: The coffee will be strong and hot.
9 am	Ordination: Joey Bunbury You are warmly invited to join the community to witness and support Circle Sanctuary member Joey Bunbury as she accepts the mantle of clergy with a Rite of Passage to formalize her Ministry. All are welcome.
11 am	Oak Apple Morris Dancers - Performances of English traditional dance by the Oak Apple Morris Dancers. Part of the mystery of the morris is that there is so little historical information about it. Some would like to believe that it is a surviving remnant of Druidic springtime rites. Others think that John of Gaunt or some crusaders brought it

	to England after the Moorish conquests. Alternatively, it bears some resemblance to a form of Italian court dance called the Moresca which dates from the 12th century. Here at Circle Sanctuary we let the Morris Dancers remind us of the fertility customs of our ancestors; the clacking of antlers and high stepping as a symbol of the jubilation of Spring and the Summer ahead. Join the Betty, the Fool and the Hobby Horse as we dance in the Merry Merry Month of May; the season of Beltane!
Noon	Crowning of the May Court!
12:30	Potluck Lunch
1:30 - 2:30 pm	Pagan Roots of English Folksong <i>with Bronwen Forbes</i> Many seasonal folk songs from the British Isles have managed to maintain Pagan themes, images, and hints of a pre-Christian belief system. Come sing - - and talk about -- some of the ones commonly associated with May Day. And don't worry if you can't sing; harmony is any note your neighbor isn't singing!
3 - 5 pm	Beltane Ritual - <i>with Georgette, Bob, Selena and others</i> Weave the Maypole Ribbons in the bright afternoon Sun; leap the fire for blessings, and join us in Beltane traditions of flame and dance!
5:30 - 7 pm	Dinner
7:00 - 8 pm	Raffle Drawing
8 - 9:30 pm	Special Beltane Activity - <i>we can't give away everything just yet!</i>
10 - midnight	Facilitated Drum Circle - <i>with breeze!</i>
SUNDAY, May 3	
9 am	Gate opens for arrivals
9 am - 2 pm	Magical Merchant Faire
9:30 - 10:30 am	Beltane Brunch
11 am - 12:30 pm	Minoan Labyrinth Workshop - <i>with Bella and Skycat</i> Learn how to create a Minoan Labyrinth, and help take part in crafting one on the Green.
12:30 - 1:30 pm	Festival Closing Circle / Group Labyrinth Walk
1:30 pm	Cleanup & Departures

Items to Bring

- Ritual garb and/or brightly colored clothes, as well as a crown of flowers or greens for your head or bells for your feet, to wear during the Beltane ritual. **Faerie, elven, pixie and fantasy garb are encouraged throughout the weekend and especially for the Beltane ritual Saturday evening.** (optional)
- Contribution for potluck feast to feed at least two dozen, for Saturday lunch. For details, please see our [Potluck Guidelines](#).

- Your own cup to use for drinks at meals and other times.
- Camping Gear: tent, sleeping bag, pillow, air mattress, flashlight, water jug, towel, biodegradable soap and shampoo, personal toiletries, sungear, raingear, cold weather gear, insect and tick repellent.
- A lawn chair, mat, or blanket for outdoor seating. Many activities will be outside.
- We've reduced the price of this event to help offset gasoline prices but we still need to raise funds for operating expenses! Please bring an item for the silent auction!
- Drum, rattle, or other rhythm instrument. (optional)
- A stone to give away to the Stone Circle. (optional)

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