



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.

Imbolc 2004

ON-LINE PAGAN CALENDARS

For current and up-to-date local Pagan events listings, visit:

<http://www.fullcircleevents.org/calendar/>

Full Circle Events (FCE) – Greater SF Bay Area and vicinity

<http://bapa.net/cgi-bin/calendar.pl>

Bay Area Pagan Assemblies – Greater SF Bay Area and Santa Cruz

<http://www.cyprian.org/Index/Events.html>

The Index – Big Sur to Sacramento and all points in-between

<http://www.communityseed.org/cgi-bin/calendar/calendar.pl?calendar=default>

Community Seed – Santa Cruz and South Bay Area

http://www.witchvox.com/wotw/events/california_e.html

Witches Voice – California and global listings

All these calendars allow anyone to submit their events, pending moderator approval.

On-Line Calendars - 1
Mini Book Reviews - 1
Gaia's Gateway - 2
Upcoming Events - 3

MINI BOOK REVIEWS

by Michael Dilts

It is a time-honored tradition in pagan rituals to “steal from the best.” These recently-released Books of Shadows provide some interesting ideas for alternative approaches to monthly and seasonal observances.

Grimoire for Green Witchcraft **Anne Moura (Llewellyn: 2003)**

According to the author, this is a facsimile of her own private Book of Shadows. It is intended for devotees of the “Green tradition” introduced in her previous books who have not started their own personal journals or for experienced practitioners who need a clean copy of a valid grimoire. The book provides a review of terms and symbols, a calendar of sabbats and other observances, and outline of basic circle casting and opening.

Continued on Page 2

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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, February 29; 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Chaos Magick with David Barron
David will cover the following topics:
* Chaos Magick; The Magickal Meta-Paradigm * Chaos Magick Theory; The theory behind the workings * Eight types of Magick * Sigil Magick; How to do magick on the run * Gnosis; The key to Chaos Magick. A few brief Chaos Magic rituals will be demonstrated and anyone is welcome to participate.

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.

Book Reviews, Continued from Page 1

suggested formats for esbat rituals at full, new and dark moons, and sabbat rituals for the eight primary holidays along with ideas for related activities. There are also recitations and rituals for initiation, dedication, consecration, handfasting, naming and passing over to summerland. The author has also included a useful reference section for crafting one's own spells, along with recipes for teas, oils and baths. "Think not that any secrets have been given away or that any oaths have been violated, for nature has no secrets, but is open and free to any who have the will to explore, listen, observe and learn."

A Wiccan Bible

A.J. Drew (New Page Books: 2003)

In his most ambitious work yet, the author of "Wicca for Men" applies his no-nonsense neo-pagan approach to the creation of a complete "sacred text" based on his rather idiosyncratic tradition. Drew's bible is organized in three sections. The first covers birth, wiccaning, self-dedication, the basic ideas of the Wiccan religion and the lore of plants. The second section is dedicated to initiation into a community, be it coven or household, the sabbats, the development of the Wiccan soul and the lore of animals. In the third section Drew introduces what he calls the global community of Witches, attempting to correlate Wiccan beliefs with cross-cultural mythology. He also discusses the final stage of development of the wiccan soul: combining mind and soul to yield spirit. The associated lore is in this case the "Book of Humanity." An interesting collection of material which includes information on many obscure pagan customs and festivals from ancient times. However, as indicated by his pseudo-Latin chapter headings, Drew's pretensions are not always matched by his learning.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bay Area Pagan Assemblies (BAPA) does not support or sponsor any of these events or contacts unless specifically stated. Please use your own discretion when attending these events or connecting with people you do not already know. This list is intended as an information resource only, and is non-promotional.

January 31 - Celebrate Brigid With NROOGD - Berkeley

Come join NROOGD for an evening of ritual, poetry and song in honor of Brigid, Irish goddess of poetry, smithcraft and healing at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar Street, at Bonita Avenue. Gather at 6:30pm; Ritual at 7:00pm. Suggested offering: bring a poem or song for the Bardic, preferably an original piece. Map: <http://www.nroogd.org/maps/liveoakpark.gif>. Cost: \$10-20 donation per adult is requested. Information: Beki at 925-944-3429 or Rebekah.L.Filipello@wellsfargo.com.

