

Workshop Presenters

Harvestfest 2009

Catherine Starr

Catherine has been involved with planning and performing public rituals for 20 years. She is a founding member of Magical Acts Ritual Theatre and creatrix of the ritual theatre piece "Oracles from the Living Tarot." Part of the process of creating a living Tarot card includes making a personal mask. Catherine has been leading covens since 1990 and is an Elder and former first officer for the Covenant of the Goddess. In addition to leading a local coven, she is the Wiccan Chaplain & coordinator for the Campus Chaplains Association at the University of Toronto.

Andy Biggers

Andy has been deeply involved in the North American pagan and heathen community for over twenty years. He is a member of the board of directors of Wic-Can Fest and Harvestfest – Canada's longest running pagan festival – as well as serving on the board of the American Vinland Association. He is an Elder in the Ásatrú faith and a past High Redesman of the Ring of Troth. He is also a key organizer and board member of SiMuCoR (Simcoe Muskoka Coalition of Old Religions). Andy holds several advanced academic degrees including Bachelor and Master's degrees in History.

Anne Marie Greymoon

Mother to 8, pagan artisan, mask maker, doula, teacher, business manager, occultist, drummer, singer, herbalist, tarot reader, Spiritual consultant, Traditional healer, Morris dancer, High Priestess, and one of the directors of Harvest Fest and Wic-Can Fest since 1984. She has been in the craft since the early eighties, acquiring a 1* Odyssean while pursuing a more suitable traditional path and specializing in natural healing. She has appeared in broadcasts on wicca and witchcraft both for radio and on television advocating and promoting a healthy understanding of Wicca as a spiritual path. In the late 90's, she received her 3* in both the Gardnerian and Alexandrian tradition of Wica.

John Huculiak

John Huculiak is a busy guy who is in need of a personal assistant. He is a father-to-be (December 2009), a legal wedding & ritual officiant, a freelance lecturer & archivist, and a Spiritual Care Visitor for the Centre for Addiction & Mental Health. An adept in several fields of Divinatory Arts and Indigenous Spiritualities; a Wayfarer and a former Dharma worker; you will often find him talking the strangers in transit to somewhere. john@heretic.ca

Christin Dennis

Christin has always held closely to his native roots. Although he was adopted he remained free to maintain his indigenous traditions and practices. As a youngster he returned frequently to the reservation where he learned about his heritage. As he grew older elders went out of their way to help him and even coerce him into learning more about his roots. He has been doing lodges for 6 years, apprenticing for 12 years and still continues to learn from The Elders. "The way we live is like a dance. It can be very expressionistic or passionate and imaginative. If we allow ourselves to just be, our dance will be joyful." Meegwetch Christin Dennis - Gzhaaqwat " Fast Moving Cloud"

Kelly McQuabbie

Kelly was born in Parry sound, Ontario an hour south of his reserve. As a child, Kelly learned native craft and natural medicines from his grandfather and elders and has continued his native education throughout his youth and early adulthood. Along with traditional bow making he also builds split cane fly-fishing rods by hand (the old fashion bamboo fishing poles). Kelly lives his life by the principals and discipline to be dedicated and sharp, qualities that show up in his work.

Castalia

Castalia is a long time participant of Wic-Can Fest, Castalia resides in the neighbourhood. Her interests include music and dance, the history of pagan societies, Jungian psychology, Korean Shamanism and more. She is releasing her 4th CD of pagan songs, and this year completed a CD of Instrumental music for chants. Castalia will be offering an incense workshop this year, please see further in the program for details.

David Turner

David has been a Druid for most of his adult life. Not one to join groups he has explored the solitary way for the past 18 years. Living in the country and being close to nature and an adaptation to North American flora and fauna, has led to his present way of practicing Druidry. David has also been teaching drumming for the past 17 years. He has given workshops at folk and pagan festivals all over North America. With an emphasis on basic rhythm and respect to the other players, he's trying to get people to play fewer notes and create a good groove.

Michael Moon

Michael Moon is an award winning international recording artist, composer, and performer of healing and transformational music with 6 CD's. Ranging from psychedelic pagan rock, to deep sound meditations Michael's music takes the listener on a unique journey. Michael will share songs from his latest CD Deep Song weaving a tapestry of mystical songs and chants with vibraphone and guitar and joined by special guests. Michael also works as a sound therapist and astrological counselor. Please see his workshops further in the program. www.thetempleofsound.com

Amy Taylor

For over 20 years Amy has been active in the Ontario pagan community. She is a Pagan, Tea Leaf Reader, an active Hedgewitch and is a Gardnerian Wiccan 3rd degree High Priestess. She is very happily married, living in Hamilton, Ontario. In her professional life she works in the Horticulture industry & is an independent consultant selling Steeped Fine Loose Teas, Fair Trade Coffees & related accessories. In her spare time she studies & practices traditional herbalism, horticulture and horticultural therapy, maintains an environmentally viable home and is an avid organic gardener both in winter and summer

Beth Caines

Beth has been a Reiki practitioner for 8 years and has had the pleasure of passing on this knowledge, to those who seek it. She is able to offer her own Certification under the title of Nontraditional Reiki for 5 people at this year's Harvest Fest, please see details in the workshop description and make sure to sign up at Admin if you are interested.

