

Rabbitstick – Session 36

Primitive Skills Conference - It's Time To Gather !

September 15-21, 2024

Summer Staff Letter

We hope this letter finds everyone well and making their way through Summer Solstice. For us, it used to be that we could relax for a few weeks after Rabbitstick was over, and then start planning for Winter Count – in those days Winter Count was the first event of the year and Rabbitstick the last. Well, things have definitely changed since then. Now we can say that the hosts of Winter Count have the distinction of kicking off a whole season of events that last the entire year. This fact has sort of lulled us to sleep this year, because that yearning to see everyone again in the fall has been a bit dulled by so many events going all spring and summer. So, we're a bit late in getting staff information out....we've been seeing friends all summer long.

This marks our 36th year for hosting Rabbitstick here in Idaho. It has been a privilege and honor to host so many fine teachers and get to know many of you as close friends and family. Some of you have been with us since the start, and others have been teaching for more than 10, 20 or even 30 years. That just shows you how much passion you all have for what you have to share, and the love you have for both the people and the skills. You are amazing.

With the increase in events, more and more teachers are coming up through the ranks. We will always hold space for those who have made Rabbitstick a success, but we also try to provide a place for those who show exceptional skill in their teaching and craft. It's an exciting process to be a part of.

Registration has been open since February and people have been signing-up at a reasonably steady rate. We traditionally opened in February after we were done with Winter Count. Lately we have held off to allow spring/summer events to fill. That doesn't seem to be a problem anymore as registrations fill so fast. Rabbitstick has always attracted a fairly wide audience requiring people to plan well in advance for travel. Last year we had travelers from all corners of the US plus Camp Europe consisting of guests from Netherlands, Slovenia, Norway, Germany, England, Spain and Australia.

So, to kick off this year's season, we have included a link to the amazing photos that Reza assembled from Rabbitstick 35. There are also links to a couple of nice videos that were shared with us. This should get you in the mood for dusting off your camping gear, prepping materials and getting ready for classes, or going into the field to test the skill you have developed in a very real way.

However this letter finds, we wish well and all the best for this coming year.

David and Paula Wescott

And the Backtracks Crew

Photo Gallery:

<https://rezaallahbakhshi.smugmug.com/Rabbitstick-2023/n-CFLx8n>

Participant Videos:

From Harold Carey - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=knpRKvxd2QI&t=125s>

From Aaron Webster <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xfxcX0gpRLs&t=107s>