January 31 - Animal Wisdom: Shamanic Drumming Circle (Women only) - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts Animal Wisdom: Shamanic Drumming Circle for women from 7:00-9:00pm. Connecting with the wisdom of the animals through drumming, rattling, guided meditation and song, we can receive guidance on living in our own animal bodies. Laurie Bates, MA, MFT, Teacher: Living With Animal Wisdom, teaches cross-cultural shamanic practices for healing, guidance and empowerment through connecting with the wisdom of the animals. Cost: \$15-20; sliding scale. Information: Laurie at 510-528-0304, Animalway@aol.com or visit www.animalway.com.

February 1 - Tarot Playgroup (Women only) - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave., hosts a Tarot Playgroup for women from 11am - 1:00pm on the first Sunday of every month. Bring your favorite deck, runes or fortune-telling tool, and we'll do readings for each other. Cost: Free. Information: 510-655-2405, ChangeMakers13@aol.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

February 2 - Healing Circle - Berkeley

The Toltec Center of Creative Intent, 2300 Roosevelt at Bancroft, hosts a Healing Circle from 7:00 - 9:00pm on the first Monday of every month. This community gathering is an opportunity to share, explore, give and receive healing energy. Cost: Free; No need to pre-register. Donations welcome. Information: 510-649-0352, info@spiritweavers.com, or visit <http://www.spiritweavers.com>.

February 3 – Open Gathering – Berkeley

Fellowship of the Spiral Path (SPIRAL) offers ongoing classes and teaching circles, open rituals and clergy services for men and women on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm at the Berkeley Unitarian Universalist Church, corner of Cedar and Bonita Streets. Information: Diana at 510-658-6033 or 707-558-8564.

February 4 - Pagan Pub Moot - Sacramento

Join us for non-tradition-specific discussion and socializing on the first Wednesday of every month at the True Love Coffeehouse, located at 2406 J Street, from 7:30-10:00pm. If you're new in town, new to Paganism, or looking for people of like mind, come to make contacts, learn about issues and have fun.

February 5 - Full Moon Gathering (Women only) - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave., hosts a Full Moon Gathering for women from 7:00 - 9:30pm. All women and girls are invited to share an evening of nourishment and sisterhood. Please bring drums, rattles and potluck dish to share. Moon Attire encouraged but not required. We can manifest our dreams together. Cost: Free. Information: 510-655-2405, ChangeMakers13@aol.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

February 5 – Pronaos Ritual – Aptos

Pronaos Ritual Work, with Artisans of Light, on the first Thursday of every month at 8pm. Pronaos is a unique and powerful opportunity to participate in ritual, the language of the Soul. Pronaos awakens our consciousness to a variety of meanings for the symbols we study and helps us apply universal principles in our daily lives. The ritual brings to our awareness the poignant bond we enjoy with the Inner School, with each other, and with our own Inner Self. Information: artisan@thegrid.net.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 6 - Womansong Circle - Berkeley

Betsy Rose invites you to Womansong Circles: participatory singing for peace, healing, joy and transformation on the 1st Friday of each month at Starr King School, 2441 Le Conte (Near Euclid and Scenic). Potluck at 6:30pm - Singing from 7:15-9:30pm. Drop-ins are welcome. Come sing, and experience your voice as a sacred and joyful instrument to awaken body, mind and spirit, and bring healing and renewed power to the wider world. Cost: \$8 donation requested to cover basic event costs. No one turned away for lack of funds. Information: 510-525-7082, betsy@betsyrosemusic.org or visit www.betsyrosemusic.org.

February 6 – Rune Class – Berkeley

Rune Classes are being offered on the first Friday of every month with Hammer Oak Kindred at 7:30pm. Two to three runes of the elder futhark will be studied in each class. It's part lecture, part discussion and almost always there is an activity relating to the rune. A donation between \$2-\$5 is requested to pay for the room rental, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Information: Eric at eric@iconoclast.net.

February 7 – Open Meeting – Modesto

Open congregation meetings with Fellowship of the Earth take place the first Saturday of every month at 3 PM at the Universal Life Church. Information: fote@partytown.com.

February 7 - Energy Walk - Santa Cruz

Community Seed sponsors Energy Walks on the first Saturday of each month at various locations in the Santa Cruz area. What better way to start your day, or end your week than a meditative walk through the forest? Each walk includes a guided visualization/meditation to help center and become more aware of our bodies and of the earth. Once we are all fully present, we will begin our journey into the majestic redwood forest, all the while tuning in, listening, and absorbing the energies of the elements, plants, and animals. We will arrive at a pre-selected location to sit in silent meditation and a guided visualization. Please bring drinking water, a small snack, hiking shoes, comfortable clothes, and money for parking. Our walk is usually about 2 hours round trip with a stop for meditation half way in. Information: 831-469-0336, community_seed@mindspring.com or visit http://www.communityseed.org/CS_-_Events/Energy_Walks/energy_walks.html.

