

THE GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER



LITHA 2009

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SPOTLIGHT

~SpiritMother~
of the Coven of Children Between the Worlds
in Porterville Ca



GNL - Where are you from originally?

SpiritMother – Los Angeles, CA

GNL - Where do you call home now?

SpiritMother - Visalia, CA

GNL – When did you "discover" Wicca

SpiritMother - I was raised Catholic but never felt it was quite right. I was introduced to Stregheria in 1999 and was introduced to the Georgian tradition in 2005

GNL - What tradition did you start in? if any? How long have you been interested in the craft?

SpiritMother - see previous question

GNL - Are you a Georgian? Who introduced you to the Georgians? Are you an initiated Georgian?

SpiritMother - Yes I am I was introduced by my husband Zattera (Gene) through Katie and Yes I have been initiated and have recieved my first degree in Children Between the Worlds.

GNL - What's your favorite Sabbat? Why is that?

SpiritMother - I don't really have a favorite they are all so wonderful and each has its own unique meaning tat i cannot just pick one over the other

GNL - Children? (how many?), grandchildren?

SpiritMother - His, mine and ours we have 5 children Jonathon 32, Shaun 23, Rhianan 21, Duncan 14 and Azrael 7 and 6 soon to be 7 grandchildren. We are expecting number 7 any day now.

GNL - Describe your life a little these days, what great is going on?

SpiritMother - I am unemployed and seriously looking for work.

GNL - Got any hobby's or special skills, maybe super powers or something?....you know, get bit by a radioactive wombat or something?

SpiritMother - Hobbies include counted cross stitch, soap making, candle making, cooking, baking and even a little home canning,

GNL - Attended/Missed many Mt Meets? Or other gatherings you would strongly suggest others attending?

SpiritMother – Managed a 1 day trip in 2007

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

~1st degree

On May 7th at or about 7:30pm local time and at the tender age of 15, Pandora, daughter of Rhiannon Etain, received her First Degree Initiation. Yes that loud noise you heard was the Gods crying, "Not another Georgian! They NEVER let us rest. Always questioning EVERYTHING we say or do.

Star Borealis Coven is proud to announce that Lady Aurora 3* and Lord Dallion 3* on June 6th , 2009 under a peaceful full moon, initiated into the Georgian tradition after many months of study, three new first degrees:

Shadow Dancer, Muinstar and Wynn, with the assistance of Lady Willendorf 2* . We know their lively energy will bless and help our coven to grow in service to the Lord and Lady.

Births!!!

RW has become a Granny AGAIN! - With great happiness I'd like to announce the birth of her granddaughter Madelyn Isabel Huss on May 1, at 7:16 p.m. in Murrieta, California. She weighs 8 lbs 3 oz, is 19 3/4 inches long and has a fuzz of silky golden hair.

Katie (Lady Gaia, High Priestess of coven Symbolic) has become a Granny once more! her grandson Blake Lewis-Edward Holland came into this world on April 29th at 7:15 p.m. He weighed in at 8lbs 15 ozs and was 21 inches long. Grandma Kate can't wait to get home (she was unfortunately in the hospital) so she can hold him.

As the editor of this paper, I think it is my duty to mention that there is a conspiracy here!!! Both of them missed the mark by one day! April 30 is alllll I was asking for, but noooooooo.

I don't know bout you guys, but I'm JAZZED bout Mt Meet....July 31 I am sooooo gonna be in them mountains!

35th annual Mountain Meet (1974 to now) - July 31st -Aug 5th at the same place as last year, and the year before that and so on and so forth. The Methuselah Group Campsite in Mountain Home State Forest in California.

A Birthday

On May 31st Lady Du Dragcorum's celebrated her 71st Birthday!!...errr 8th Birthday I mean. 7+1=8, right Bobbie? ☺

Balder (jeff) of coven Symbollic - may 5

Dorothy Morrison – May 6, 1955

Lady Gaia Rose (Kate) of coven Symbollic - may 17th
Georgia – May 18

Cat - May 22

Treebeard (Robert) of Coven Symbollic - June 26



Sorry, I just thought this picture was cool. A candle with water instead of flame.

