



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.

LITHA 2003

BAPA NEWS

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our membership meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 29, at 6:00 PM. The meeting will take place before the June Gaia's Gateway at the Palo Alto Unitarian Universalist Church, 505 E. Charleston Road. All current members are invited to attend in order to elect new board members and to discuss other issues of importance to the organization. Please come and exercise your membership privileges!

NEXT GAIA'S GATEWAY

**Seasonal Wiccan Ritual
with Caer Logres
Sunday, June 29, 6:00 - 9:00 PM**

Caer Logres is a local Gardnerian Coven which performs traditional British-style rituals. A brief BAPA membership meeting will take place before the ritual.

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LITHA AND SOLSTICE EVENTS

- Saturday, June 21, 7:00 PM
Solstice Celebration and Music Circle
Divine Science Center, Willow Glen
Call 408-
- Saturday, June 21
Wiccan Litha Ritual
South Bay Circles, Palo Alto
Call 408-265-5180 or 408-730-9622
- Sunday, June 29, Noon - 7:00 PM
Solstice Picnic at Sanborn Park
Full Circle Events, Saratoga
<http://www.fullcircleevents.org>
- Friday, June 20, 7:00 PM
Litha Celebration at Ocean Beach
Reclaiming, San Francisco
<http://reclaiming.org/rituals/sf.html>

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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, June 29; 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Seasonal Wiccan Ritual
with Caer Logres
- Sunday, July 27; 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Shamanic Healing
with Sandy Bernstein
- Sunday, August 31; 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Planetary Influences
with Janet Bowman Johnson

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.fullciclevents.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

LITHA ACTIVITIES

Midsummer Night's Dream Pillow

What you need:

Dried Mugwort, Rosemary and Lavender
Two 4 X 4 Inch Squares of Purple Fabric
Needle and Thread

Directions:

Stitch the fabric squares together on 3 sides, leaving the fourth side open. Turn the pillow inside out and fill with herbs. Now stitch up the open side while visualizing the dreams you would like to have. Place the dream pillow under the top of your pillow case so that the scent of the herbs surrounds you as you fall asleep. As you drift off into the arms of Morpheus, repeat this chant silently:

*Mugwort, Elf Leaf bring to me
Dreams of things as they might be
From across the star-strewn sea
Fairy vision come to me!*

[Note: "Elf Leaf" is a folk name for both Lavender and Rosemary.]

Fairy Call Oil

What you need:

3 parts Bay Laurel 2 parts Mugwort
3 parts Star Anise 1 part Yarrow

Directions:

Bruise fresh herbs in a mortar. Add to virgin olive oil and leave in a dark warm spot for 3 to 4 days. Filter and place in a glass bottle. Apply to your eyelids on the solstice and you will see fairies!

[Note: Although or perhaps because of the fact that the night of the Solstice is the shortest of the year, it provides one of the best opportunities for observing fairies.]

*Over hill, over dale,
Through bush, through brier,
Over park, over pale,
Through flood, through fire
I do wander everywhere
Swifter than the moon's sphere...*

[W. Shakespeare]

Midsummer Mead

What you need:

1 gal. water
12 oz. fruit juice (strawberry or pineapple)
2 tsp. cinnamon
2 1/2 lbs. honey
1 sprig saffron
2 tsp. powdered ginger
5 whole cloves
2 capfuls of rosewater
1/2 cake yeast

Directions:

Bring water to a slow boil with cinnamon, saffron, ginger, cloves, and rosewater. Add honey until dissolved, then add fruit juice. Cover and boil for 15 minutes. Cool to lukewarm. Dissolve yeast in warm water and add. Cover with a towel for 2 days before straining and bottling. You may need to air mixture periodically. To eliminate the need for airing, a fermentation lock may be purchased from a home-brewing supply store.

[From Laurie Cabot's *Celebrating the Earth*]

Solstice Herb Bread

What you need:

3 C. flour 1 tsp. salt
1 Tbs. sugar 1 pkg. dry active yeast
2 Tbs. chopped fresh chives
2 tsp. chopped fresh rosemary
1 tsp. fresh thyme
1 1/4 C. hot water 2 Tbs. Crisco

Directions:

Mix 2 cups of the flour, sugar, salt and yeast in a large bowl. Add herbs, water, and Crisco. Beat slowly, stirring in remaining cup of flour until smooth. Scrape batter from sides of bowl and let rise in a warm place for 35 minutes or until it doubles in bulk. Punch down and beat with a spoon for about 15 seconds. Place dough in a greased loaf pan, patting down and forming a loaf shape with your hands. Cover and let rise again for about 30 minutes or until it again doubles in bulk. Bake at 375 for 40-45 minutes. Brush top with butter or margarine and remove from pan to cool.

