

BELTANE GO WILD!



Beltane, along with Samhain/Halloween (see The Red Pill Vol. 3 No. 7), is one of the major holy days on the agrarian-based Wiccan wheel of the year. May Day, as it is also called, is the second time of the year when the veil between the material world and spiritual (astral) world is the thinnest.

Although many of the holy days on the wheel of the year revolve around fertility, Beltane, occurring on May 1st, is by far the largest fertility festival of the year. During this time of year, our pagan ancestors would run through the fields and jump as high as they could to show the grain how tall to grow.

In some traditions, this marks the full-flowering of the Goddess into womanhood, a transition from maiden to mother. This is the time of the handfasting ("marriage") of the Goddess and God. They consummate their marriage and he sows the seed for his own rebirth during the winter solstice.

The May Pole has been a symbol of Beltane for centuries. It was made from a small tree, traditionally fir, with its lower branches removed. The Pole was placed into the ground (the symbology of this act hardly needs explaining) and then decorated with flowers and other adornments. People danced around the May Pole holding ribbons that were attached to the top of the May Pole. This act of people weaving in and out of each other, wrapping the Pole in ribbons symbolized the coming together of two to make three, in the spirit of Beltane. Also popular in Beltane celebrations is jumping over small bon-fires to bring good fortune in the following year. The cauldron has become increasingly important for this time as it is a symbol of the Goddess and life that springs forth from her.

Beltane is a time to 'let one's hair down.' A time where in some traditions, rings were removed and vows put aside as people paired to share in the Great Rite in the fields to be fertilize by their union, in symbolic re-creation of the coming together of the Goddess and God. The fertility of the earth and land were intimately connected with the fertility of humans, as well as all of nature.

So this May Day, let your hair down, grab one you love and go run naked in the fields, share with nature, and the Goddess and God, the spirit of this season. •

State of Disunion

TOTAL NUMBER OF MINERS AND THEIR FAMILY KILLED during the 1913-1914 Colorado Coal Strike: 66

NUMBER OF COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS charged with their murders: 0

NUMBER OF ANARCHISTS arrested, detained or executed in connection with the Haymarket bomb: 8

NUMBER OF ANARCHISTS involved at Haymarket that were pardoned by the governor: 8

TOTAL NUMBER OF COALITION FORCES that have died in Iraq: 2619

NUMBER OF DOLLARS WASTED on the Iraq War: 277,664,029,000

PERCENT OF US TROOPS who want an end to the war in 2006: 76

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES originally in the 'coalition of the willing': 27

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES that have pulled out of the 'coalition of the willing': 13

CALL TO ACTION

The Red Pill is looking for volunteers: graphic designers, writers, poets, cartoonists, artists, and photographers are needed. Get your work published now. Help distribute The Red Pill in your community, church, and school: contact us at editor@gjredpill.org. You can also do your part to keep us in print by donating time, paper, film, copies, and of course money (it doesn't print itself).



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GRAND JUNCTION,
COLORADO

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH TAKE

The Red Pill



WORKERS

UNITE!

MAY 2006

VOL. 4 NO. 9

MAY DAY ISSUE

CANADA INVADES, SIX NATIONS

Jcan't get any sleep or rest with my son down there, guns pointed at him and my people." Thahoketoh, webmaster for Mohawk Nation News (MNN), told The Red Pill in a late night phone conversation. His voice was drenched in a mixture of emotions. Tahohoketoh is a proud Mohawk of Six Nations, a confederacy of six native-American tribes that predates European arrival to the Americas. The Six Nations are the oldest recorded constitutional democracy in history. Their Constitution is called, Gayanashagowa, meaning The Great Law of Peace. It was held in oral tradition as far back as 1100 CE, but it wasn't written down until the arrival of the Europeans. The Gayanashagowa states, "Roots have spread out from the tree of the Great Peace . . . The name of these roots is the Great White Roots and their nature is Peace and Strength."

Tahohoketoh proceeded to take me on a journey of his peoples' history. "I am my grandparents before me, and my grandchildren after me. I remember . . . we remember." In 1690, the Six Nations people met with the British, in an exchange of a sacred belt, woven with wampum beads, which are the Six Nations representation of diplomatic agreements and exchanges; however, the Europeans mistook wampum beads for currency. Since then many treaties have been neglected, and a long history of British and Canadian abuse against all of Canada's native people ensued. "[Canada] is a pretend democracy. One half of the law is the senate. There are 107 senators who are not elected but appointed by the prime minister,



and they are for life. They are one half of the law making authority in the country, and they only answer to the billionaire, no one else," said Tahohoketoh. He then told me about the Canadian Residential Schools in the first half of the 20th century which had physically, psychologically, and sexually abused native children all over Canada, even leading to the deaths of tens of thousands of native children.