February 8 - The Shamanic Journey - Berkeley

Alaya: The Shaman Store, 1713 University Ave, will host The Shamanic Journey, a public talk by Isa Gucciardi at 4:00pm. We will explore the shamanic journey, the primary vehicle the shaman uses to engage with aspects of non-ordinary reality. We will compare its uses in traditional contexts and explore how it can be used in a modern counseling context as well as in one's journeying practice. Cost: \$5-20, suggested donation. Information: 415-333-1434, isa@sacredstream.org or visit <http://www.sacredstream.org/class-shamanstore.shtml>

February 8 – Open Circle – Santa Cruz

Community Seed invites you to an open ritual at The Unity Temple of Santa Cruz, 407 Broadway, from 2:00-4:30pm on the second Sunday of every month. We recognize and honor both the male and female aspects of deity, call elemental guardians, cast circle, and make magic together for the good of all. Cost: small sliding scale donation to cover the costs of the hall rental (\$4-10). Information: 831-469-0336, community_seed@mindspring.com

February 8 – Ritual and Potluck Social for Families – East Bay

Scarlet Cord (A member of the Fellowship of the Spiral Path) hosts a brief ritual followed by a potluck and social for families with young children beginning at 11:00am. These are regular gatherings held on the second Sunday of every month. Information: Mary at 510-526-1008.

February 8 – Women's Healing Circle – San Francisco

A Women's Healing Circle is held every second Sunday. Guided meditation, chanting, toning and drumming are used to call in the spirit healers to assist women in need of healing. Information: Lupa at 510-601-1428 or Nancy at 510-839-5292. "All healing is self-healing."

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 8 – Irish Music Session and Traditional Song Circle – Aptos

Gather every second Sunday from 6:00-10:00pm at Britannia Arms, 8017 Soquel Drive. All singers and instrumentalists are welcome. Information: Jessica at 831-335-7696, or Sheila at 831-464-2128. Sponsored by the Celtic Society of Monterey Bay.

February 9, 26 - The Four Agreements Wisdom Group - Berkeley

The Toltec Center of Creative Intent, 2300 Roosevelt at Bancroft, hosts open classes from 7:00 - 8:30pm. Are you truly the artist of your own life? We all have the opportunity to align ourselves with our highest possible potential, and move beyond our old fear-based patterns and actions. Based on teachings by don Miguel Ruiz, author of The Four Agreements. Cost: \$15. Information: 510-649-0352, info@spiritweavers.com, or visit <http://www.spiritweavers.com>.

February 11 – Open Circle – Berkeley

Hrafnar kindred hosts heathen events and rituals on the second Wednesday of every month, starting at 7:30pm. Open to both men and women, this is a potluck, and contributions of food and drink are welcome. Most meetings are open, but newcomers should contact Hrafnar Circle first to confirm. Information: Diana L. Paxson, Box 5521, Berkeley, CA 94705, greyhavn@earthlink.net, or visit www.hrafnar.org.

February 11 - Pagan Meetup - San Jose Area

Meet up with other local Pagans, Wiccans, Druids, all walks of pagan life - exchange lore, legends and learning at a vote-determined location near San Jose on the second Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Visit <http://pagan.meetup.com/> to sign up, and Meetup.

February 13 - Ceili (evening of Irish group dancing) - Felton

Comhaltas sponsors a Ceili on the second Friday of each month at the Felton Community Hall located at 6191 Highway 9. From 7:40-8:00pm learn the basic steps, then from 8:00-10:30pm enjoy live music and dancing (all dances are taught first). No partners are necessary, and beginners of all ages are most welcome. Cost: \$10 adult; children are free. Information: <http://www.folkplanet.com/cce/index.html>.

February 13 – Open Ritual – San Jose

Circle of Heart's Delight, a chapter of the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS), offers rituals at 7:45pm on the second Friday of each month. These are held in the beautiful round sanctuary of the First Unitarian Church of San Jose located at 160 N. 3rd St. Information: moonlet@dsl designs.net, or call the church at 408-292-3858.

