



The air is like a butterfly  
 With frail blue wings.  
 The happy earth looks at the sky  
 And sings.  
 - Joyce Kilmer, Spring

Kids Crafting



Ostara- Spring Equinox

Ostara is the time many locations plant their first crops. There has been much lore about Witches flying. This lore is a possible result of the sympathetic magic our ancestors performed each spring. To the mundane watcher it might have looked as if the Witches were taking off and flying as they leapt high into the air to encourage the new crops to grow tall and strong. This turn of the wheel brings us to a fun project made from recyclable material in your home and cost just pennies to make.

Witches Besom

Lesson: Teach the young ones about the planting and growing season in your area. Discuss sympathetic magic in the terms that your audience can understand. After the besoms have dried take the children on a romp in the back yard to work some sympathetic magick on your home garden for the coming growing season or have them dance as part of your Ostara Rite to bring prosperity to your family.

Age group: All ages, assistance will be needed with younger children for cutting and gluing but they will enjoy the romp after the project is completed!

- Supplies needed:  
 Paper Grocery Bag  
 Paper Towel Rolls  
 Scissors  
 Tape  
 String

Tape two or more paper towel rolls together to make the desired length of your broom.

Cut off the bottom of the paper grocery bag and discard

Cut fringes into bottom edges of the bag

Roll the uncut side of the paper bag around the bottom of the paper towel handle

Secure it with tape and then wrap string around the tape and tie it off when all tape is covered.

Apply glue to secure the string and allow it to dry.

From: Ann Marie, GSG secretary



To submit an article or event to the newsletter, please contact Terrie McGowan / council@greensonggrove.org with "GSG Newsletter" in the subject line.

**GreenSong Grove Membership Form**

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Solitary: Yes / No Coven Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 May send snail mail: Yes / No  
 Please add me to the email list: Yes / No  
 New membership: Yes / No Renewal: Yes / No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GreenSongGrove  
 "Uniting our community through Communication,  
 Spirituality and Personal Growth"

Cut out & Send \$10 donation  
 (check or money order, NO  
 cash please !) to :

GreenSong Grove, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 55253  
 St. Petersburg FL 33732-5253

Membership includes: \$1 discount to Sabbats, \*\*\*Under 18 years old must have parent or legal guardians notarized permission to join.\* At no time will GreenSong Grove, Inc. give your name, personal information or email address to anyone without your prior express permission.

# Voices of the Grove

## GSG OSTARA

Seasonal Musing Ostara 2007

their ancestors.

Here comes Peter Cottontail"...so begins the famous children's song announcing the arrival of Spring. The rabbit, or its European counterpart the hare, is venerated as a symbol of Spring in Europe, The United States, and other countries around the world. Some of the sobriquets associated with the small herbivore include: The Easter Bunny, The March Hare, the Spring Bunny, The Osterhase (German for Easter Hare), and Eostra's Hare. The rabbit has long enjoyed an association as a symbol of Spring, but what does it have to do with Christian beliefs, and what is with those eggs anyway? The answers are contained in the traditions of our Ancestors and are completely Pagan.

You can reenact a ritual of our forefathers as part of your own worship. On Ostara Eve, take an egg and write a desire that you have on it with a crayon. Focus your intent on the vessel and ask that Divine grant your desire. Bury the egg in your yard or garden and know that as the arrival of Spring encourages flowers to open their petals, so too will your desire blossom and grow.

The next time you bite the ears off a Chocolate Bunny, or nibble on a hard boiled egg, take a moment to reflect upon their ancient associations and have Blessed Ostara.  
 Bright Blessings  
 Balinnor

The rabbit (or Hare) has been seen as a symbol of fertility since antiquity. The rabbit is one of the few creatures that is able to conceive while still pregnant with a first litter, a phenomenon known as superfetation. This reputation as a prolific breeder, scientifically called a lagomorph, led to the rabbit's association with the flowering of new life that occurs each Ostara. Like rabbits, eggs are also seen as a symbol of the burgeoning Spring and fertility. Birds require 12hrs of daylight (UV Radiation) before they will lay eggs, thus the onset of egg laying heralded the arrival of Spring. Our ancestors would often bury eggs in the soil of their fields to imbue their crops with the Spring essence of new life. Christian traditions incorporated both the hare and the egg in an attempt to entice Pagans into the Church and away from the beliefs and practices of

GSG Ostara Ritual

March 24, 2007 – presented by Grey Ghosthawk and Becki. Join us as we celebrate Ostara.