Midsummer

After the May time and after the June time
Rare with blossoms and perfume sweet,
Cometh the round world's royal noon time,
The red midsummer of blazing heat,
When the sun, like an eye that never closes,
Bends on the earth its fervid gaze,
And the winds are still, and the crimson roses
Droop and wither and die in its rays.

Unto my heart has come this season,
O, my lady, my worshiped one,
When, over the stars of Pride and Reason,
Sails Love's cloudless, noonday sun.
Like a great red ball in my bosom burning
With fires that nothing can quench or tame,
It glows till my heart itself seems turning
Into a liquid lake of flame.

The hopes half shy and the sighs all tender,
The dreams and fears of an earlier day,
Under the noontide's royal splendor,
Droop like roses, and wither away.
From the hills of Doubt no winds are blowing,
From the isles of Pain no breeze is sent, -
Only the sun in a white heat glowing
Over an ocean of great content.

Sink, O my soul, in this golden glory!
Die, O my heart, in thy rapture-swoon!
For the Autumn must come with its mournful
story.
And Love's midsummer will fade too soon.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox [1850-1919]



SARASOTA FLORIDA GEORGIAN GATHERING

This is from a recent gathering in Sarasota, Florida. The Georgians in the photo are (from left to right) Lady Khirinn, Lady Rayna (Beachfyre Coven), Lord Orion (Moonstar Coven), and Lady Rowan (Moonstar Coven). As you can see, Lady Rowan is doing very well despite all her health challenges!

Rayna



I always find it wonderful when our sisters and brothers from around the globe share their pictures, stories and activities with us. By doing this it makes the person on the other end of the email or computer real. I binds us to them and makes them more than a faceless line of words “magickly” appearing across the screen. It’s ALMOST as good as when we gather at our local or not so local gatherings like Mt Meet, Prairie Meet or the upcoming Georgian Elder Gathering . So, I encourage you, send in the picture and if you can, attend these gatherings!!! Bond with our family

Blessed Litha



MYSTICAL REALMS WISHES ALL MEMBERS, STAFF AND FRIENDS
WHO CELEBRATE THE SABBATS A BLESSED AND HAPPY LITHA!

History of Litha (MidSummer)

Also known as Summer Solstice, Litha, Alban Hefin, Sun Blessing, Gathering Day, Feill-Sheathain, Whit Sunday, Whitsuntide, Vestalia, Thing-tide, St. John's Day

In addition to the four great festivals of the Pagan Celtic year, there are four lesser holidays as well: the two solstices, and the two equinoxes. In folklore, these are referred to as the four 'quarter-days' of the year, and modern Witches call them the four 'Lesser Sabbats', or the four 'Low Holidays'. The Summer Solstice is one of them.

Litha is usually celebrated on June 21st, but varies somewhat from the 20th to the 23rd, dependant upon the Earth's rotation around the Sun. According to the old folklore calendar, Summer begins on Beltane (May 1st) and ends on Lughnassadh (August 1st), with the Summer Solstice midway between the two, marking MID-Summer. This makes more logical sense than suggesting that Summer begins on the day when the Sun's power begins to wane and the days grow shorter. The most common other names for this holiday are the Summer Solstice or Midsummer, and it celebrates the arrival of Summer, when the hours of daylight are

longest. The Sun is now at the highest point before beginning its slide into darkness.

Humanity has been celebrating Litha and the triumph of light since ancient times. On the Wheel of the Year Litha lies directly across from Yule, the shortest day of the calendar year, that cold and dark winter turning when days begin to lengthen and humanity looks wistfully toward warmth, sunlight and growing things. Although Litha and Yule are low holidays or lesser sabbats in the ancient parlance, they are celebrated with more revel and merriment than any other day on the wheel except perhaps Samhain (my own favourite). The joyous rituals of Litha celebrate the verdant Earth in high summer, abundance, fertility, and all the riches of Nature in full bloom. This is a madcap time of strong magic and empowerment, traditionally the time for handfasting or weddings and for communication with the spirits of Nature. At Litha, the veils between the worlds are thin; the portals between "the fields we know" and the worlds beyond stand open. This is an excellent time for rites of divination.

