
Henge Happenings

The Henge of Keltria, PO Box 4305, Clarksburg, WV 26302-4305

Issue #58

Editor: Tony Taylor

Keltria-Office@Keltria.org

Beltaine 2003



FROM THE PRESIDENT

FEAST OF FLOWERING 2003

West Virginia is a beautiful place and our new yard is haven to deer, turkeys, 'possums and rabbits who come to visit the back yard in the evening. We have three pairs of wrens ensconced in the birdhouses and too many other songbirds to mention. They consume an amazing amount of seed in a day, which cheerfully keeps me running to fill them. Our little valley is right along the flight path of Canada geese and other waterfowl on their way to the small lake behind us. They fly so low that I think I can reach out and touch their tummies as they fly by us. Every day I find some new wonder of nature to admire. We are very happy to be here and plan to stay indefinitely.

It's hard to believe that this is the fourth house we've owned in five years. Once again we are faced with canyons of boxes to unpack. Priorities being what they are, the office was unpacked right after we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

I've been struggling with what to write from the Vice President as the end of my term draws near. As you know, I will not be seeking re-election this time around. It is not because I don't like the job of Vice President or that I will fall out of sight... It just falls to reason that at a time when Keltria needs a Vice President able to travel to pagan gatherings we need someone who can do this. I can not do this as a single parent of two young girls and as someone whose schedule is already full. I also have trouble balancing the office of Vice President with leading a Study Group and writing. I hope to focus on the latter two as the new Vice President emerges.

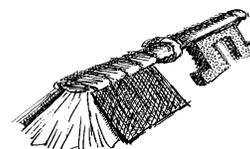
When I look back over the past few years I recall all the lessons I've learned as a leader. We all have expectations when we enter an office, and as anyone who has held office knows these expectations are changed by life's circumstances, the acquisition of knowledge and skills and the emergence of new priorities dealt to us. I have accomplished many of the things I set out to do. My main goal was to occupy a seat on the Board of Trustees and help to make decisions for the membership. That I have accomplished. I have also written lots of articles to keep in touch with the membership. Through the Keltria E-mail list I have met and come to understand the membership of Keltria.

As I look back the most important lessons I've learned from this office are those that often go unsaid. I've learned when to speak up and when to listen. I've learned that sometimes people just want to be validated, by anyone around them and not necessarily be taught. I've learned that we all have gifts to give, and when we give them we are able to enrich the lives of others. I've learned that you don't have to be a

member of a group for 17 years, have attained 17 degrees of recognition from the group or be recognized at every turn to be a meaningful contributor to the group. We all have something to offer.

So as I say goodbye to the office of Vice President, I say hello to opportunities to continue giving, learning and growing as a member of Keltria at large. You'll be hearing more from me.

*Walk with Wisdom,
Rain*



FROM THE PRESIDENT (FROM PAGE 1)

set up the kitchen and the bedroom. Now we are back in business.

It's also hard to believe that six years have passed since I was first elected to the office of president of the Henge of Keltria. As per the by-laws of the Henge, this is my last term in this office. As I look back, I can see that moving so many times certainly has inhibited the growth of our small church. On the other hand, things happen for reasons. I have had time to try ideas out on a smaller scale to test whether or not they are feasible. The idea of the Special Interest Groups didn't catch on with the membership; however, we have taken the time to completely revamp the Correspondence Course, which should be ready to be implemented in the not too distant future. In my humble opinion, quality is always worth the wait.

I extend my sincere thanks to everyone for being so patient regarding our transcontinental moving and I pledge to continue to do my best in service to the Henge. I also pledge to give my utmost support to the new administration and wish best of luck.

*Walk with Wisdom
Wren*

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FOCUS ON GROVES

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

NEW HENGE ADDRESS

The Official Address for Henge of Keltria is:

**The Henge of Keltria
P.O. Box 4305
Clarksburg, WV 26302**

The Minneapolis address should no longer be used as a resource in articles, in books, or on the web.

Please do not send mail to the Quincy, MA address; please use the Clarksburg address for all correspondence with the exception of this year's election/proxy ballots.

Please remember, the Henge of Keltria is a volunteer organization; allow four to six weeks for responses. When inquiring about past mail, please be kind.

