



BAY AREA PAGAN ACTIVITIES AND NEWS

BAPAN

BAPA's Mission is to serve the Pagan community as an information resource and to facilitate the practice of Pagan Spirituality.

LAMMAS 2003

BAPA NEWS

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

At our membership meeting on June 29 the following new board members were elected: Joan Carroll, Earl Young, Irene Young, and Mark Iennaco. A warm welcome to each of you! Outgoing board members are Denise Rogers and Michael Dilts, to whom we extend our heartfelt thank. The board will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer at the next board meeting.

NEXT GAIA'S GATEWAY

**Planetary Influences
with Janet Bowman Johnson
Sunday, August 31, 6:00 - 9:00 PM**

Janet will discuss how the planets affect all aspects of our lives. She will provide pointers for determining the best times to perform a ritual based on the position of the planets.

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LAMMAS/LUGHNASADH EVENTS

- Saturday, August 2, Noon
Lughnasadh Celebration
Reclaiming, San Francisco. Bring food or drink to share. Information: <http://reclaiming.org/rituals/sf.html>.
- Saturday, August 2
Wiccan Lammas Ritual
South Bay Circles, Palo Alto.
Call 408-265-5180 or 408-730-9622
- Sunday, August 3
Lammas/Lughnasadh Ritual
Community Seed, Santa Cruz. Information: Michael@communityseed.org.
- Sunday, August 3
Lughnasadh Celebration
Reclaiming, Sebastopol
Information: 707-433-3133,
pegasus@saber.net or visit
<http://www.reclaiming.org/rituals/>

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GAIA'S GATEWAY

Gaia's Gateway is a monthly open ritual featuring a different Pagan tradition each month. Each Gateway begins with an informative talk, and both the talk and the ritual are led by practitioners of the religion presented. We request a \$5.00 donation from non-members. Gateways are held on the last Sunday of the month from 6pm-9pm in the Fireside Room at the Palo Alto Unitarian Universalist Church (PAUUC, 505 East Charleston Road).

Directions: from Hwy 101, take the San Antonio Road exit West. Turn right on East Charleston. The building is about a mile down on the right-hand side of the road. As soon as you cross Middlefield Road, start looking for the church entrance on your right.

Upcoming Gateways

- Sunday, September 28; 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Bellydance Mini-Workshop
with Shelpa
- Sunday, October 26; 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Samhain Ritual
with Penumbra
- Sunday, November 30; 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Traditional Non-Wiccan Witchcraft
with Tempest

BAPA Library

The BAPA library, affectionately known as Athena's Archives, is a lending and exchange library which includes books, videos, cassettes, and tarot decks. Items may be checked out or donated at the monthly Gateway meetings.

STANDING STONES

Bedrock groups of Bay Area Paganism which offer public rituals, networking opportunities, and/or classes.

Organizations:

- Bay Area Pagan Assemblies, Palo Alto, 408-559-4242, //www.bapa.net
- Circle of Heart's Delight, a chapter of CUUPS, 408-292-3858
- Community Seed, Santa Cruz, 831-469-0336, //www.communityseed.org
- Covenant of the Goddess, Bay Area, 415-820-1500
- Full Circle Events, Santa Clara, 408-224-4625, //www.fullcircleevents.org
- Lilith Institute, 650-345-5449, //www.lilithinstitute.com
- New Reformed Order of the Golden Dawn, Berkeley, 520-521-1040, //www.nroogd.org
- Pagan Interest Circle, San Francisco, a chapter of CUUPS, 415-476-5117 (Carlowe), 415-242-1608 (Nancy), //cuups.org/
- Phases, San Francisco, 415-468-5466, //www.phases.org
- Reclaiming, San Francisco, 415-256-1766, //reclaiming.org
- South Bay Circles, Palo Alto, 408-265-5180 (Bianca), 408-730-9622 (Bill), //members.aol.com/wabaldwin/sbc

LAMMAS ACTIVITIES

Lammas Incense

What you need:

Frankincense Resin
Hops (or Sandalwood and a few drops of beer)
Apple Blossoms
Blackberry Leaves

Directions:

Combine 2 parts of Frankincense, 1 part Hops, 1 part Apple Blossoms and 1 part dried Blackberry Leaves and grind into a powder. Burn on a charcoal tablet during your Lammas observance.

[From Kate West, *Real Witch's Kitchen*]

Did You Know...

Lammas is the name of a Roman Catholic Feast Day celebrated on August 1 in commemoration of St. Peter's escape from prison.

Lammas is also the English name of an ancient harvest festival, also celebrated on August 1, during which the bread baked from the season's first grain was consecrated.

The Anglo-Saxon name of Lammas was "Hlafmaesse" or 'Loaf-mass,' the Catholic mass at which loaves were blessed.

