



A newsletter of EarthLove Fellowship: a Grove of FoDLA



## Reflections of the Rev – Energizing our Lives

*By Rev. Linda Costello*

Beltane marks the height of spring and the first of the summer seasons. This is the season where spring turns toward summer. Beltane is one of the two major fire festivals that were celebrated in ancient times, and marks the light half of the year. The weather was finally warm enough for people to frolic in the fields, and frolic they did. The energy of creating is at its height in this season, and mating is paramount.

Flowers bloom, spreading their pollen into the air. Birds build nests, preparing for their young ones. Animals mate and reproduce. All of life teems with energy.

This is a great time to ride on the coattails of the bursting energy of spring and get in touch

with that which energizes you. Find that passion and make a choice to pursue it every day. Bring it strong into your life.

For me, this year, I joined a Toastmasters group, to become more comfortable and effective at public speaking, as I see that the best way to share my own gifts with others is to do so all at once in groups. I look forward to the growth to come.

We move from Spring into Summer, as that which we have planted matures into the fruits of the harvest to come. I reach to the proverbial sun and rain and soft, moist earth to nurture my projects as they blossom and grow, rejoicing in the beauty of the blooms.

**Grove News**

EarthLove Fellowship continues to do public ritual for each high day. Our Imbolc ritual was full of beauty, and Beltane was full of joy.

We had several new folks join us for Beltane and we are excited to have many new friends participating in our public rituals.

In the Ancient Celtic Studies Discussion Group, we are making good progress in Patrick Ford's translation of the Mabinogion. We are talking about taking on one of Ronald Hutton's books next.

Starting with Samhain 2008, we have begun doing 6<sup>th</sup> night blessing rites. The rites are put together in the moment, and so they are always different and held in different locations. In February, we started our 6-week Druid 101 class with a blessing rite to bless the space and the participants. In March, we made prosperity talismans during our blessing rite. In April, we made blessing charms to send out into the world.

Our Druid 101 class went very well. We will be starting another session of Druid 101 and also starting Druid 202 soon.

Blessings of bursting energy,  
Rev. Linda



**Schedule of Events for 2009:**

[Ancient Celtic Studies Discussion Group](#) - 7:00 PM  
*Held at Comic Zone\**

- Jan 5, 19
- Feb 2
- Mar 2, 16
- Apr 6, 20
- May 4, 18
- June 1, 15
- July 6, 20
- Aug 3, 17
- Sep 7, 21
- Oct 5, 19
- Nov 2, 16
- Dec 7, 21

**6<sup>th</sup> night Blessing Rites**

6<sup>th</sup> Night Blessing Rites will be held on the following dates. Locations and times to be announced:

- 1/1 - 5:00 pm, Agua Linda Park, Scottsdale;
- 2/1, 3/4, 4/1, 5/1, 5/30, 6/28, 7/28, 8/26, 9/23, 10/24, 11/22, 12/22

**High Day Rituals**

*Held at El Dorado Park\*\**

- Imbolc - 1/31 @ 5:00
- Spring Equinox - 3/21 @ 5:00
- Beltane - 5/2 @ 6:00
- Summer Solstice - 6/20 @ 7:00
- Lughnasadh - 8/1 @ 7:00
- Autumn Equinox - 9/19 @ 7:00
- Samhain - 10/31 @ 6:00
- Winter Solstice - 12/19 @ 5:00

\*

[Comic Zone](#)  
5909 N Granite Reef Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250

\*\*

[El Dorado Park](#),  
2311 N. Miller Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Please call for more information.  
602-722-2562

**POETRY CORNER**

Blessing Rite

They gather together  
under the sliver of moon  
that marks the sixth night  
since it was dark

Three times three  
The rite is begun

They light a hearth flame  
They make their offerings  
They greet the unseen beings  
who bless them with great presence

They hang ribbons of three colors  
on the blooming tree  
One for the King  
One for the Queen  
One for the Beings of the Land