STUDY GROUPS

Minnesota - Minneapolis/St. Paul Area.

Harvest Moon Study Group. Please contact Rain@keltria.org or the Henge Office for information.

North Carolina - Asheville Area.

Ashville Area Study Group. Please contact jimage5000@yahoo.com for information.

West Virginia - Clarksburg Area.

Deer Haven Study Group. Please contact Tony_Taylor@keltria.org or the Henge Office for information.

THE BARD'S PATH

DRUIDESS

I exist within a transparent door
as time raced forward I chose to remain
Come, phantom brethren circle round me
I am only a link from a golden chain

Time is such a confusing concept
the past and present feel entangled in me
before you I am the sum of ancient parts
Am I all you hoped I would be?

I call out to my gods, you are my constant
the secret of all I am and yet to be
I feel wedded in a bond unbroken
despite my tears, I have honored thee

Have I changed so much from where I began
when I danced with the women of my tribe
round the fire we danced, we melted into the goddess
liquid golds and greens against a blackend night

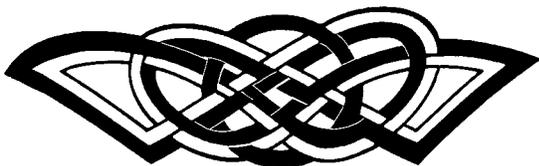
The mysteries of life have left me silent
trapped within a time where I don't belong
the world has spun right off its axis
if I could only return to where I'm from

Can you see the stars, they shine right through mes
parkling and flickering like a celestial gown
I am crowned with the jewels of wisdom
of long ago truths that were handed down

All the animals have come out of hiding
twinkling black eyes say words I can hear
Am I spirit or woman, or something feral
I blend into a night that suddenly clear

The spirits of the forest beckon me closer
eternal enchantment - a wondrous song
singing in voices of rustling leaves
reminding me that here I am home

© 2002, Ni Bhrigid



BOOK REVIEW

BY KARL SCHLOTTERBECK

OGAM: HOW TO READ, CREATE AND SHAPE YOUR DESTINY THROUGH THE CELTIC ORACLE

BY PAUL RHYS MOUNTFORT, RIDER,

Ogam is a delightful book. It not only provides a history of the ogham and how the trees metaphorically relate to the letters, but also linguistic connections (in a readable way). It includes a section on the Druids and their probable use of the ogham alphabet and the fact that there are over 100 variants of ogham correlations such as bird ogham, color ogham, dog ogham, etc.

The core of his interpretations of the meaning of each letter includes the related tree, its status, sound, mythological references, and quotes from three different versions of word oghams. Means of casting and interpreting the letters are included, as well as the "four treasures" of stone, sword, spear and caldron.

The text is readable, has depth, and is generally well-done. This is the first book on the ogham that I've come across that inspires me to attempt to learn this alphabet.

[Note: the author uses the spelling "Ogam" while I've used "Ogham."]

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

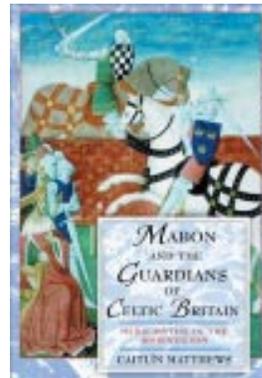
BOOK REVIEW

BY KARL SCHLOTTERBECK

MABON AND THE GUARDIANS OF CELTIC BRITAIN: HERO MYTHOS IN THE MABINOIGION,

BY CAITLIN MATTHEWS,

FOR MEMBERS ONLY



In the context of a commentary on the Mabinogion myth, Caitlin Matthews explores the meaning of the myths as more than heroic stories. She takes the interaction of the Mabon and Modron as the foundation of the mysteries of Britain and as showing the relationship between the Goddess of the Land and her champion. More

than just cultural stories, she considers them a residue of Druidic mysteries. She explains the changing roles of the Goddess of the Land in the selection, support, and unseating of her champion, thus casting in a fresh (non-patriarchal) light the role of the female in many of these stories. Some of the strange transformations of characters in the stories are regarded as initiatory journeys.