In Ireland, August 1 is Lughnasadh, originally the festival of the pagan Celtic god Lugh. Lugh is one of the few gods known throughout the Celtic world. In Welsh he was called Llew, in Gaulish he was known as Lugos. Many cities and towns (including London and Lyons) still bear his name. In Irish tradition he was known as "Samildanach," 'the one skilled in all the arts.' He was the patron of artisans and merchants.

Ritual Corn Bread

What you need:

2 cups Flour
2 cups Cornmeal
1 tbs. Baking Powder
1 tsp. Salt
3 tbs. Sugar
4 large Eggs
2 cups Buttermilk (or 1 cup Yogurt & 1 cup Milk)
1/2 cup Corn Oil
1 cup Corn Kernels

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350° F. Mix Flour, Cornmeal, Baking Powder, Salt and Sugar in a small bowl. Beat Eggs in a larger bowl. Whisk Buttermilk, Oil, and Corn Kernels into beaten Eggs and add to dry ingredients, stirring just until combined.

Pour mixture into a pie crust, an 11 X 8 inch baking dish or 2 well-buttered pie tins. Bake 1 hour or until a knife comes out clean. Remove and cool on a wire rack.

Offer one fourth of last year's loaf at dawn on Lammas. Let the birds, rabbits and squirrels feast on your offering. Later in the day, bake a new loaf. Place a candle in the middle of it and eat it in your Lammas circle when you share cakes and wine. Save one fourth of the loaf for next year's offering.

[From Jamie Wood, *Wicca Cookbook*]

Bread is known as the staff of life. It brings to us all the elements of nature. Bread combines the gifts of the Earth (flour), Water, a purifying ingredient (salt) and through Air, the yeast provides the catalyst to rise the bread. Fire is used to bake the bread, thus intermingling all the ancient, basic ingredients of life into bread.

[Jamie Wood]

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 3, September 7 - Drumming Circle - Montara

ShamanMoon hosts an open drumming circle from 5-8pm, preceded by potluck snacks from 4-5pm. Anyone is welcome; no previous experience is necessary. Children are welcome, if they are able to lie still during the journey. Bring a journal, pen, water bottle, pillow, blanket and any drums or rattles if you have them. The purpose of this circle is to connect with our Power Animals and Spirit Guides on a regular basis, and to come together as a community. Information: 650-728-1407, Laura@shamanmoon.org or visit <http://www.shamanmoon.org/pages/2/index.htm>

August 3, 17, 31 – Learn to read Hieroglyphs – San Jose

Learn to read Hieroglyphs at the Rosicrucian Museum in San Jose from 2-3pm. This is a single, repeating one-hour workshop that will introduce the novice to symbols and meaning, numbering system, calendar-dating system ancient names, and museum gallery search for hieroglyphs. At the conclusion of the workshop a visit to one of the museum galleries will be available for those who wish to find hieroglyphs relating to workshop material. Free with Museum admission. Information: 408-947-3635, info@rosicrucian.org, or visit <http://www.egyptianmuseum.org/calendar/index.html>.

August 7– Tarot In-Depth Class – Los Gatos

Lisa Dale Miller will be teaching Ongoing Tarot In-Depth classes from 7-9pm at Inner Journey, 222 N. Santa Cruz Ave. Prerequisite: Beginning Tarot or equivalent knowledge of basic card meanings. Lisa teaches with the Rider Waite Tarot Deck. No Pre-registration necessary. Cost: \$25.00 per class. Information: Lisa at 408-206-2518, astrotarot@earthlink.net, or visit <http://www.astrowisdom.com/classes.htm>.

August 7-10 – Firedance! – Santa Cruz

Join us for the fourth annual Firedance Festival in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains. Create a sacred place for deep play. Explore ancient and modern mysteries. Workshops on drumming, dance and magic. Community Rituals. At night we drum and dance the fire circle until the rising of the sun, connecting with the magic of the fire, spirit, and each other. Meal plan available. Cost: \$140 earliest - \$245 onsite; Meal plan \$80. Information: 1-866-436-4420, info@firedance.org, or visit <http://www.firedance.org>

August 8 – Women’s Circle – San Jose

Luna Circa is an eclectic women's circle that has been meeting in the San Jose area since 1987. Every month on the second Friday after the new moon, we gather at 7:30 and circle from 8pm until late, with members taking charge of rituals on a voluntary rotational basis. For location and other information: lunacirca@yahoo.com, or visit <http://pagan.drak.net/lunacirca>

August 9, 10 - Pittsburg Renaissance Festival - Pittsburg

Pittsburg Renaissance Festival - Scottish Renaissance at Buchanan Park. Cost: Free. Information: 925-228-9874, richhills1@earthlink.net or visit <http://www.angelfire.com/realms2/hrp/PSRF/index.html>.

August 9, 10 - Motherpeace Astrology Course - Corralitos

Vicki Noble invites men and women to come together at her Forest Retreat House for 2 days from 10am - 5pm to learn and practice astrology in the unique form she has developed using the Motherpeace tarot cards as a visual support for understanding and interpreting the charts. Please R.S.V.P. to this email address, and send your deposit check and your birth data (time, place, date of birth) to P.O. Box 1558, Freedom, CA 95019. Directions emailed on request. Cost: \$100 per day (send deposit to hold your space) \$175 for both days (if registered in advance). Information: vnoble1@earthlink.net or visit www.motherpeace.com.

