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Monthly Musings from the Peas
June 1, 2012 Vol.2 * No. 6

We will be sending you our literature on a monthly basis and we will be updating our contact list. So, if you want to make any changes, additions or deletions, please contact us at whirledpeasband@gmail.com.

WEEKLY GIG

We are regulars at Catherine Rooney's in Trolley Square, Wilmington. From 7:30 until 10 we perform every Wednesday. For info or menu, directions and so on www.catherinerooneys.com

WEBSITE

We are please to present our new website. www.whirledpeasband.com Please check it out and let us know what you think. All our up-coming gigs, newsletters, merchandise and more is listed. Our next gig is at White Creek State Park, 12-noon until 4, Saturday, May 5th. The Park is located in Newark.

Just giving you the heads up...we will be performing at The Queen Upstairs 8 pm September 8th. Tickets can be pre-purchased by logging on to <http://queentickets.worldlive.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=364>

CELEBRATE THE LONGEST DAY

*Druids do it
Egyptians did it
Even Indian factions do it*

*Chinese do it
Even Whirled Peas do it*
No, none of them sing parodies of Cole

Porter lyrics....they celebrate Summer Solstice.

A solstice is a twice a year event occurring when the Sun reaches its highest position in the sky as seen from the North or South Pole. Simply put, for part of the year the Earth's North Pole points away from the Sun and part of the year towards it causing our seasons. When the North Pole points toward the Sun, the Sun's rays hit the northern half of the world more directly, meaning it's warmer and we have summer. On this longest day of the year we have about 14 1/2 hours of daylight.

Derived from Latin sol (sun) and sistere (to stand still, solstice has been celebrated by civilizations for eons as a tribute to the great power of the sun.

The Druids celebrated the day as the "wedding of Heaven and Earth." Their contribution lead to the belief that June 21 or 22 was an auspicious time to get married.

Coinciding with the start of the Nile flooding season, the Egyptians believed that the solstice was the goddess Isis shedding tears of mourning for her dead husband, Osiris, causing the river to rise and nourish the Nile Valley.

The Sioux wearing symbolic colors performed ceremonial sun dances around a tree. It is believed that Wyoming's Bighorn medicine wheel was an arrangement of stones built hundreds of years ago by the Plains Indians. The wheel aligns with the solstice sunrise and sunset hence it became the culture's site for the annual sun dance.

The Chinese celebration on the summer solstice honored the Earth, femininity and the force, Yin. Conversely, the winter solstice was devoted to the heavens, masculinity and the Yang.

The Peas will perform at the Community Arts Building in Wallingford June 22 at 8.

PEAS PONDERING

Whatever is dreamed on this night, will come to pass.
William Shakespeare, from *A Mid-Summernight's Dream*