Especially **recommended** for anyone interested in Welsh and British mythology

Paperback: 256 pages ; Dimensions (in inches): 0.74 x 8.98 x 6.02. Publisher: Inner Traditions Intl Ltd; Revised edition (September 30, 2002). ISBN: 0892819200

Submission Information

All submissions to Henge Happenings become property of The Henge of Keltria, Inc., a nonprofit religious corporation. Categories for submissions are based upon who they are from: Officers, Elders, Coordinators, Groves, Members and the Henge Office. Members submissions are further divided based upon subject matter, Bardic, Seer, Druid, or Solitary Special Interest Groups.

Keltrian Remembrance Cord Starter Kit
New and improved with Stone & Fossil Beads
\$12.95 each plus \$3.85 P&H per order
Send check or money order to:
Keltria, P.O. Box 4305, Clarksburg, WV 26302

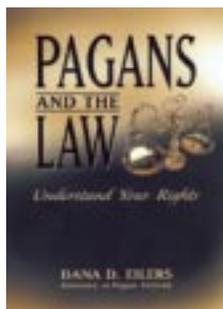
FROM THE MAILBOX

BY TONY

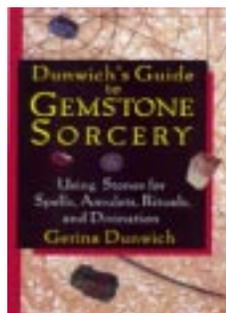


New Page Books, a division of Career Press, announces in their Spring/Summer 2003 Catalog several new books of interest to Druids.

Of particular interest is *Pagans and the Law: Understand Your Rights* by Dana D. Eilers, Attorney and Pagan Activist. Dana's new book "touches upon constitutional law, employment discrimination, family law, land use, landlord/tenant issues, and other areas of law that are of interest to Pagans." Pub Date: June 2003, ISBN 1-56414-671-5, \$14.99.



Gerina Dunwich, long-time "friend of Druids," has a new book titled, *Dunwich's Guide to Gemstone Sorcery: Using Stones for Spells, Amulets, Rituals, and Divination* scheuled to be released this summer. Her new book is "filled with numerous spells and rituals, enchanting Pagan folklore, and useful magickal correspondences." Pub Dat: July 2003,



ISBN 1-56414-672-3, \$14.99.

Check them out on the web at: <http://www.newpagebooks.com>

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

FROM THE INTERNET

BY TONY



Ellen Evert Hopman is co-authoring a book regarding Wizardry. In her research she asked various groups about the genders of their membership. The following are the parliminary Results:

Order/Organization	Male	Female	Unk.
ADF	50%	50%	
British Druid Order;	50%	50%	
Corcu Nemedhian	47%	53%	
Henge of Keltria;	47%	51%	2%
OBOD	50%	50%	
RDNA;	42%	53%	5%
TdB (Tuatha de Brighid)	20%	80%	
Whiteoak Druid Oder;	50%	50%	

It is interesting that none of the reporting Neopagan Druid Organizations reported a majority of males in their ranks. By the way, our

Henge Board of Trustees 29% 71%

DRUIDISM LECTURE SERIES IN ARKANSAS

In conjunction with the South-Central Druid Coalition organizational meeting that will be held May 13th and 14th in Altus, Arkansas, a series of lectures will be presented at bookstores in Ft. Smith, Arkansas and Hot Springs, Arkansas on the weekend before and weekdays following the meeting proper. The lectures are open to the public, and are a unique opportunity to hear from nationally known authors and scholars on subjects related to Druidism.

For additional information, please contact the stores at the addresses below, and for information on the SCDC meeting or the lectures, you may contact me at kelts@apip.net.

Hope to see you there,
Jan Graham-McMillen

DANGEROUS RELIGION:

[Former] member of the Henge, Brendan Cathbad Myers and contributor to *Keltria Journal* announces the publication of his first book:



Dangerous Religion: Environmental Spirituality and its Activist Dimension, Published by Flying Witch Publications/Association of Esoteric Writers, P.O. Box 6462, Coalville, Leics. United Kingdom LE67 2ZU, on the web at: www.flyingwitchpublications.com

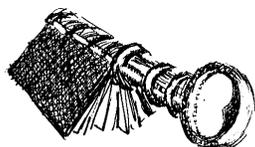
Copies should be available in June. FWP is able to accept reserve orders for £2.50 (sterling), which will be deducted from the final price. (Still being determined.)