Where: Boyd Hill 2900 31st Street South, St. Petersburg, Florida

When: Gates open at 7 PM

Donation: \$4 for members, \$5 for nonmembers

GSG Contact info:

Phone: 727-804-9370

council@greensonggrove.org

Web: www.greensonggrove.org

Who doesn't love a roaring sacred fire?

"Uniting our community through communication, spirituality and personal growth." We of Greensong Grove, come together from different circles and traditions, covens and solitary practices to create a Grove, just as the Oaks and Palms and Pines of the forest stand together, co-creating and being at peace with one another. We can stand together, and in doing so, build a strong foundation on which to build our own futures.

## March, 2007



COMING SOON: GSG BELTANE

April 27-29, 2007 at Boyd Hill Silver Rose and Friends GreenSong Grove's 9th Annual Beltane Grand Sabbat April 27—29, 2007  
 Time: Gates open at 2 PM on Friday April 27, 2007  
 Event Location: 2900 31st Street South in St. Petersburg  
 Vending: \$10 for a 10x10 space  
 Donation: \$17 for members \$20 non member per person per campsite  
 Ritual only: After 5 PM Saturday, (leaving by 2 AM)  
 \$5 non member \$4 for members

For more info go to:  
 www.greensonggrove.org

## Fresh Spinach and Tarragon Salad



- 1 bunch spinach
- 2 eggs
- 5 slices bacon
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon dried tarragon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

A tarragon infused vinegar and oil dressing with a smidgen of sugar, makes this classic spinach/bacon/egg salad just a bit different.

Place eggs in a saucepan and cover with cold water. Bring water to a boil. Cover, remove from heat, and let eggs stand in hot water for 10 to 12 minutes. Remove from hot water, and cool, peel and chop. Place bacon in a large, deep skillet. Cook over medium high heat until evenly brown. Drain, crumble and set aside.

Combine the spinach, egg and bacon.

Whisk together the oil, vinegar, sugar, salt, tarragon and pepper. Pour enough dressing over salad to coat; toss and serve.

## Natural Egg Dye

Instead of buying a commercial egg coloring kit, natural dyes akin to those that were used in the olden days, are easily available. To create the dyes, boil a large handful of an herb or flower until the water is well colored. Place the water in a non metal cup or container. Stir in a teaspoon of vinegar and a pinch of salt, then place a hard boiled egg gently into the mixture and let it sit. The following flora will result in these colors:

- Carrots, turmeric - yellow**
- Onion skins, paprika - orange**
- Red onion skins, madder root or cayenne - red**
- Purple grape juice, raspberries - red-violet**
- Carrot tops, bracken - green**
- Blueberries, red cabbage - blue**
- Blackberries, beet juice, mulberries - blue-violet**
- Heather - pink**

### March

- 4th-○
- 12th-☾
- 19th-●
- 26th-☾

### April

- 2nd-○
- 10th-☾
- 17th-●
- 24th-☾

### May

- 2nd-○
- 10th-☾
- 16th-●
- 23rd-☾
- 31st-○

## GSG Calendar of Events

### Council Meeting dates

All meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at the Pinellas Park Library @ 7:00 p.m.  
7770 52nd St., Pinellas Park, FL

### 2007 Sabbats

Ostara - March 24, 2007- Grey GhostHawk and Becki  
Beltane -April 27-29, 2007- Silver Rose and friends  
Midsummer -June 23, 2007-Between Worlds Coven  
Lughnasadh - August 4, 2007 - Avalon Rose  
Mabon -September 22, 2007- Between Worlds Coven  
Samhain - October 19-21, 2007 - Hearthfire Coven  
Yule - December 15, 2007- Circle In The Woods CUUPS

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\$5 non member \$4 for members  
GreenSong Grove 9th annual Beltane Festival and Talent Showcase - April 27-29, 2007

Guest authors Raven and Stephanie Grimassi, Ann Moura, Drum circle facilitators Earth Drum Tribe

### Friday night

Do you sing, dance, spin poi, recite poetry, or have some other amazing talent you want to share then email: council@greensonggrove.org to register for the event.  
Friday night at 8 PM, Talent Showcase, awards and drawing for all participants.  
Drum Circle lead by Earth Drum Tribe

### Saturday

Workshops with Raven and Stephanie

Grimassi and community members

### Beltane Ritual

Feasting - Everyone is asked to bring a dish or beverage to share for the feasting table for Saturday Night.  
Drum Circle lead by Earth Drum Tribe immediately following the feasting.