Bonnie Durtnall

When she was a child, her parents frequently called her a little Pagan. Since then, she has tried to live up to these lofty expectations. Bonnie is a solitary pagan. She runs an eclectic pagan study group in Guelph, holds open rituals and passes on what she knows on a variety of subjects. She has self-published books on Palmistry, Faeries and Treelore. In her other life, she is a local historian and makes her living writing for an internet service while researching Canadian labour history. She is currently working on a book on Canadian Women in the labour movement courtesy of an Ontario Arts Council Grant.

Brian Walsh

Brian Walsh is a priest in the Céilí Sídhe tradition of Celtic Paganism and holds a B.A. in Celtic Studies and Religious Studies from the University of Toronto, as well as an M.Phil. from the University of Wales. Currently, he works as a multi-faith chaplain at a major Toronto hospital and as a Pagan chaplain with the University of Toronto's Campus Chaplaincy Association. www.newtara.org

Danielle King

A Newfoundlander in "Ex-Isle", Danielle is a Witch by blood and birth, and a Pagan by choice. She has been a mainstay member of the Ontario Pagan community for well over a decade, involved in many events, organizations, circles, festivals and has held numerous speaking engagements (too many to mention)! Danielle attended Memorial University of Newfoundland, studying Folklore and Anthropology. She is a Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine, a Reflexologist, an Herbalist, a Massage Therapist, and a Gunsmith (shooting the people she can't fix). She likes bacon, Guinness, poking things, and cannot be trusted to behave at a Bardic! Danielle also has marrying "Super Powers" and has performed over 100 weddings and handfastings to date. She currently lives in Hamilton with her husband Konga, her blue dog

Diarmuid and cat Bax Slade. Together they run “Barefoot Health and Wellness”, a clinic devoted to natural health and well being.

Franco Minatel

Franco is somewhat of a Renaissance man: a professional engineer, athlete, artist/musician. He has been involved in the study of various esoteric arts such as energy work, tarot, runes, astrology, numerology, herbs, crystals and magick for the past decade. Franco has notice that all is interrelated. He is the Vice President of Astrology Toronto an organisation which promotes astrological knowledge in the Greater Toronto Area.

Helmut

Helmut has also been very active in the Ontario Pagan community and is a steadfast supporter of Pagan events in Ontario. As a blacksmith/artisan and a follower of the Smith's Tradition, Helmut has been crafting ritual tools since 1979. He has been working on a book, recording the oral and compiling the written knowledge of Smith's Beliefs and Magical knowledge.

Kate Russell a.k.a. Iris O

Kate has been an outgoing member of the community, attending festivals and events since her initiation to the Craft 15 years ago. An avid student of astrology and tarot for over 20 years, she also enjoys pagan watching and exploring the simpler sides of the witch lifestyle. She published a pagan magazine – Wiccan Candles – for seven years before folding it in 2004.

Lady Mari

Lady Mari is a witch and High Priestess who has been in the Pagan community for over a quarter of a century, and practicing magic for even longer. She is a mother, a nurse, a writer, and a reader (walking encyclopedia). She is also a lifelong bread baker and a crafter of many hats, cloaks and robes. She has a very practical and functional view of life and the Craft. And she has a wicked sense of humour.

Laurie Benson

Laurie (a.k.a. "Herb Walker") is a veteran Festival-goer, having led Herb Walks and Talks from Starwood to Kaleidoscope, after being inspired by the Wic-Can Fest walks Nicholas Morcinek of Faunus Herbs led in the 'eighties. She has studied with Susun Weed in Ontario and New York, including Susun's Green Witch Intensive and most recently her Magical Plants Workshop. Laurie also attained her Vinyasa Flow Yoga Instructor Certification in Costa Rica this January, an experience of a lifetime. She now teaches private and public classes to an amazing variety of students, including an all-male class!

Marija Kuncaitis

Marija has been a long time member of Romuva. Marija holds the position of Co-ordinator for Canada. Growing up in a Lithuanian household hearing the various folktales, fairytales, and observing the various customs and traditions it was a natural leap towards Baltic Faith. As well, Marija has been a member of OBOD (Order Bards Ovates and Druids) for the past 14 years

Mike Franklin

Michael has 35 years experience studying and performing music rooted in the traditions of old Europe and the Mediterranean, although he draws inspiration from diverse sources, both historical and contemporary. Michael has performed in many different venues, but his favorite is around the fire, late at night, when, sometimes, he gets to be the piper at the gates of dawn.

Reynard Lohleit

Rey is an amateur mycologist and purveyor of custom mushroom spawn and seasonal varieties of gourmet and medicinal mushrooms.

Rikki Lacoste

Rikki has been a musician and a composer since his choir school days as a boy. Rikki has also practiced Ceremonial Magick for over 15 years, and is a III° member of a contemporary Templar Order. As a composer and engineer, he is the creator of a “magickal musick” project called Panthea. As a Magician and musician, he has endeavoured to share the fruits of his journeys with others through various workshops, storytelling, and ritual.

Sheilah Dillon

Sheilah has always loved to dance and has studied Belly Dancing for the past 6 years. She now teaches classes and performs at a Middle Eastern cafe in London, ON. Sheilah also enjoys making her own Belly Dance costumes, inventing choreography and just having fun shakin' it around the fire!