

Magickal Musings

The Midwest Pagan Council:

- First Temple of the Craft of W.I.C.A.
- Phoenix Rising
- Sanctuary of the Healers' Heart
- Solitaires

Newsletter Editors:

- Lizzy
- Dori
- Kristi

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Contest...Contest...Contest **Test your knowledge of Paganism**

Answer the following questions and win a **FREE** registration to Pan Pagan Festival 37, August 7-11, 2013. If there is more than one person who can answer all 10 questions, all their names will be put into a hat and 1 winner will be drawn. **HURRY—the Deadline for this contest is 7/15/2013.** Send your answer to MidwestPagan-Council@gmail.com

1. Gerald Gardner founded the Gardnerian Tradition, who founded the Alexandrian Tradition? (Full name necessary)
2. In Egyptian Mythology, when Osiris was dismembered and his

body was thrown into the sea, what body part was never recovered?

3. What does the tern widdershins mean?
4. What was the year and the location of the First Parliament of World Religions to accept Wicca as a religion and allow Wiccan presentations?
5. Which Norse God has been associated with the Tarot card, the Hanged Man and why?
6. What is an Athame and what is its purpose?



7. What uses does the Witch's Cord or Cin-glum have? Name 2.
8. What metals are ritual associate with the following: A. Sun, B. Moon, C. Mars, and D. Venus?
9. What is a wiccaning?
10. What is the Summerland?

Favorite Things at Pan Pagan Festival

Attendees were asked what the Best Thing about PAN was. Here are their answers.

- I feel like I am at home surrounded by loving people
- The people

- We are like a family, and a community. Coming together is a sort of homecoming.
- The drumming circles and dancing with lots of conversation.

- The nice people and how laid back it is.
- Labyrinth

Join us this year and pick for yourself!!

Main Ritual and the Bonfire After by Dori

One of the highlights of PPF is Saturday night's Main Ritual and Bonfire. The ritual site is on the bank of the Tippecanoe River where one can feel the elements and the Lord and the Lady in their natural element. It is here we gather to celebrate with everyone at the fest and share energy.

Around mid-afternoon on Saturday Stan calls for volunteers to help build the main ritual bonfire. In the past, this has been referred to as Pan's Anger Management work-



Main Ritual Bonfire

shop. It is a time when the use of sharp objects is encouraged – on wood of course. Last year's bonfire was close to 7 feet tall and the energy terrific!

Main Ritual begins around dusk about 8:00 pm. The tiki torches are lit on Vendor's Row and everyone meets at Area A to be anointed at the entrance of the circle. Main Ritual is the only event at this time so as to allow all festgoers to attend and be a part of the energy raised.

There are a couple things

we do at Main Ritual to make it special. As we are a family orientated festival, children are encouraged to participate during the ritual. We learn by doing, and these children are the children we are entrusting our future. As well, couples from various traditions are asked to call in the quarters according to their tradition.

For those that cannot actively participate in the ritual, it is encouraged that they bring a chair and sit on the edge of the circle.

Please come join us as we raise the energy this year!

Follies and the Polish Pope by Cheryl F.

So what are the Pan Pagan Follies? They are an entertaining evening of fun and serious performances by the attendees Friday night.

Our Master of Ceremonies is the ever-loveable (?) Polish Pope, along with others of his clergy, are just as entertaining as the acts they introduce, while they entice (?) the audience to purchase raffle tickets.

There's truly no particular order that acts are forced into; we ask only that

all performers fill out a sheet about their act and hand them in to Registration before 6pm on Friday (which, of course, assists our Polish Pope in introductions!). If there are children performing, they'll be scheduled ahead of less kid-friendly acts. If your act is for more mature ears, please make a note of that on your act sheet. There are always a range of acts from poetry and rhymes, short stories, sing-alongs and solo song performances

and anything else the performers' hearts desire! Have a talent or maybe just a "talent"? Entertain us! You may even catch a glimpse of our occasional guest stars, which have included the likes of Princess Merida all the way from Scotland.