Pre-registration is available: Go to [www.greensonggrove.org](http://www.greensonggrove.org)

## MARCH

March 3- 7:30pm: FullMoon Celebrations, Presented by: Circles in the Woods CUUPS (813/920-1488) Full Moon Celebrations on the Saturday closest to the Full Moon. Tampa UU Church 11400 Morris Bridge Road, Tampa. Cost is a donation Website: <http://WWW.uutampa.org> (CUUPS)

### Smudge Fan Workshop

Smudging is the energetic cleansing of a person place or thing with smoke from sage or other herbs or incense resins. In this workshop, you will learn about smudging and create your own beautiful feather smudge fan. All materials are included in the workshop fee but if you have something special you would like to add to your fan please bring it with you. This class is limited to 8 people so we may have a morning and afternoon session. 11:00 - 2:00 and 2:00 - 5:00. (Don't worry if you're not crafty, we'll help you create a fabulous magical tool!)  
When: Sunday March 11th Cost: \$25.00  
Where: Healing Hands 7132 49th st N Pinellas Park FL 33781  
727-538-8969

**March 31 - 7:30pm:** FullMoon Celebrations, Circles in the Woods CUUPS  
GreenSong Grove council and staff will be presenting the Seed Moon

Rite with a twist of Fae magick. (cuups@...) Full Moon Celebrations on the Saturday closest to the Full Moon. Tampa UU Church 11400 Morris Bridge Road, Tampa  
Cost is a donation Website: <http://www.uutampa.org/cuups.htm>

**Everything under the moon** has to many classes and events going on these next few months to list, so please go to [www.everythingunderthemoongallery.com](http://www.everythingunderthemoongallery.com) and check out the events page. Everything from ChaCha Slide classes to Energy Healing. Everything under the moon 514 1st Ave Sw Largo, FL 33770 Ph. 727-586-5707

## Volunteers Needed

If you would like to volunteer at any of the GSG events, please email [council@greensonggrove.org](mailto:council@greensonggrove.org)  
There are several positions open.



## Friends of GSG

### Mystikal Scents

9545 East Fowler Ave. Thonotosassa  
Phone: 727-957-1181

### Healing Hands

7132 49th St. N., Pinellas Park FL  
33781 Phone # 727-538-8969

### May You Never Hunger

Website: [www.mayyouneverhunger.com](http://www.mayyouneverhunger.com)  
Phone - 727-459-5382

### Ancient Healing Secrets

5225 4th Street N. St. Petersburg  
Phone - 727-522-8281

### Mystic Goddess

7500 Ulmerton Rd. Suite 17, Largo, FL  
33771, Phone: (727) 530-9994  
Website: <http://www.mysticgoddess.org/>

### Enchanted

11326 Seminole Blvd Seminole/Largo  
Phone 727-319-6396

### Under the Gypsy Moon

1500 N. Parson's Ave Brandon, FL 33510  
Phone: 813-689-7595  
Email: UndertheGypsyMoon@tampabay.rr.com

### Skye Metaphysical Shops and Psychic Readings

Location: 12427 US Hwy 19  
Hudson, FL 34667  
Phone: 727-697-3617

### Angel Heart New Age Gifts, LLC

3401 Henderson Blvd, Suite H Tampa, Florida 33609  
Phone: 813-877-8117  
Website: [www.angelheartgifts.com](http://www.angelheartgifts.com)

### Enchanted Cauldron

3015 16th St N St Petersburg, FL 33704  
Phone: 727-823-9291  
Website: [www.enchantedcauldronllc.com](http://www.enchantedcauldronllc.com)

### Everything Under the Moon

514 1st Ave SW \* Largo, FL 33770  
[www.everythingunderthemoongallery.com](http://www.everythingunderthemoongallery.com)  
727-586-5707

### Dragon Den

USA Flea Market  
73 4th Street Port Richey, FL 34669  
[www.thedragonden.com](http://www.thedragonden.com)  
727-856-8164