The blessings are assured

They thank those beings present  
and return and scatter  
unused offerings  
to the Source

Three times three  
The rite is ended



*ELF Seeds is a quarterly publication of EarthLove Fellowship: a Grove of FoDLA.*

*This issue was written and edited by the Reverend Linda Costello.*

*Future issues will include advertising. Please contact Rev. Linda at 602-722-2562 if you have any questions.*

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### Listen to the Mockingbird

It's that time of year in Arizona when the Northern Mockingbird again claims its territory as he seeks a mate, and I have been lucky enough to be blessed with one who has claimed my back yard! I just LOVE listening to this bird sing his heart out every night, all night long, with his trills, and calls, and haunting melodies. It is one of the most beautiful songs I have ever heard, and I will sit and listen enthralled as he sings his repertoire. I even leave my patio door open a crack, even though it still gets chilly at night, just so I can hear his song as I fall asleep. I can think of little else that fills me with such joy.

The first time I heard one of these little fellows singing was during my first spring in Arizona. It was 1997, and I had come home from some meeting. One of these birds was singing in the tree I had to pass on my way to my townhouse. I stood, entranced, listening. Even back then, I opened my window to hear the song as I fell asleep.

The Northern Mockingbird is sometimes called the American Nightingale, and I can understand why. The song is lovely, and just another sign of the herald of Spring in Phoenix.

Spring in Phoenix is quite magical. The cacti swell with buds. The golden poppies take over yards, swaying in the wind, giving an

appearance of a sea of orange and yellow. A profusion of color graces every landscape. The days are warm enough to go without jackets, but not intensely hot like summer. All of life rejoices and one can feel the energy as it courses up from the earth in an exuberant expression of creation.

The mockingbird tells this story over and over, sending out his voice, his song of the incredible joy of being, and in his authentic beingness, he attracts his mate. He doesn't hope. He doesn't plan and scheme. He simply is, and the immutable laws of the universe take care of the rest.

When she finds him, he will be too busy making his nest and then making a family, to sing the night away. And so I enjoy it now, in this moment, because I know that soon, he will no longer sing me to sleep this year.

I let the richness of the moment fill me. I let it sink into my heart, into the very core of my soul, and let it resonate there, because I know that this joy is our birthright, and we all have a song of joy to sing. And as we sing it, all that is meant to be ours is attracted to us.

Sing your joy this day! It is the most beautiful, responsible thing you can do!

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## CLASSIFIED ADS

### How's business?

*Do you have customers and clients flocking to you?*

*Is your bottom line still in the black?*

*Have you cut expenses to the bare bones and still not seeing the profit you desire?*

In the current economy, most business owners I come into contact with are facing this kind of reality. I took it upon myself to figure out a way to get out of my rut and after getting the appropriate training here's what I found....

The owner of a successful social service agency applied what he learned from this training and because of this, as of February of this year, his business has DOUBLED in six months.

After applying the techniques learned from this training, four partners successfully opened a comic book store in this economy and have been experiencing increases in sales for the past six months.

A young entrepreneur netted over \$40,000 in 45 days, using the knowledge he gained from this product.

#### So what exactly does this training consist of?

- How to create a comprehensive, expandable, and scalable marketing plan
- The importance of having a feasible economic model
- How to design accurate projections and what you must do to achieve them
- How to find Funding for your business or to expand your business and how a detailed business plan can help you get it faster
- How to leverage your people for maximum efficiency and how to get rid of the employee mentality to have a team that grows your business
- and much more...

**What can it do for YOU?**

**To find out more about this program please call: 602-722-2562**



### COMIC ZONE

*Scottsdale's Best Comic Book Store*

**5909 N. Granite Reef Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
480-483-2685**

<http://www.ComicZoneAZ.com>

## Wholistic Prosperity

**Abundance in Mind, Body, and Spirit**

**Linda Costello, Life Coach  
602-722-2562**

<http://www.lcostello.com>

**Seminars, Classes,  
Life Coaching**

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