

# GAEA'S OWN

*Spring 2014*





# President's Letter

*Erin Marshall*

I think we all know what time of year it is....but if you don't I will give you some hints. It is still rather cold out, but has been warming up once in a while. The days are getting longer. The water at camp is still off....but that is not for long. What I am getting at is that winter is coming to an end and spring will soon be upon us and that means EARTH DAY!! If you follow our Facebook page you will have seen posts going up often about the season opening festival. Most importantly is that Registration is open!!! So if you have not registered please head over to our website and do so!!

Work Exchange is a valuable part of our festival. We still have plenty of work exchange spots available. Just as much as we need people to attend the festival, we also really need people to do work exchange. You can send an email to [earthdayworkexchange@campgaea.org](mailto:earthdayworkexchange@campgaea.org) to inquire about work exchange.

We are also look for anyone that would like to do a workshop for the event. Workshops need to stay within the spectrum of Earth Day related ideas. Past workshops have included Solar Cooking, Plant Walks, Build your own fire starter, Yoga, Worm Farming, to name a few. If you have ideas there is a link on the "Schedule of Events" tab of the Earth Day event page.

There are 2 community potluck dinners, one on Friday night and again on Saturday night. Friday night's dinner is Vegetarian Chili. Saturday night is an Italian theme. We will be making a LARGE amount of spaghetti. Those wishing to participate and eat should volunteer (ahead of time) to bring a certain food item in a sufficient quantity. We will need sauce, pasta, side dishes, desserts, salad, and various other complimentary items. Each meal will only have the main dish provided, so if you plan on eating we please ask that you bring something to share. Please contact [earthdaymeals@campgaea.org](mailto:earthdaymeals@campgaea.org) for more information on what you can bring to each meal.

One of the duties I like the least as President is to announce when a board member has decided to step down from a position. Jonnie Elliott has decided to step down as our Treasurer. He is not leaving the board (sigh of relief), but feels this position is not utilizing his skills the best way. Jonnie you have done a wonderful job and am glad that this is only a position change. Thank you for all the hard work you have done.

Last year I announced new intern JD Besares. This year I would like to reintroduce JD as our newest board member (actually that is overdue by a few months), and new Treasurer. In his work life he manages multiple lines of business for his company. As well as managing multi-million dollar portfolios, this includes managing the budgets, profit and loss for these portfolios. I am very excited for the wealth of knowledge he brings to the board and the Treasurer position. Oh and he loves long walks in Gaea's beautiful woods, and his favorite color is blue.

And for the final announcement, I would like to introduce our newest intern; Michael Stevens. Mike has been coming out to Gaea for almost 10 years. During that period he has spent much of his time at festivals working safety. He is now heading up safety for the ERI run events (Earth Day/LBLD). If you aren't acquainted with Mike, you most certainly are acquainted with his art. He carved the beautiful Ostara that was near the main fire circle for a time, but now rest in front of the entrance to the Ve. He also carved the tiki-like statue in front of N6 near the road. Mike is a welcome addition to our intern program.





# Earth Day 2014

April 18-20



Please join us for the Earth Day celebration at Gaea Retreat Center. We are very excited about this upcoming celebration. This faire will provide the opportunity to learn about Earth-friendly practices and products. Come learn about ways to be earth friendly!

We will learn about materials, products and methods that treat Mother Earth with the gentle touch and respect that she deserves.

Registration for this event is \$20 per adult for the entire weekend.

Hope to see you there!!

**ALL WORK EXCHANGE must contact  
[earthdayworkexchange@campgaea.org](mailto:earthdayworkexchange@campgaea.org) to receive work exchange  
registration code.**

**SCHEDULED EVENTS Include:**  
**[Click here for complete details!](#)**

- Friday 6:30 to 8:30 PM - **Vegetarian Chili** ●
- Friday 9:00 PM - **Fire, Drumming and Dancing** ●
- Saturday 10:00 to 4:00 **Children's Activities** ●
- Saturday 10:00 to 4:00 PM & Sunday 10:00-2:00 PM **Rummage Sale** ●
- Saturday 12:00 to 8:00 PM - **Annual Earth Day Art Show** ●  
    **& Community Art Project** ●
- Saturday 6:30 to 8:30 PM - **Annual Earth Day Community Meal** ●
- Saturday 9:00 PM - **Fire, Drumming and Dancing** ●