ABOUT THE BOOK:

“Dangerous Religion” is a thought-opera of spiritual contemplations on Pagan and environmental themes, and simultaneously a manual for environmental activists and other participants in the anti-globalization movement.

It describes a planetary Will to Life expressed by everything in nature from animals and plants to the material elements, here called “Global Animism”, and how it requires radical transformations in our total lives, from the level of personal belief all the way to political and economic organization.

Three main sections distinguish particular themes: the first, called “In the beginning was the Mother” is concerned with environmental and religious matters, particularly in the Celtic tradition; the second, called “Separating Reality from Illusion” examines social and political matters, especially how the global market is a manifestation of the Will to Life in pathological disorder; and the third, “The Great Silence”, brings the previous themes into a personal and more purely spiritual unity, and suggests some ways how the disordered Will to Life may be rectified.



ADVERTISEMENTS

Gatherings:

Arkansas - May 13-14, 2003, **Organizational Meeting of the South-Central Druid Coalition**; includes South-Central Druid Pig-Out. Kelts Pub (Altus, Arkansas) and Dalriada Ranch (Caulksville, Arkansas). See: http://arkokla_druids.tripod.com/ or E-Mail kelts@apip.net for more information.

Minnesota - June 20-22, 2003, **The Gathering of the Keltrian Tribe** includes members annual meeting. Contact the Henge of Keltria, P.O. Box 4305, Clarksburg, WV 26330.

Ohio - June 15-22, 2003 **Pagan Spirit Gathering (PSG)** is one of the oldest and largest of the Pagan Festivals. PSG is sponsored by Circle Sanctuary and held near Athens at Wisteria Campground in southeastern Ohio. Contact Circle Sanctuary, P.O. Box 219, Mt Horeb, WI 53572; Phone: 608-924-2216; E-Mail psg@circlesanctuary.org or find them on the web at www.circlesanctuary.org/psg.

Publications:

The Seeker is the monthly publication of the Magical Education Council of Ann Arbor, Inc., in support of the magical, mystical, earth-centered religious community in and around Ann Arbor. MECAA, P.O. Box 3326, Ann Arbor, MI 48106, jmm@cyberspace.org, phone 734-665-3522.

Celtic Connections: The Journal of Celtic and Related Subjects is £11:00 for an annual subscription. Payment to David James sent to Sycamore Cottage, Waddon Portesham, Nr Weymouth, DT3 4ER United Kingdom. U.K. Sterling only please.

PanThology: Paganism-Witchcraft-Magic-Wicca. Subscription is \$10.00 (US\$ Cash only; Aust\$ Cash or Postal Order) to PanThology, LPO Box 300, Australian National University, ACT, 2601, Australia.



GATHERING OF THE KELTRIAN TRIBE

JUNE 20TH TO 22ND, 2003

BUNKER HILLS CAMPRGROUNDS, MN

Join us the weekend of the Summer Solstice for a gathering you won't want to miss. Harvest Moon Study Group welcomes you to the Land of 10,000 Lakes, cold winters and hot summers. Grab your mosquito repellent, sunscreen and camping gear for a weekend you won't want to miss!

The annual Gathering of the Keltrian Tribe is a time to meet other Keltrians, attend insightful workshops, be entertained around a campfire, attend the annual meeting and to just gain a spiritual breath of fresh air by attending an outdoor (weather permitting) ritual with other Keltrians.

Who will attend?

Current and potential members of the Henge of Keltria are welcome to attend. Note that if you are not a member, you will not be able to vote in the annual election. See the Henge of Keltria Website at <http://www.keltria.org> for a membership form if interested.

About the Site:

The 2003 Gathering will be held at the Bunker Hills Campground in Anoka, MN. This is about 20-30 minutes north of the Twin Cities area and around ½ hour travel time from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport. Travel to and from the 2003 Gathering from all points of entrance will be up to the individual participant to arrange. For more information on Bunker Hills, visit their website:

http://www.co.anoka.mn.us/departments/park_rec/qlinks/BunkerHills/BunkerHills.htm

This will be a tent camping activity, without on-site electricity but with nearby water facilities. Within a very short walk are modern, clean bathrooms and showers that are well maintained by park employees. Each campsite may accommodate 2 large tents, and are equipped with their own firepit, picnic bench and space to park a car. If you want to have your own campfires at your site or your own ice chest, please be prepared to pay for your own wood and/or ice.