August 9, 23 – Ancient Cosmetics Workshop – San Jose

Ancient Cosmetics Workshops are being offered at the Rosicrucian museum on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month, from 1:30-2:30pm. "Necessary Luxuries" -- Ancient Egyptian Cosmetics, Perfumes, and Incense is a hands-on and noses-on talk about scents and hygiene in the land of the Nile with our docent Kim Sanders. Free with Museum admission. Donation encouraged. Information: 408-947-3635, info@rosicrucian.org, or visit <http://www.egyptianmuseum.org/calendar/index.html>

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 12, 26 - Tarot Tuesdays at Ancient Ways - Oakland

Ancient Ways, 4075 Telegraph Ave, hosts Tarot Tuesdays with Thalassa from 7-9pm. This is a different approach to Tarot, covering history and lore, Major, Minor and Court Cards, and reading techniques. Cost: sliding scale. Information: 510-653-3248, airndarkness@yahoo.com, or visit www.ancientways.com

August 14 - Lammas-tide Tarot Tea Party - Oakland

Ancient Ways, 4075 Telegraph Ave, hosts Tarot Tea Party with Thalassa, from 1-5pm. Sip tea, munch bikkies and take in a lecture by Madama Thalassa on the glamour, mystery and uses of the Tarot. Cost: \$5 to 10, sliding scale. Information: 510-653-3244, store@ancientways.com, or visit <http://www.ancientways.com/html/events.html>

August 16 - Full Moon Service - San Francisco

The Pagan Interest Circle (a chapter of the Covenant of the Unitarian Universalist Pagans; CUUPS) hosts monthly services at 7:00 PM on the Saturday closest to the full moon at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, located at 1187 Franklin at Geary. Gather to celebrate the changing phases of the moon and of our lives. Information: Carlowe at 415-476-5117, or Nancy at 415-242-1608, visit <http://cuups.org/>, or write to PICt 1446 46th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122-2903.

August 18 - Toltec Wisdom; Recapitulation - Berkeley

The Toltec Center of Creative Intent, located at 2300 Roosevelt at Bancroft, hosts open classes from 7-8:30pm. Learn powerful tools to transform all areas of your life, from work to relationships, health to abundance. This class focuses on recapitulation, a dynamic way to reclaim and increase your energy. Cost: \$15. Information: 510-649-0352, info@spiritweavers.com, or visit <http://www.spiritweavers.com>

August 30, 31 - Scottish Highland Gathering and Games - Pleasanton

The Caledonian Club of San Francisco will hold their 138th Annual Scottish Gathering and Games over the Labor Day weekend at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Cost: \$12, seniors and children \$8, under 8 free. Information: 800-713-3160, macdonald@attbi.com or visit <http://www.caledonian.org/>

August 31 - Women's Sweat Lodge Ceremony - Boulder Creek

Char Lynn will host a Sweat Lodge Ceremony for Women; Fire at 1pm, Lodge at 4pm. The intention is to create a safe, sacred space for healing, and to honor each person's process. Plan to arrive 30 minutes early. Help before the Lodge is appreciated. Potluck follows (nutritious foods please). Cost: The suggested minimum donation is \$20; work exchanges are available. Information: 831-338-2996 or MtnChar7@aol.com

September 6 – Pagan Pride Day Harvest Festival – Modesto

AMG and Modesto Area Pagans present the Modesto Pagan Pride Day Harvest Festival from 10:00am-8:00pm at the American Legion Hall and Park, 1021 South Santa Cruz Ave. There will be authors, entertainers, vendors, rituals, drum circles, lectures, raffles, radio remotes, games, bands, and more lined up for your enjoyment. Cost: free with your canned food donation. The Modesto Pagan Pride Event is a Not-For-Profit event. Monies raised over and above the cost of the event are donated to local charities. Information: Kim or Chris at 209-549-1727 or visit <http://www.AUPagans.com> or <http://www.whisperedprayers.com/ModestoPPD.html>.

September 10 thru 14 - Goddess 3K in 2003 - La Honda

The Women's Spirituality Forum presents this series of festivals to educate and empower women through feminine spirituality. Events include workshops, rituals, crafts, divination, music and performances. Cost: \$400 before 3/31, \$450 after 4/1; all lodging, food and activities are included. Information: 510-444-7724, contact@goddess3k.com or visit <http://www.goddess3k.com>.

September 13 - Pagan Pride Day - San Francisco

Come join us at Speedway Meadows, Golden Gate Park. This is a clean and sober event. A non-perishable food or pet supply donation is requested at the gate. More details TBA as plans progress. Information: <http://www.sfbayareapaganpride.org/>