Everyone who attends PPF is welcome to put together an act and be part of the entertainment. It is a fun night full of laughs and tears depending on the act.

The Site

PPF is held in the primitive section of a campground just off of the Tippecanoe River.

The area has quite a few trees, giving the perfect amount of shade for those warm August days when the festival



Nature welcomes you to set up your campground.

takes place. The trees don't take away from finding the perfect spot to set up camp. Options range from being in the middle of it all, in the noisy area, or near the bank so you can hear the soothing flow

of the river while you sleep. Mer-

chants are given space to vend along the road that follows the river from Registration down to the beach where workshop area B is set up.

There is a swimming pool on campground for when you need to cool off and a small camp store for those forgotten items and most important ice.

Thursday Night Labyrinth Walk by Dori

Around 20 years ago a PPF attendee asked if he could set up a labyrinth at the fest. He gave a workshop on labyrinths and then spent a good portion of an afternoon setting it up so that everyone could walk it that evening. The Council was so moved they decided to make the Labyrinth Walk a part of Pan.

The labyrinth walk now takes place on Thursday night after Meet and Greet. For those unfamiliar with labyrinths, there is a workshop Thursday afternoon to help make the experience more meaningful.

Found in many different cultures and religions worldwide, walking the labyrinth is one of the simplest



The lit Labyrinth

forms of focused walking meditation. In walking the single path which winds along the turns moving toward the center, one loses one's sense of direction and the outside world. Thus the mind is quieted, allowing for a truly spiritual experience to manifest.

Anyone who wishes to help in the set-up of the labyrinth, leave your name at PPF Registration. Those who volunteer to light the Labyrinth candles meet at Registration after Meet and Greet.

Learning & Growing — The Workshops of PPF by Lizzy

Set up at PPF are areas with sun awnings and tables so that those attending Pan Pagan can share their knowledge and host a workshop. Each area has three different time slots, some of which will be filled before the fest even begins. How you ask?

When pre-registering, we ask people to consider sharing with the

community something that they know well. Those workshops that come in during pre-registration are put into one of the open time slots during the week and will be in the program books.

This can be from herb knowledge,

to beginning tarot, to kitchen witchery, to even crafts. If you can teach it, we want to schedule you to do so!

“Knowledge is to be shared, for we are always learning as we walk this life.”

However, if you don't pre-register, fear not! You can choose an open time slot and we will announce your workshop at town meeting.

There Are No Strangers Here — Meet & Greet by Lizzy

Whether you have been to Pan Pagan every year or are a new face, odds are you don't know everyone at camp. Well never fear! The council gathers everyone together Thursday night and asks that you introduce yourself to the crowd.



Can you find the two playful gnomes?

You'll first meet those that run the fest, the faces not so behind the scenes, and those that should you have any questions you can ask them and they'll know.

Then it's your turn! We turn the spotlight on eve-

ryone in turn so that no one is a stranger and your new friend is standing right next to you, or behind you.

After introductions please in the refreshments as you mingle and get to know each other.

Kidlets — The Youth of Pan

Family is a very important aspect of life, and we want all of the family to be able to join us. Children are important not just because they're innocent and like a sponge when it comes to surroundings and knowledge, but because they are the generation that will take over. Our future lies in them.

Which means they should be both nurtured and cherished. In order to help them to learn, we make it easier on parents to bring their kids. The council has a

family plan that will allow parents and kids under the age of fourteen to get into the fest for cheaper than paying for everyone separately.



Annual Duck Races

While the kids are encouraged to participate in what they feel comfortable with when it comes to rituals and workshops, we also have workshops geared specif-

ically for kids.

We have the Duck Races, which while kid centered adults are welcome to participate, and we have the Scavenger Hunt that go down every year.

We also have craft workshops for kids, though any parent that would like to host a workshop is welcome to.

It's The Great Feast, PPF!