# Treasurer's Report

*JD Besares*

As the days grow longer I find myself anticipating the change of seasons. Our list of projects for camp continues to grow. I look forward to working with the board to plan our long term goals and projects for camp. I would first like to thank Jonnie Elliott for his continued service to the community and serving as treasurer for Earth Rising. He has helped continue the tradition of transparent accounting practices and devoted countless hours to ensure camp has met its financial obligations. It is a great honor to take the torch from him and manage camps



finances. We are so very thankful that Jonnie will continue to serve on the board as a director and for the time he has volunteered to Earth Rising and Camp Gaea.

Spring is fast approaching and I am so excited for this upcoming season. While the land has been paid for, there are so many crucial projects that we must embark upon. The infrastructure and basic amenities are at the forefront of our minds. While we have deferred some maintenance items in the past we now must turn back to the land and give her permanent and lasting repairs for her bruised roads, aging cabins and other crucial infrastructure items. Stay tuned for more information on our progress and planning. We will definitely need some help from the community to keep Gaea looking her best! I look forward to serving the community and continuing the legacy of Camp Gaea for generations to come. In her service... JD Besares

***“May many hearts burn with the desire to see Gaea receive the care she needs and many blessings upon those who give to her in this spirit.”***

If YOU are feeling the desire to contribute money right now, the best ways are:

campgaea.org - look for the PayPal donations button

send check/money order to:

Earth Rising

PO Box 300654

Kansas City, Mo 64130-0654



# Caretakers' Corner

*Rhi & Clint Koetting*



Hello again and happy Spring! We are gearing up for the season and there is plenty of work to keep us all busy well into June. There are several projects that have been scheduled for this spring. We will be re-working paths, repairing areas of camp that need grass, and painting the buildings, including cabins.

The path in front of the north cabins will be getting a general work over and new gravel spread on them. The wooden walkway by the bell tower is slated to be fixed and laid again as we repair the areas disturbed by the new water line. We will also be working on the steps to the basement, adding more gravel to even out the steps and remove trip hazards.

It wouldn't be a new season without grass repairs happening throughout camp. There are so many areas that need repair after the drought that we will be planting first in the areas that get the most use or become the muddiest. So keep an eye out for areas that are blocked off and be respectful by staying out of those areas. The faster they get grass established, the faster the hurricane fencing will come down.

The other big project that we will be working on throughout the season will be re-painting the cabins and buildings. We will be scraping and replacing siding where needed before painting. Look for several painting parties to appear on the calendar as we re-apply Mom's makeup.

Needless to say, but I will anyway, there will be many opportunities to help out and earn Gaea Bucks this season. Dust off your gloves, paintbrushes and gardening shoes because there is plenty to be done. Work weekends have already been scheduled through Heartland Pagan Festival. You can find them on the online [calendar](#).

That's the news from the Caretakers' Corner. Hope to see you soon!

## **Cabin Etiquette**

Be respectful of your cabin mates. The Gaea community is varied and diverse. Be respectful of their beliefs and expect them to be respectful of yours.

Leave the cabin in better condition than you found it. Wipe down the beds, sweep the floor and take trash to the dumpster and recycling to the recycling corral by Registration.

Don't block the door or the path in front of the cabins. Others use the doors and path too.

Don't smoke in the cabin. Not only is it illegal, it's rude.

Turn the lights off. When you leave, turn off the interior and exterior lights. YOU have the power to save power.

## **Upcoming Work Weekends!**

**March 22-23, 2014**

**April 5-6, 2014**

**April 12-13, 2014**

Come be part of the community many opportunities to help out and earn Gaea Bucks!