[From Laurie Cabot's *Celebrating the Earth*]

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 27 - Sweat Lodge Ceremony - Boulder Creek

Char Lynn will host a Community Lodge, open to all men, women and children; 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

June 28 - The Shape of Magick - Richmond

Academy Arkadia hosts The Shape of Magick. Sacred geometry is not an intellectual exercise but a practical approach to magick transcendent of the human or even organic realms. Starting with the first and most perfect shape, the sphere, as the Soul and subjectively as the 'sphere of sensation,' we learn to experience the world in its most fundamental manner. Then, shape by shape, we (re-) construct the Cosmos, learning the secret of the Demiurge and unlock the seals of creativity. Tuition: \$10. Information: Sam@TwilightGathering.org or visit <http://www.concrescent.net/>

June 29 – Gaia's Gateway – Gardnerian Ritual – Palo Alto

BAPA sponsors Gaia's Gateway, an open public ritual featuring a different Pagan tradition each month. Gateways are held from 6-8:30pm at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church located at 505 E. Charleston Rd. Each Gateway begins with an informative talk, and both the talk and the ritual are led by the practitioners of the religion presented. This month's Gateway will be a seasonal Wiccan ritual hosted by Caer Logres, a local Gardnerian Coven that performs traditional British-style rituals. Cost: \$5 donation requested from non-members. Information: 408-559-GAIA (4242), or visit www.bapa.net

July 11 – 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>

July 12 - 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. Stay after the service to share a light potluck, and a time to socialize, strengthening our ties as a community. Each rite is open to all generations and spiritual paths. 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.

July 12 thru August 10 - Heart of the Forest Renaissance Faire - Novato

Stafford Lake Park, Marin County, will become an authentic re-creation of a summertime English Market Faire during the golden age of Elizabeth I and William Shakespeare for 5 weekends from 11am-7pm. A true theatrical happening where you will discover one-of-a-kind handcrafts, delectable food and drink, engaging entertainments, and the age-old spirit of the Renaissance.

The Heart of the Forest Renaissance Faire is produced by As You Like It Productions, a Theme Events Ltd. Company. Directors Kevin and Leslie Patterson are carrying on the tradition of Ron and Phyllis Patterson, originators of the Renaissance Faire concept in America, originally held at Blackpoint forest for 30 years. Parking fee is included in the ticket price; arrive early for the best parking. Cost: Advance tickets are \$16.00 for adults (save \$4.00 per ticket) and \$6.00 for children. Prices at the box office are \$20.00 for adults, \$17.00 for students, seniors, and military (with ID), and \$8.00 for children 5-11 (children under 5 are free). Group tickets are \$12.00-15.00 for groups of 15 or more. Season Passes: Adult \$50.00, Child \$20.00 Information: 415-897-4555, info@themeevents.com or visit <http://www.forestfaire.com/marin/main-mc.html>.

July 13 - Drumming Circle - Montara

UPCOMING EVENTS

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. People are welcome to volunteer to "put on" the circle each month for the group. This includes planning a journey topic, altar focus, check-in, songs, etc. Information: Laura@shamanmoon.org or visit <http://www.shamanmoon.org/pages/2/index.htm>

July 19 - Symposium, Pagani Soteria - Richmond Hills

Academy Arkadia invites you to a Symposium; a dinner party with formal conversation around a selected topic. A sumptuous banquet prepared by Tara Webster will be laid as the setting to discuss the topic of "Money". The current list of interlocutors: Vibra Willow, Joe Max, T.Thorn Coyle, Don Frew, Gus diZerega and your host, Sam Webster. Due to space constraints seating will be limited to 20. Cost: \$25 in advance and one bottle of beverage at the door. Registration complete only with receipt of \$25 contribution, seating given on first come, first served basis. Information: Sam@TwilightGathering.org, or visit <http://www.concrescent.net/>

July 24 thru 27 - Solaris Gathering - Los Gatos

Let the Tribe Gather this Summer! Community Seed is excited to announce Solaris II, our second annual summer festival. This is an intimate gathering, which takes place at the beautiful Lupin Naturist Club clothing-optional facility just off highway 17. This gathering will include intensive workshops and community rituals with lots of socializing and playful events. Arrive anytime after 12:00 pm on Thursday, and stay for three nights at Lupin Naturist Club, enjoying Jacuzzis, hiking, workshops, pool and sauna. Address mailed to you with your pre-registration. Cost: Before June 30 - 3-Nights \$65, 2-Nights \$55; After July 1 - 3-Nights \$75, 2-Nights \$65; After July 15 - 3-Nights \$85, 2-Nights \$75. Information: Greg at 831-469-0336, solaris@communityseed.org or visit http://www.communityseed.org/CS_-_Events/Solaris/solaris.html.

August 1 thru 3 - Medicine for the Earth - Auberry

Shilo Satran, assisted by Laura Strom, host Medicine for the Earth at Gaia's Oasis. The pre-requisite for this retreat is reading the book Medicine for the Earth by Sandra Ingerman. In it, Ingerman challenges us to go further with our circle work, actually using our skills as healers, shamans, etc. She has used this work to "heal" water, which was been polluted by various toxins. In the course of a circle, the water has been shown to drastically change, for example, in pH, while the test samples remain the same. Her work was all independently verified by labs. Information: 650-728-1407, Laura@shamanmoon.org or visit <http://www.shamanmoon.org/pages/2/index.htm>.

August 1 thru 4 - Ravenwood Gathering - Marin County

Freya's Folk will host a Primitive Campout at Alice Eastwood Group Camps A&B on Mt. Tamalpais from 2pm 8/1 until noon 8/4. Join us atop the "Sleeping Lady" for a mellow weekend of fun, frolic, and a feast on Saturday by Lionheart Catering. All registration or cancellations (for full refund) must be received by mail by July 21st (Checks to: Freya's Folk, PMB 165, 537 Jones Street, SF, CA 94102-2007). No on-site registrations accepted. Map and gate combo will be sent with registration. Tent camping only. No electricity. Campground has toilets, water, sinks, and food cupboards. By registering, you agree to hold Freya's Folk harmless from any liability. Cost: \$20 per person, plus \$20 per car. Information: prudence21@juno.com or visit <http://www.freyasfolk.org>.

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>