In 1784, the signing of the Haldimand Proclamation granted land to the Mohawk tribe for their loyalty to the British government during the American Revolution. In 1835, the British government requested development of Plank Road, now Highway 6, through Six Nations land. Six Nations agreed to lease half a mile of land surrounding each side of the road, but never surrendered any of it. In 1844, the government interpreted the document signed by Six Nations chiefs as authorizing the sale of land to build Plank Road. However, the Gayanashagowa, clearly states that only the women have that right, making it unlawful for male chiefs to sell the land. A faction within Six Nations protested, believing the chief had been intimidated and deceived into selling. In 1848, the British issued a deed to George Marlot Ryckman for land west of Plank Road, now Douglas Creek Estate, where 45 unarmed protesters have been camped out since the 28th of February.

At 5:55am on April 20th 2006 in Caledonia Ontario, 150 heavily armed Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), dressed in riot gear and armed with M-16's, invaded the camp. 1,000 people from the reserve arrived. Police proceeded to pepper spray

"CANADA" ON SECOND PAGE

"CANADA" FROM FIRST PAGE

the protesters and arrested 9 people. One 20 year old male was suffocated to unconsciousness in the process. "It was an interesting and beautiful scene to witness the mass of people come out and state our jurisdiction. We forced the OPP to leave. It was beautiful to see the women march them off our land." Hazel Hill, Six Nations Spokeswoman, recalls. Hill had later discovered a police officer sneaking behind unfinished houses. "[The police] grabbed hold of me to handcuff me. I resisted firm and braced myself as the officers rushed me." Under gunpoint, she fought back by kicking a police officer in the chest, when more Six Nations people arrived and assisted in pulling the police off of her. As the police retreated they shot Hill's son in the back with a taser. Around 8:00am, fighting between Six Nations and police broke out once again. Six Nations blocked off 6 Line Bridge with nearby hydro pools and set tires on fire. This action cut off Highway 6, which is the main supply line going into the local hydro electric plant, and the main transport road into the nearby town of Hamilton.

On the 23rd of April, at 5:00am a swat team was sighted ten minutes away from the camp. The OPP and Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) had set up headquarters nearby, along with 20 police vans and 1000 OPP and 250 RCMP, all armed. An airplane was sighted, writing the words "ARMY" in the sky, above Douglas Creek Estates. Later an anonymous employee at the airport informed Six Nations that 100 soldiers are gathering in hanger #5, with the possibility that 100 soldiers in three other hangers, stating that, "[The army] is using [the airport] as a staging ground."

When The Red Pill asked the OPP about the amassing of police, Mounties, and army nearby, they said, "We are not in a position to respond, there is no information... [Right now] negotiations are taking place among the stake holders. We are currently in a holding pattern. According to the OPP, Six Nations are still occupying the camp. They confirmed that a total of 16 people have been arrested for failure to comply with a court order.

In the past few days the residents of Caledonia have been gathering at night in counter-protest, mostly complaining about the depreciation of their land value. "There was a big rally last night of over 100 people, and they wanted us to attack them.



Our people stood silent. We did not do anything. We know better. They got mad and smashed up a police car." Katenies, Six Nations Media Representative, tells The Red Pill.

Canadian Auto Workers Union (CAW) president Buzz Hargrove is currently negotiating with The Canadian Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, for a reasonable and peaceful end to the dispute. "These actions have only served to inflame the peaceful actions of the native community who are defending their rights to reclaim their land." Elan White, Representative of CAW, states, "We are in a supporting role for The Six Nations People. We are asking the government to work toward a peaceful negotiation, instead of letting it draw out. The people on the reserve are a peaceful people. [The Canadian Government] is recognizing their hereditary chiefs for the first time in 72 years. This is a major step forward, but there is still

a hundred pages of historical documents to go over."

On the 27th of April MNN reported that the Canadian Army was driving around the camp in a Carter rental van at 9:30pm. Three Carter rental locations would not confirm or deny renting to the Army. Two other locations reported turning down the OPP's request for van rentals.