# Earth Day Art Show

Main Hall

Saturday 12:00-8:00

Show is open to all artists, all mediums, paintings, works on paper, sculpture, jewelry etc. Subjects to include but not limited to works celebrating The Earth, Camp Gaea, your world, your spirit your creativity! There will be works for sale with percentages to go to camp and works for just viewing. Come view the show from 12:00-8:00

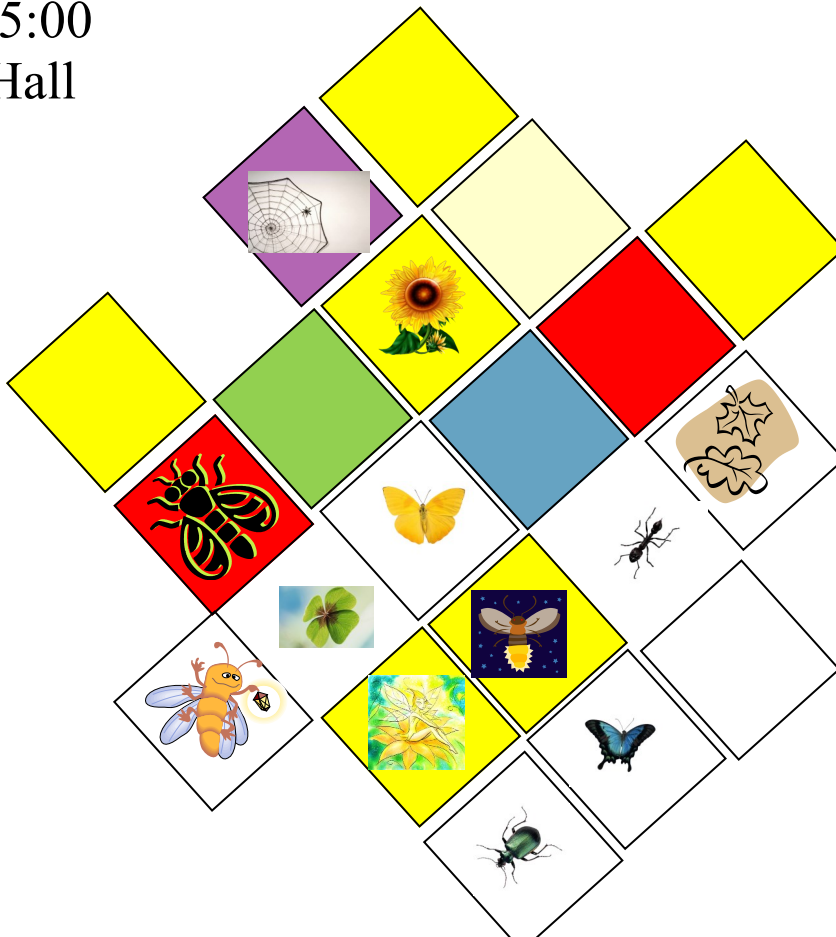
All artists works to be dropped off at the main hall before 10:00 am Saturday!

## Earth Day Community Art Project

Come paint a wooden tile of a flower, bug or plant. We will piece them altogether and make a beautiful art piece that will be displayed in front of the Dining hall for all to appreciate!

12:00-5:00

Main Hall



# WORD SEARCH

## Gaea Sacred Spaces

W C Y L R M W F E Z A B C G E  
W W T F S P O G G F H D K Q E  
R K R U T P A O X Q T E Q J R  
E H N E B T H W N G V K G N T  
B E W Z I W O Q H F I F E O N  
V W O M S V C E K L I M S F O  
I F R N C N X Z J W E R I O G  
H E F A E R Y G A T E A E R A  
H R D N N W R S O T M E C N R  
R O Y H T Z R N E E W M F H D  
E A J F Q Z B V B N L B B A X  
V M J Y W Q U E X T R C N L J  
O G J U P N Q W V S W E C R X  
R Q Y S V Y A W E D L O H X E  
G U C O Z J P O Q Q N Y L P Q