February 13-16 – PantheaCon – San Jose

Ancient Ways bookstore is sponsoring PantheaCon 2004, a Pagan gathering of workshops, lectures, performances, rituals and vendors at the Double Tree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Place. First discount ends September 15, 2003. Information: 510-653-3244, store@ancientways.com, or www.ancientways.com.

February 16 - Toltec Wisdom; Recapitulation - Berkeley

The Toltec Center of Creative Intent, 2300 Roosevelt at Bancroft, hosts open classes from 7:00 - 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>.

February 18 - Gay Witchcraft Lecture - San Francisco

A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro Street, will host a lecture and book signing with Christopher Penczak, at 7:30pm. Like the witch and shaman, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people walk between worlds, giving them a unique insight and balance of spiritual energies. In ages past, many healers and priest/tess viewed same sex unions as a part of their spiritual mystical path. Join award winning author Christopher Penczak, to discuss his latest book, Gay Witchcraft: Empowering the Tribe. Information: 415-431-0891, Torcboy@aol.com or visit <http://www.christopherpenczak.com> or <http://www.adlbooks.com>

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 19 - Sacred Feminine Book Club (Women only) - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave., hosts a Sacred Feminine Book Club for women once a month from 7:00 - 9:00pm. This time we are reading *Dakota* by Kathleen Norris. Our book club will read books involving all aspects of the Sacred Feminine, with no emphasis on any particular religion or faith. You only need to relate to the feminine as sacred to enjoy this gathering. Read the book and come. Cost: Free. Information: Julie at 510-526-6454, ChangeMakers13@aol.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

February 19 – Pagan Pizza Night – Modesto

You're invited to a Pagan Pizza Night hosted by local Pagan groups every third Thursday of the month at the Round Table Pizza, 2401 E Orangeburg in the Century Shopping center, beginning at 7pm. Join local Pagans / Wiccans / Witches and others for fun and fellowship. No hard-core "meeting" - just pizza and conversation. Fliers and information about upcoming local Pagan events will be available at most times. Each person will be required to buy his or her own food and drink if desired. Information: DragonHawk at 209-549-1727.

February 21 - Story of the Celts in Ireland - Cupertino

Michael Donnellan, PhD, presents a 5-part series of classes on The Story of the Celts in Ireland at the UCSC Extension, 10420 Bubb Rd, on Saturdays from 10:30am - 12:30pm. This course attempts to answer some intriguing questions about the Celts of Ireland, a people often associated with fairy tales, folklore and fancy jewelry. For answers, we will investigate Celtic spirituality before and after Saint Patrick. We will listen to stories of mystery and imagination in literature, as well as decipher patterns of Celtic art in metal work, manuscripts and stone crosses. Cost: \$195 (\$215 if registering after February 7). Enrollment code: EDP 033W11. Information: 831-427-6695, maza@ucsc-extension.edu or visit ucsc-extension.edu

February 21 - The Well of Wisdom: A Celtic Spiritual Journey - Santa Cruz

Mara Freeman presents, *The Well of Wisdom: A Celtic Spiritual Journey*, from 9:30am-4:30pm at The Arboretum, Horticultural Building, UCSC. Within each one of us is a well of wisdom, yet we rarely stop to drink from its waters. We live in a time that values constant action and busy-ness over contemplation and reflection. This often leads to stress and dis-ease. Celtic spirituality offers a way to access our own healing resources; to find inner peace and harmony through attending to the voice of the soul. In this healing day, we will learn these time-honored pathways through sacred stories, myths, music, and prayers, and explore; Meditations and guided imagery using powerful symbols that connect us with our "Cup of Truth": our inner stores of wisdom. Cost: \$135 (\$149 if registering after 2/7/04). Use EDP code EDP 033W27. Information: 831-427-6600 or visit <http://www.chalicecenter.com/index.html>

February 21 – Drumming Circle – Walnut Creek

Every third Saturday, Dolphin Dream hosts a drumming circle from 6:30–8:00pm (except December). Bring your drums and rattles or use theirs to beat away the stresses of the outside world and find that place within where the heartbeat dwells. Cost: Free. Information: 925-933-2342.

February 21 – Rhythm Circle – Palo Alto

Rhythm Circle usually meets on the third Saturday of each month from 6:30-7:00pm, followed by a potluck, and then a Bardic Circle into the night. For the Bardic Circle, we sit around in a circle and take turns "pick, pass, or play ". You can pick someone to do something, pass your turn, or play by singing, reciting stories or poetry, drumming etc. Bring drums, didjes, and other rhythmic instruments. If you are interested in attending, request to be put on the announcement list. For location and information: richard@imagecraft.com.