On the 28th of April, Canada sent forces into the camp, with barricades and yellow tape blocking traffic for 50 miles. Three helicopters were flying overhead, as Six Nations stared down an infestation of heavily armed police. 300 Caledonia residence were attempting to break through the blockade 6 Line Bridge. "[The Government] says they want to negotiate, but they're breathing down our necks. We need them to understand that we need to do this right. Their psychological warfare makes it hard to talk when you have guns pointed at you." Katenies said. She also said that they have scouts amongst the Caledonia residence, and suspect that Army personal are dressed in civilian clothes and planted within the crowd.

It doesn't look as if the Canadian Government will heed Thahoketoh's words, when he said, "On this planet all living things have the same mother; she is the Earth. We all have the same father; he is the creator of all things. That makes us all brothers and sisters." rather, that they will continue to add further insult to the sovereignty of the Six Nations people. •

Every Sunday • 6PM

Weekly Vegan Dinner. We'll cook the main dish. Please bring a vegan side dish, dessert, or drink. Dinner starts around 6:30PM. *The Confluence Collective (1450 Elm)*



Every Monday • 6PM

A Voice of Reason, the local peace group meets to figure out ways to get the troops home.
MSC College Center 12th & Elm.

THE LUDLOW MASSACRE: A CHAPTER FROM COLORADO'S HIDDEN HISTORY

Shortly after the Civil War, soft coal began being mined in southern Colorado. Large industrial companies like Colorado Fuel and Iron, owned by John D. Rockefeller Jr., ran their coal camps like feudal fiefdoms. The Coal Corporations made the laws, set curfews, hired the marshals, teachers, and priest. By 1914, Colorado Fuel and Iron owned 27 mining camps including all the houses, saloons, schools, and churches. Miners were often paid in scrip that was only good at the company store and the company saloon. Polling places were

often on company land and the miners were forced to vote how the Company wanted them to vote. In a letter from a mining camp superintendent to John D. Rockefeller the voting situation is summed up: "When I came here it was said that the C.F. & I Co. voted every man and women in their employ." In addition to controlling every aspect of the miners' lives, the coal companies also had serious influence in local and state politics. In Las Animas and Huerfano counties, the coal companies dominated local government. Company officials regularly served as election judges, coroners, and jury members. In Las Animas county C.F. & I friend, John C. Baldwin, was the jury foreman in 80 percent of the county cases.

United Mine Workers began organizing the miners, and on September 28, 1913 a strike was called. That day 11,000 miners and their families, with all of their possessions in tow, walked out of the mining camps to waiting 'tent colonies' organized and paid for by the United Mine Workers. Ninety percent of the miners struck with the union. The mine imported hired guns from the Baldwin-Felts Detective Agency. Most of the mine guards and Baldwin Felts agents were then deputized. Baldwin-Felts constructed a steel plated armor car with a mounted Gatling Gun, nicknamed the "Death Special." On October 17th, the deputized Baldwin-Felts Agents in the 'Death Special' attacked the Forbes tent colony killing one miner, and leaving a 10-year old boy with 9 bullets in his leg. Later that same month, an armored train with mounted machine guns and 190 guards heading to the Ludlow tent colony was intercepted by a group of armed miners and a battle ensued.

By October 28th, there had been at least four battles between strikers and guards, and at least nine men had been killed, mostly strikers. So on that day, Colorado governor Ammons declared martial law and sent the Colorado National Guard to quell the violence.

Governor Ammons was questioned about civil liberties during the strike by Rev. Atkinson:

Rev. Atkinson: Have you no constitutional law and government in Colorado?

Gov. Ammons: Not a bit in those counties where

Friday, May 12th, 2006 • 7:00PM

Immaculate Heart of Mary's Social Justice Film Series will be screening "Voces Inocentes" with featured speaker Anna Stout. The film will be shown at the IHM's youth center.



the coal mines are located.

Rev. Atkinson: Do you mean to say that in large sections of your state there is no constitutional liberty?

Gov. Ammons: Absolutely none.

After a month of being terrorized by the coal company's private army, the miners were hopeful that the Colorado National Guard would keep the peace, but the Guard would turn out to be in the service of the coal companies. The Guard led a cavalry charge against a procession of women and children

in the streets of Trinidad with bayonets drawn. During the winter of 1913-14, the Guard made 172 arrests, all miners or strike sympathizers. By the beginning of April, the cost of keeping the Guard in the field was bankrupting the state of Colorado, Gov. Ammons recalled all but two companies, consisting mostly of mine guards on the payroll of the coal corporations.