Please note: There will be an additional parking fee assessed by the Anoka Co. Park Rangers for each vehicle brought on to the premises. Please be advised of this and have such funds ready for them.

Within a two mile radius of the campground are several modern shopping conveniences, including a large Cub Foods supermarket with pharmacy, several fast food restaurants as well as sit-down establishments and various other convenience stores, should you need or have forgotten anything.

Sleeping Arrangements:

We have several different accommodation options for you to consider. Camping sites at Bunker Hills have been reserved for the Gathering. Participants will be assigned camping space on a first registered, first served basis though we will make every effort to put people near others they may request to camp with.

Some individuals may decide that they would prefer to stay within a motel and commute out to the site for days only. Two nearby motels and their phone numbers are as follows:

: Super 8 Motel, 1129 W. Highway 10, Anoka, MN (763) 422-8000. Fax (763) 422-4892.

: Pierce Motel, 1520 S. Ferry, Anoka, MN (763) 421-7000.

If you opt for this route, then you are responsible for making your own contacts and lodging arrangements with said motel; the 2001 Gathering staff has no detailed information on these establishments nor any special rate agreements with any of the above. This information is merely presented for your convenience and as an option for you. In addition, you will need to purchase the \$3/day pass to the campsite and will need to leave the premises by 10pm each night, per Park regulations.

While Bunker Hills does have RV sites available on the opposite side of the campground from the tent sites, the Event Organizers have made no arrangements to reserve any of those. If you do plan to attend in your own RV, please contact the Bunker Hills Regional Park directly (612-757-3920) to make your own reservations for the dates of the Gathering.

Fees

There are three options for this Gathering:

Option 1: Full Ticket

Includes a reserved campsite and meal plan.

Please indicate on the registration form if you have any special dietary needs and we will make all possible attempts to accommodate these.

Price is \$100 for the weekend.

Option 2: Meals Only

If you wish to make your own camping arrangements and join us for meals only.

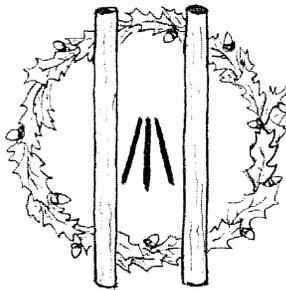
Please indicate on the registration form if you have any special dietary needs and we will make all possible attempts to accommodate these.

Price is \$50 for the weekend.

Option 3: Event Only

If you wish to make your camping arrangements, bring your own food and just join us for the events.

Price is free of charge, but you are responsible for the above mentioned park entrance/use fees and making arrangements with the park. Note restrictions mentioned above.



2003 GATHERING OF THE KELTRIAN TRIBE

Please print, fill out and mail with fee to:

The Henge of Keltria
P.O. Box 4305
Clarksburg, WV 26302

Make checks payable to "The Henge of Keltria"

Legal Name: _____ Preferred Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country: _____

E-mail (if you wish an e-mail confirmation when registration is received): _____

Membership Number (if you have one): _____

I would like to camp near the following persons/Groups

I request a modified meal plan (vegetarian, diabetic, etc.) (Please provide details on a separate page and contact information for questions).

Option 1: Camping and Meal Plan \$100 for entire weekend.

Option 2: Meal Plan Only \$50 for entire weekend.

Option 3: Attending Events Only Parking Fees payable to Ranger when entering Park.

Registration for Camping and/or meal plan is due by May 30th to hold a spot for you. After that date accommodations and meals must be arranged by attendee.

The following information is voluntary and is to be used for the Gathering Pamphlet:

Name: _____

Group or Grove: _____

Favorite Nature Spirit: _____

If you have any talents you wish to contribute to the gathering, we are a small group and welcome anything you may have to offer. Please contact rain@keltria.org or CML@prodigy.net or write them in the space below along with contact information:

You can also contact Rain at these addresses if you have any questions about the Gathering. Registration packets will be sent out for all registered by May 30th.

See you in June!