February 21 - Betwixt 'n Between Group - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave., hosts the Betwixt 'n Between Group for Women, facilitated by BodySpirit Coach Nika Quirk, from 11am-12:30pm on the third Saturday of every month. The focus of the group is Change and transitions. Yes, change is continuous because we're evolving. Share your transition stories and increase your ability to embrace ease, grace and magic while in the "space between." This group's atmosphere will be sacred and playful - a great way to spend a Saturday morning in connection, learning, and fun. Our BodySpirits will enjoy breathing, moving, using voices, the depths and whimsy of our hearts and minds,

UPCOMING EVENTS

the relief of being together. Change will be held as a whole, essential and common experience encompassing gifts, challenges, and impacts to our lives. Nika Quirk is a BodySpirit Coach, Certified InterPlay leader and life improvisation practitioner, ritual designer and leader, mother, corporate veteran, wise woman and joyful human. Cost: \$10. Information: 510-381-5350, nikaquirk@betwixtnbetween.com or visit www.betwixtnbetween.com.

February 22 - Goddess Sunday School (Women only) - Oakland

Carolyn McVickar Edwards, local author and storyteller, will host a 4-part Goddess Sunday School for women on the 4th Sundays of the month from 4:00 - 5:15pm at Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Carolyn will lead kids and big kids in ritual, craft making and storytelling. Introduce kids to the divine feminine, simple ritual and song, life-affirming connections to self, others and the Earth. Pre-registration required. Cost: \$70 per family (at least one adult and children) for series of 4 gatherings. Includes craft materials and a copy of the book *The Storyteller's Goddess*. Information: 510-482-1301, ChangeMakers13@aol.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

February 27 - Egyptian Culture Reading Seminar - Richmond Hills

Sam Webster presents a 4-part Egyptian Culture Reading Seminar meeting monthly at Academy Arkadia. Each session will be 2 hours. Our ways of understanding the Ancient Egyptians is as various as the Egyptians themselves. To come to terms with this complexity we will read three very different books on Old Khem and use them as a jumping-off point for discussion (*Her-Bak* by I. Schwaller de Lubicz; *Initiation* by E. Haich; *Ancient Evenings* by N. Mailer). Sam Webster, who studied at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, will supplement our readings with presentations on the theology, language, writing, and magick of this highly influential culture. Follow on dates to be set by attendees. Cost: \$20. Information: Sam Webster at Sam@TwilightGathering.org

February 28 - Community Tribal Gathering - Berkeley

The Toltec Center of Creative Intent, 2300 Roosevelt at Bancroft, hosts a Community Tribal Gathering at 7:00pm. This Community Circle provides an opportunity for individuals to connect with their divine and creative self as a community. The evening includes a guided meditation, chanting and ritual. Cost: Free. Information: 510-649-0352, info@spiritweavers.com, or visit <http://www.spiritweavers.com>.

February 29 – Gaia's Gateway – Chaos Magick – Palo Alto

This month's Gateway will be presented by David Barron, and will focus on Chaos Magick. David will cover the following topics: * Chaos Magick; The Magickal Meta-Paradigm * Chaos Magick Theory; The theory behind the workings * Eight types of Magick * Sigil Magick; How to do magick on the run * Gnosis; The key to Chaos Magick. A few brief Chaos Magic rituals will be demonstrated and anyone is welcome to participate. Cost: \$5 donation requested from non-members. Information: 408-559-GAIA (4242), ScoutGhst@aol.com or visit www.bapa.net.

March 1 - The Rites of Passage with Reclaiming - San Francisco

Reclaiming hosts this 6-class course, taking place on Mondays from 7:00-10:00pm. The Rites of Passage focuses on dreams, myths and language, using traditional and non-traditional tales and techniques to create a personal rite of passage. Through storytelling, trance, release work and dreams we receive our challenge(s), meet our helpers, work through our blocks and emerge renewed, reborn. This class culminates with a ritual created by the students. Cost: \$60-\$180; sliding scale. Some work trade available. Information: fern@riseup.net.

March 23 thru 26 - Women's Music Retreat - Ben Lomond

Betsy Rose, songwriter and musician, presents Time, Women and Song: A Women's Music Retreat at The Quaker Center. Meals are all vegetarian and there are cabins for sleeping. Cost: \$170 before Feb 1st, \$195 after. Information: 510-525-7082, betsy@betsyrosemusic.org or visit www.betsyrosemusic.org