Early in the morning of April 20th, two sticks of dynamite were set off in the hills above the Ludlow tent colony to signal the beginning of the operation. At about 9am, the 'Death Special' and other machine guns opened fire on the camp of 1000 men, women, and children. The Colorado National Guard kept machine gunning the camp all day, and at about dusk burned the tent colony to the ground. According to the Trinidad Red Cross, 26 bodies were recovered from Ludlow. In a cellar under a tent, the charred bodies of two women and eleven children were found.

When news of the massacre reached the other tent colonies the strikers went to war. Pitched battles broke out along a 40 mile front from Trinidad to Walsenburg for 10 days. Numerous mines were attacked and destroyed. Three hundred armed strikers marched from neighboring Fremont County to help. Three hundred union miners from Colorado Springs stopped work and joined the battle. The Denver Cigar Makers Union voted to send 500 armed men to Ludlow. The United Garment Workers in Denver sent 400 of their members to Trinidad to serve as nurses. Four train crews from Colorado Southern Railroad refused to take soldiers and ammo from Trinidad to Ludlow. The Governor ordered more Colorado National Guard to the strike zone, but in route 82 members of C Company mutinied refusing to shoot women and children. There was talk of a General Strike for the whole state, and over 5000 people demonstrated in support of the striking miners at the state capital.

After ten days, and with the arrival of Federal Troops, the war petered out, though the strike would last another seven months before failing. Despite the fact that the strike lost, the Coal Strike of 1913-14 was considered a victory by the unions because it focused national and international attention on the working man's struggle. •

RED PILL LOCATIONS

You can pick up your copy of The Red Pill at the following locations: Planet 9, Heart of the Dragon, Third World Imports, Planet Earth and the Four Directions Gallery. You can also download the latest Red Pill at: <http://colorado.indymedia.org>

MISSION STILL UNACCOMPLISHED

May 1st, 2003 was a beautiful southern California spring day. The U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln, one of America's largest and most advanced aircraft carriers, was only 30 miles from its home port of San Diego, California. It had just spent a record setting 20 month cruise in the Persian Gulf. Everyone was more than a little homesick, especially with land in sight, but one task remained undone.

President George W. Bush was being flown out on the wings of a Navy s-3b Viking. The plane buzzed the aircraft carrier twice, before coming to an abrupt halt on deck with a "tailhook" landing. Dressed in full flight regalia, Bush pranced across the deck, complete with crotch-bulging groin straps.

Some people he threw an arm around, others he shook hands with, still others got a nod and a wink. Bush took picture perfect position in front of a large banner reading "Mission Accomplished." Giving thumbs up and grinning, Bush proudly proclaimed that "major combat operations are over." There were a total of 163 American casualties at the time.

The psychological operations were chided by some, but were widely accepted as brilliant by the main stream media. America, at that time, was enthralled with the war and few dared question what seemed to be a largely politicized, premature declaration of Peace. The honeymoon did not last forever, though.

Less than 6 months later, Time magazine did a cover story entitled "Mission NOT Accomplished." The article, correctly, pointed out that 600 Americans had been killed in



Iraq by that point, most in the months since Bush declared "Mission Accomplished." The behind the scenes backpedaling then began in earnest.

The administration initially tried to insinuate that the banner was the Navy's doing, but clear evidence surfaced that showed that the White House itself had made and paid for the banner.

In a very rare display of courageous dissent, then Senate Majority Leader, Tom Daschle said "We've lost many more lives since Bush declared 'Mission Accomplished' than before it. Their latest fabrications are yet another illustration of this administration's unwillingness to accept reality." Karl Rove, Bush's Information Minister sighed, "I wish that banner was never there."

Flash forward to May 1st, 2006. The unpopular war has entered it's third year, and has cost America over 2,400 lives, with 39,125 severely wounded. Over 150,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed. The war has cost U.S. taxpayers \$279,409,716,763 (billions) so far, and costs an additional 6.4 billion dollars each month.

