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Beltane 2012

May 4th - May 6th, 2012 at Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve near Barneveld, Wisconsin

The Earth breathes forth life from every bud and leaf, and we come alive with Her! We call out to Tribe now, to join hands in Sacred Community to dance, sing, feast, make music and love, all in Her praise.

* Kids' Programming * Maypole * Morris Dancing * Music * Magical Merchants Faire * Bonfires * Feasting * Workshops * Drumming Circles * May Court * and MORE!

Featuring:

Christopher Penczak is a Witch, teacher, writer and healing practitioner. His practice draws upon the foundation of both modern and traditional Witchcraft blended with the wisdom of mystical traditions from across the globe as a practitioner and teacher of shamanism, tarot, Reiki healing, herbalism, astrology and Qabalah. He is the founder of the Temple of Witchcraft tradition and system of magickal training based upon the material of his books and classes. He is an ordained minister primarily serving the New Hampshire and Massachusetts Pagan and metaphysical communities through public rituals, private counsel and teaching, though he travels extensively teaching throughout the United States. Visit www.christopherpenczak.com and www.templeofWitchcraft.org for more information.

Ruth Barrett is an internationally known fretted dulcimer recording artist, singer, and songwriter and award winning recording artist of original Goddess songs. Her numerous recordings beginning in 1980 have been among the pioneering musical works in the Goddess Spirituality Movement. Ruth's classical finger picking style of dulcimer playing, combined with a powerful and beautiful voice, has enchanted audiences for over three decades. She is best known for her original pagan folk music inspired by folklore, goddess mythology, celebration of nature, as well as for her arrangements of traditional Celtic and English folk music. Ruth has recorded eleven CDs, most recently Songs of the Otherworld.

About Beltane:

Celebrating the Seasons: Beltane

Frequently Asked Questions about our 3-day festivals

FRIDAY, May 4th		
Noon	Gate opens for general arrivals	
Noon - 8 PM	Raffle & Silent Auction Donations accepted Merchant Faire on the Green	
2 PM	Maypole Unwrapping on the Green	
3 PM	Workshop: The Witch's Plant Familiar with Christopher Penczak	
	 Many Witches are familiar with the concept of the animal familiar, the totemic animal or fetch beast, but many Witches are also allied with spirits from the plant world. The spirits of herbs, flowers and trees can act as divine guides, protectors and tutors in magick. Each one has its own spiritual medicine that is in harmony with the Witch's purpose in the world. Survey traditional plant allies of the Witch, including the spirits of Nightshade, Monkshood, Thorn Apple, Mandrake, Oak, Apple, Hazel, Birch, Rose, Mugwort, Wormwood, and Angelica. Learn how to find your own plant familiar. Childrens' Activity: Welcoming and Honoring the Fairies with Brooke & Ken Children will create offerings for the fairies of the land followed by a hike to the Fairy Shrine. 	
5:30 PM	Dinner	
7 PM	Ritual of Welcome	
8 PM	In Concert: Ruth Barrett	
	 Ruth Barrett is an award winning fretted dulcimer recording artist, singer, and songwriter with numerous releases to her credit. Her compositions are counted among the pioneering musical works in the Goddess Spirituality Movement. For almost three decades she has shared traditional folk music and her original and traditional Goddess songs with audiences throughout the U.S., Canada, and Great Britain. 	

8 AM	Open for Arrivals	
8 AM - 7 PM	Merchant Faire on the Green	
7 - 8:30 AM	Breakfast	
9 AM - 6 PM	Raffle & Silent Auction Donations accepted	
9 - 11 AM	Workshop - The Three Rays of Witchcraft: Awen through Power, Love and Wisdom <i>with Christopher Penczak</i>	
	Join us for an experimental workshop on the three primal powers that are	
	the basis of creation and magick. Witches often see these powers as maide	
	mother and crone. In Qabalistic magic, we have the three pillars of Mercy,	
	Severity and Equilibrium. Druidic traditions look to three rays of	
	inspiration, of Awen. Theosophists have the rays of Power, Love and	
	Intelligence. Older form of witchcraft look to the Oak, Ash and Thorn, as	
	well as the Straight, Bent and Crooked lines. How can modern witches wor	
	with these three powers for magick, evolution and transformation? Explore	
	new views of the three powers as a road to enlightenment, as they manifest	
	in three races: Angels, Fey and the Hidden Company; three healers - Stone	
	Plants and Animals; and three threads of wisdom, personal revelation,	
	ancestral teachings and the ordeal.	
	Nature Walk with Reed Cockrell	
8:45 - 10 AM	Children & Parents: Meet & Greet, Story and Craft Time with Brooke & Ken	
	All parents should attend the start of this session with kids. Get to know	
	each other and go over some tips for a happy festival, followed by a short	
	story to let us remember what Beltane represents and crafting flower	
	wreaths for the kids' maypole.	
10 - 11 AM	Childrens' Activity: Maypole Practice with Brooke & Ken	
	After finishing crafts, kids will go through a short practice for the Children	
	Maypole Dance.	
11 AM	May Court Selection & Crowning with Bob & Georgette	
11:30 AM	Oak Apple Morris Dancing	

	The dancers remind us of the fertility customs of our ancestors; the clacking of antlers and high stepping as a symbol of the jubilance of Spring and the Summer ahead.
12:30 PM	Potluck Lunch
1:30 PM	Maypole Dance Practice
2 PM	Workshop: Flower Magic, Flower Rituals with Selena Fox
	Explore ways of working with flowers & blossom imagery for love, healing,
	home blessing, creative awakening, relationship enhancement, and spiritual well-being. Learn about the use of flowers as ritual tools in rites of passage and seasonal celebrations. Selena will guide several Beltane flower
	meditations. Bring at least one flower to work with in meditation.
	Childrens' Activity: Rhythm Instrument Creations with Brooke & Ken
	Kids can create their own rhythm instruments and learn to reuse & recycle
	by getting creative with everyday items.
3:30 PM	Workshop: Love Magick with Christopher Penczak
	The highest art of magick is unconditional love. Discuss the principles and practice of love magick in all your relationships. Learn spells and
	meditations for raising your own unconditional self love, loving
	relationships and attracting a partner who is correct and good for you.
5 PM	Kids' Maypole Dance
5:30 PM	Dinner
6:30 PM	Raffle & Silent Auction
7 PM	Community Beltane Ritual with Georgette & others
9 PM	Talent Show & Tavern on the Green
	Bring songs, skits, comedy, or other acts to share onstage while enjoying the springy outdoors and refreshments on the Green!

SUNDAY, May 6th

8 AM	Open for Arrivals
7 - 8:30 AM	Breakfast
9 AM	Workshop TBA
10:30 AM	Workshop: Native American Spring Traditions with Shine of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation

	 Learn about customs, lore, and rituals for celebrating Spring among Native Americans in Northern Wisconsin, including Maple Sugaring and Spear-fishing. Shine also will share the sacred Ojibwe love story of the transitions from Winter to Spring. Childrens' Activity: Altar Maypoles with Brooke & Ken Children create mini maypoles to take home and add to the family altar. 	
Noon	Lunch	
1 PM	Farewell Circle	
2 PM	Cleanup and 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.
- One or more fresh flowers for the Flower Magic workshop and/or to leave at shrines & the cemetery (optional)
- A song, skit, sketch or other act for the Saturday Night Talent Show (optional)
- An item for the Raffle and/or Silent Auction (optional)
- Drum, rattle, or other rhythm instrument. (optional)
- Chants, songs, or rhythms for late night drumming/dancing (optional)
- A stone to give away to the Stone Circle. (optional)

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