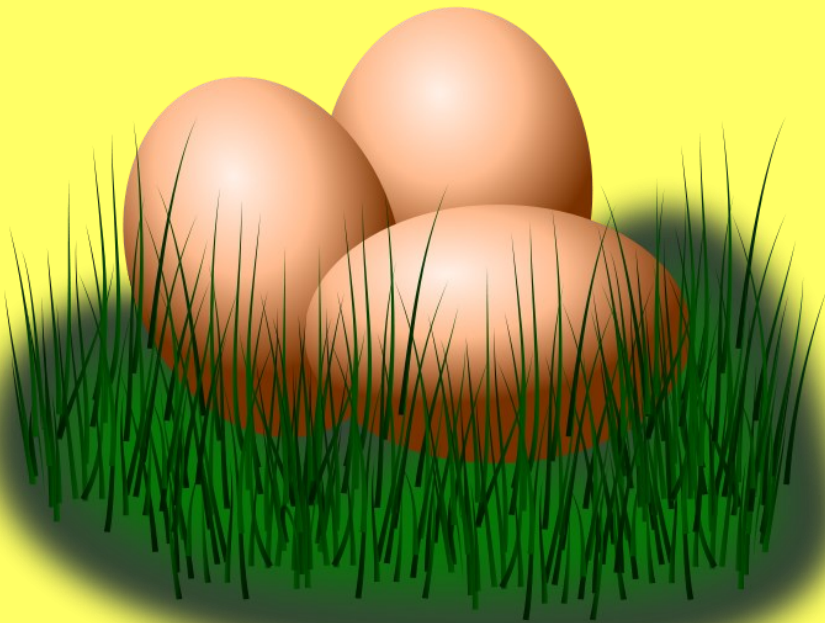
DRAGONTREE  
FAERYGATE  
FORNHALR  
GROVER  
HERMITAGE  
HERNES  
MOONFIRE  
NEMETON  
OLDEWAY  
VENUS





# Spring Equinox Ritual

March 15, 2014



Join us for Gaea's spring equinox ritual. We will be starting crafts around 3 pm, and ritual will be at 7pm with a feast to follow.

## *Seasonal Celebrations*

*Gaea offers eight seasonal celebrations to the community throughout the year. They are open to the public and offer the chance to learn and participate in different spiritual paths.*

*If you are interested in performing a public ritual, contact Rhi at 913-796-2141.*



## Spring Events

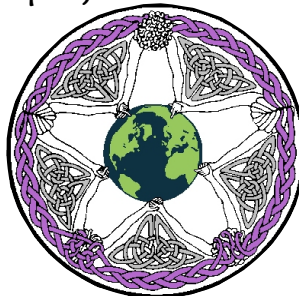
Spring Equinox Ritual	March 15	Public Event
ERI Board meeting	March 16	Public Event
Work Weekend	March 22-23	Public Event
Work Weekend	April 5-6	Public Event
ERI Board meeting	April 6	Public Event
Work Weekend	April 12-13	Public Event
Earth Day	April 18-20	Exclusive Event
Beltane Ritual	April 26	Public Event
ERI Board meeting	May 4	Public Event
Heartland Pagan Festival	May 22-26	Exclusive Event

Earth Rising Inc. Board Meetings begin at noon on the following dates:  
March 16, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6

Most Cabin Sponsor meetings will be on the Sunday after the Public Ritual at Gaea.

Please visit <http://calendar.campgaea.org> to ensure there have  
not been changes to this list!

Work weekends are a good opportunity to give back to Gaea, and earn some Gaea Bucks too! Check our [Announcements forum](#) or our [facebook page](#) for more information on projects as it becomes available.



## *Mission of Earth Rising Inc*

The Mission of Earth Rising is to provide a recreational retreat center in a natural setting for the purpose of cultural and spiritual education.

This Mission will be met through the achievement of certain goals.

These goals are:

To encourage the free exchange of ideas, views and experiences.  
To promote greater understanding and respect between groups and individuals.

To support ecologically sound practices and land and wildlife conservation in the belief that the Earth and all life are interrelated and interdependent, and that respect for all life is a Universal Mandate.

To provide sanctuary to people who have experienced oppression or discrimination due to their cultural or spiritual practices.

### **For More Details:**

Earth Rising, Inc. –  
<http://eri.campgaea.org>

Cabin Sponsorship Program –  
<http://cs.campgaea.org>

Calendar –  
<http://calendar.campgaea.org>

Donations –  
<http://donations.campgaea.org>

Contact Us –  
<http://contact.campgaea.org>

