

★ ★ SPECIAL ★ ★

IMAGINARY ISSUE

Stick an acorn  in your ear.

THE AMERICAN DRUID MONITOR

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Imaginary Roots Dug Up

by Druid Tim, Math Teacher

Off the Cartesian Plane -- Ancient Irish mythology has dug up the answer to the riddle of the Imaginary Root, which has baffled so long lots of students, and some teachers.

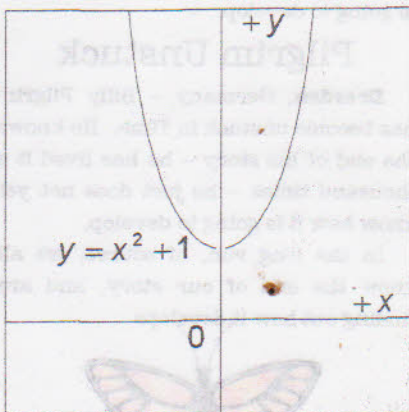
The problem is: What is $\sqrt{-1}$? Since $1^2 = 1$, and $(-1)^2 = 1$, the solution to $\sqrt{-1}$ cannot be the Real Numbers ± 1 . Since no Real Number can be the answer, mathematicians invented the Imaginary Number: i . The $\sqrt{-1} = \pm i$.

Imaginary Numbers can be used with any Negative radicans: $\sqrt{-4} = \pm 2i$, and $\sqrt{-3} = \pm \sqrt{3}i$. They can be the solution to quadratic equations: If $x^2 + 1 = 0$, then $x = \pm i$.

Quadratics can even have solutions that are both Real and Imaginary. If $x^2 - 2x + 2 = 0$, then $x = 1 \pm i$.

The trouble comes in graphing. To solve a quadratic equation by graphing one sees where the graph crosses the x -axis when $y = 0$. Even though we know the solution is $x = \pm i$, in the graph it does not cross the x -axis.

The answer comes from Old Celtic tales. It crosses the x -axis in the Otherworld, the realm of Ireland's Old gods, of Poets' dreams, of Past loved ones, of friends as yet unmet, and All that Fancy paints as fair.



Transcendental Meditation

Little Tokyo -- The Ovate Society will meet on Tuesday, under the Trees, between the Old Buddhist Temple and the Temporary Contemporary Museum of Art, to contemplate Numbers such as e , π , and, of course, $\sqrt{3}$.

***No human sacrifices!**

Otherworld News

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Escaped Slave Sighted

Along the Mississippi -- The escaped slave Jim was seen floating down the River with Huckleberry Finn. More on this story on the next page.

Obi-Wan Kenobi Takes Padwa

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away -- Anakin Skywalker will be trained in the ways of the Jedi. More on this story in the next Episode.

We all know this is not going to turn out well, we just do not yet know how it is going to develop.

Pilgrim Unstuck

Dresden, Germany -- Billy Pilgrim has become unstuck in Time. He knows the end of his story -- he has lived it a thousand times -- he just does not yet know how it is going to develop.

In the long run, of course, we all know the end of our story, and are finding out how it develops.



A butterfly dreamt last Night that he was a philosopher dreaming he was a butterfly.

Dr. Who Too Young?

BBC -- The Time Lord who kept getting reborn younger each Time he was killed has finally left the airwaves of Britain, after a very long Time.

Prehistoric Druids in that Land were known as "Time Lords." Was Dr. Who really one actor who kept getting younger, or an archetype who always played the same role, like Druids of Old?

One Ring Destroyed

Mordor -- Gandalf the White threw the One Ring into the Cracks of Doom. Is he really the same person as Gandalf the Gray, or different people who are the same archetype?

Is he really only a wizard, or is he a Druid too?

Terrapin Station

by Hunter & Garcia

Let my inspiration flow
In token rhyme suggesting rhythm,
That will not forsake me,
Till my tale is told and done.
While the firelight's aglow,
Strange shadows from the flames will grow
Till things we've never seen will seem familiar
...

The Storyteller makes no choice
Soon you will not hear his voice
His job is to shed Light & not to master.
Since the End is never told
We pay the teller off in gold
In the hopes he will come back
But he cannot be bought or sold.

***No human sacrifices!**