In order to make it easy on people, and to show how much we love that you've joined us for this fest, the council holds a feast Saturday night before Main Ritual.

You read that right! We feed you. All you have to bring is your plate, utensils, and something to drink.

Fresh fruit and vegetables from a local produce stand are in abun-

dance for sharing. As well, we have corn on the cob and pork (plain or barbeque) that's fall apart tender.

If you're a vegetarian, don't worry about what you'll eat. We always have a main dish that is vegetarian friendly too. It's usually prepared by one of the vegetarian attendees.

If you are interested in helping, be sure to sign up for prep, serving, or clean up; and if you're a vegetarian we are always happy to have more help with the vegetarian main dish.

*Fruit, Vegetables, Pork, oh my!
Join us in breaking bread at
Pan!*

Going Once! Going Twice! SOLD! — The Auction & Raffle

In order to help out with the costs of putting on the fest, the council hosts an action and raffle. As people and vendors start arriving Wednesday the items will start to trickle into Registration for display and bidding.

We asks that the vendors who sell donate one item to the auction and

raffle, but welcome any attendee to donate if they are of a mind.

Items are displayed in Registration from Wednesday until Saturday afternoon. Items with three bids automatically go to auction, which takes place Saturday before the Main Feast.

As well, the raffle tickets that were sold both at Follies and throughout the fest will be drawn before Main Feast in between auctioned off

Come one! Come all! Let the Bidding commence!

A Chat with the Coordinator by Kristi C.

What is there to do for teens?

A lot of the teens that come to Pan Pagan follow the adults in that they go to workshops, they make new friends, and they spend money on vendor's row. What they can also do, if they're so inclined, is to help us lead some of the children's activities. If there are teens that want to participate in the Scavenger Hunt Saturday, we usually pair them with a younger kid to help but also have fun.

Is PPF pet friendly?

Yes! We are incredibly pet friendly. We have had dogs, cats, and birds brought to Pan Pagan. All we ask is that you clean up after your pet, and that you keep the noise level tolerable. As well, dogs and cats do need to be leashed if they aren't in your tent or car.

Is PPF solely for Wiccans/Pagans or can anybody come?

No, we are not solely for Wiccans/Pagans. Anyone is welcome to come if they are so inclined. We have had people come because they were interested in exploring a new religion and it's a nice way to dip toes in. We have also had friends or spouses of Pagans come even though they are not themselves.

The important part is to have an open mind and a want for good company and a good time.

Are there other activities at the campground?

There is a volleyball and basketball court on the campground, as well as a pool to swim in if you don't want to

use the river. Also, for a nominal the campground offers tubing and canoeing down the river (Though plan for that to be an all afternoon trip if you decide to do that).

Where do you go for supplies?

The campground store on site is fairly well stocked, including ice. Though we are only fifteen minutes away from Winamac and Knox that have grocery and hardware stores.

Is there drumming?

Of course! We welcome people to drum, and usually most pick a fire pit to gather around at night. Though, after Main Ritual they are encouraged to gather around the bonfire so that those that dance or jump the fire have a nice rhythm.

The Midwest Pagan Council is comprised of covens and solitaires in the Midwest region. We are always open for new members. If you are interested in joining the Council, please email us at: midwestpagancouncil@yahoo.com.

Annually the Council puts on the Pan Pagan Festival, currently in our 37th year. We are an outdoor, week long, family friendly festival that usually is the first full week of August, Aug. 7-11th, 2013 specifically this year. For more information or a registration form, please visit the website or email us at midwestpagancouncil@yahoo.com and we will happily get you the information you need.

The Newsletter is always open and taking submissions for articles that touch on pagan issues, crafts, recipes, Holidays, etc. If you would like to submit an article, please send it to: midwestpagancouncil@gmail.com

If you are not already on the Newsletter subscription list and would like to be, please send an email asking to be added to: midwestpagancouncil@gmail.com and we will be happy to add you.

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The Midwest Pagan Council, INC.

Bringing Pagans together for decades.

Find Us Online!

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