Osama Bin Laden is still on the loose. Terrorism has dramatically increased since our invasion of Iraq. Gas prices are astronomical. Our image and reputation is damaged by the torture and Abu Ghraib scandals. Our President has freely admitted to illegal spying on U.S. citizens, etc., etc., etc. It's hard to say exactly what President George W. Bush had on his mind on May 1st, 2003, because if he truly believed in "Mission Accomplished," his mission has been much darker than most of us have feared. •

Friday, May 12th, 2006

Andy's Birthday Float. Bridgeport to Whitewater For more info contact Andy: 256-7650

Friday, May 12th, 2006 • 7:46PM

Anarchist Prom, will be a benefit party for The Confluence Collective. There will be live music, prom photos, vegan snacks. Tickets are \$10 ahead of time and \$15 at the door. For more info: 245-3720

HISTORY OF MAY DAY

Beginning in 1886, International Workers Day, May 1st, was created to unite the working classes of the world against their corporate and political oppressors. This holiday was created by American workers who were involved in a bitter battle for the creation of an eight hour day and it quickly spread throughout the world and into history. The first May Day was a strike called for by the Knights of Labor and it quickly spread to a national general strike that involved hundreds of thousands of workers across the United States.

The history of May Day is a sad and tragic tale and inspiring at the same time, in Chicago in 1886, up to 65,000 workers had taken to the streets starting on May 1st, to demand an increase in wages and the creation of an eight hour day instead of the twelve or fourteen hour day that was common at the time. Corporate bosses and their purchased politicians feared any change in the status quo and on May 3rd, 1886, Chicago police officers fired into a crowd of striking workers, killing one and wounding dozens.

The next day, several Anarchist leaders of the worker's movement met in Haymarket square to peacefully protest the violence that had been unleashed upon the innocent workers of the city by the government and big business the day before. Towards the end of the rally, 180 policemen and hired goons rushed at the speaker's wagon in an attempt to end the rally and arrest the organizers. From the crowd, a bomb was thrown killing one officer immediately and seriously wounding seven others, who later died from their wounds. In retaliation, police opened fire on the crowd, killing an unknown number of workers while also wounding up to sixty of their own men.

Over the following days, eight Anarchist labor organizers were arrested by the state, illegally detained and tried for the bomb that was thrown in Haymarket square. As the closing remarks of the prosecuting attorney, Julius Grinnel, showed all eight men were not tried for the bomb, but were tried for being Anarchists and labor organizers, "Law is upon trial. Anarchy is on trial. These men have been selected, picked out by the grand jury and indicted because they were leaders. They are no more guilty than the thousands that follow them... Convict these men, make examples of them, hang them and save our institutions, our society."

Tuesday, May 2, 2006 • 7:00PM

MSC Grand Junction Alternative Media's Documentaries for Change Film Series will be screening the Vietnam Era classic "In the Year of the Pig." At the Saccamanno Lecture Hall, Science Building MSC.



One year later on November 11th, 1887, four men were murdered by the state and a fifth committed suicide before he was executed for believing in the right of the people to control their lives and their futures. Two others received life sentences and the third was detained without charges for almost six years. In a move of moral responsibility that almost ruined his career the governor of Illinois, John Peter Altgeld, declared a pardon on June 26, 1893 for all of the Anarchists that had been arrested, detained and executed after the Haymarket tragedy. He made it abundantly clear that he was pardoning these men not because they had suffered enough, but because they were innocent of all crimes that had been brought against them in court. He showed without a doubt that all eight Anarchists had been punished by a corrupt judicial and police system that only wanted to punish and kill those who did not agree with the oppression of the people for the gains of big business.

Even in death the specter of Anarchists uniting to fight for worker's rights haunted the factory owners and politicians, 500,000 people came out for the funerals of the martyred Chicago Anarchists and their cries of outrage carried across the oceans to every corner of the world. Starting in the 1890s, all across the globe, millions of workers have taken to the streets every May Day to raise their voices and fists in memory of the men who helped to create a better world for workers of all nations and ethnicities. In a world currently racked with the pain and battles of globalization and nations of workers versus those multinational corporations that control governments and the media, it's important for everyone to remember that we are not powerless! They cannot maintain their lifestyle without our blood and labor, WE ARE POWERFUL and they are weak, or as the American WWI folk singer Joe Hill wrote in one of his most powerful songs;

Workers of the world, awaken!
Rise in all your splendid might
Take the wealth that you are making,
It belongs to you by right.
No one will for bread be crying
We'll have freedom, love and health,
When the grand red flag is flying
In the Workers Commonwealth. •

Friday, May 5, 2006 • 6PM

Fundraising/Petition turn-in dinner for all those collecting signatures to get the Alcohol-Marijuana Equalization Initiative on November's ballot. Diorio's Pizza & Subs, 1125 North Avenue, Grand Junction