Those who celebrated Litha did so wearing garlands or crowns of flowers, and of course, their millinery always included the yellow blossoms of St. John's Wort. The Litha rites of the ancients were boisterous communal festivities with morris dancing, singing, storytelling, pageantry and feasting taking place by the village bonfire and torch lit processions through the villages after dark. People believed that the Litha fires possessed great power, and that prosperity and protection for oneself and one's clan could be earned merely by jumping over the Litha bonfire. It was also common for courting couples joined hands and jump over the embers of the Litha fire three times to ensure a long and happy marriage, financial prosperity and many children. Even the charred embers from the Litha bonfire possessed protective powers - they were charms against injury and bad weather in harvest time, and embers were commonly placed around fields of grain and orchards to protect the crops and ensure an abundant reaping. Other Litha customs included carrying an ember of the Litha fire home and placing it on one's hearth and decking one's home with birch, fennel, St. John's Wort, orpin, and white lilies for blessing and protection.

The Litha Sabbat is a time to celebrate both work and leisure, it is a time for children and childlike play. It is a time to celebrate the ending of the waxing year and the beginning of the waning year, in preparation for the harvest to come. Midsummer is a time to absorb the Sun's warming rays and it is another fertility Sabbat, not only for humans, but also for crops and animals. Wiccans consider the Goddess to be heavy with pregnancy from the mating at Beltane - honor is given to

Her. The Sun God is celebrated as the Sun is at its peak in the sky and we celebrate His approaching fatherhood - honor is also given to Him. The faeries abound at this time and it is customary to leave offerings - such as food or herbs - for them in the evening.

Although Litha may seem at first glance to be a masculine observance and one which focuses on Lugh, the day is also dedicated to the Goddess, and Her flowers are the white blossoms of the elder.

Correspondences

Purpose

Rededication to the Lord and Lady, beginning of the harvest, honoring the Sun God, honoring the pregnant Goddess

Dynamics/Meaning

Crowning of the Sun God, death of the Oak King, assumption of the Holly King, end the ordeal of the Green Man

Tools, Symbols & Decorations

The sun, oak, birch & fir branches, sun flowers, lilies, red/maize/yellow or gold flower, love amulets, seashells, summer fruits & flowers, feather/flower door wreath, sun wheel, fire, circles of stone, sun dials and swords/blades, bird feathers, Witches' ladder.

Colors

Blue, green, gold, yellow and red.

Customs

Bonfires, processions, all night vigil, singing, feasting, celebrating with others, cutting divining rods, dowsing rods & wands, herb gathering, handfastings, weddings, Druidic gathering of mistletoe in oak groves, needfires, leaping between two fires, mistletoe (without berries, use as a protection amulet), women walking naked through gardens to ensure continued fertility, enjoying the seasonal fruits & vegetables, honor the Mother's fullness, richness and abundance, put garlands of St. John's Wort placed over doors/ windows & a sprig in the car for protection.

Goddesses

Mother Earth, Mother Nature, Venus, Aphrodite, Yemaya, Astarte, Freya, Hathor, Ishtar, all Goddesses of love, passion, beauty and the Sea, and Pregnant, lusty Goddesses, Green Forest Mother; Great One of the Stars, Goddess of the Wells

Gods

Father Sun/Sky, Oak King, Holly King, Arthur, Gods at peak power and strength.

Animals/Mythical Beings

Wren, robin, horses, cattle, satyrs, faeries, firebird, dragon, thunderbird

Gemstones

Lapis lazuli, diamond, tiger's eye, all green gemstones, especially emerald and jade

Herbs

Anise, mugwort, chamomile, rose, wild rose, oak blossoms, lily, cinquefoil, lavender, fennel, elder, mistletoe, hemp, thyme, larkspur, nettle, wisteria, vervain (verbena), St. John's wort, heartsease, rue, fern, wormwood, pine, heather, yarrow, oak & holly trees

Incense/Oil

Heliotrope, saffron, orange, frankincense & myrrh, wisteria, cinnamon, mint, rose, lemon, lavender, sandalwood, pine

Rituals/Magicks

Nature spirit/fey communion, planet healing, divination, love & protection magicks. The battle between Oak King, God of the waxing year & Holly King, God of the waning year (can be a ritual play), or act out scenes from the Bard's (an incarnation of Merlin) "A Midsummer Night's Dream", rededication of faith, rites of inspiration.

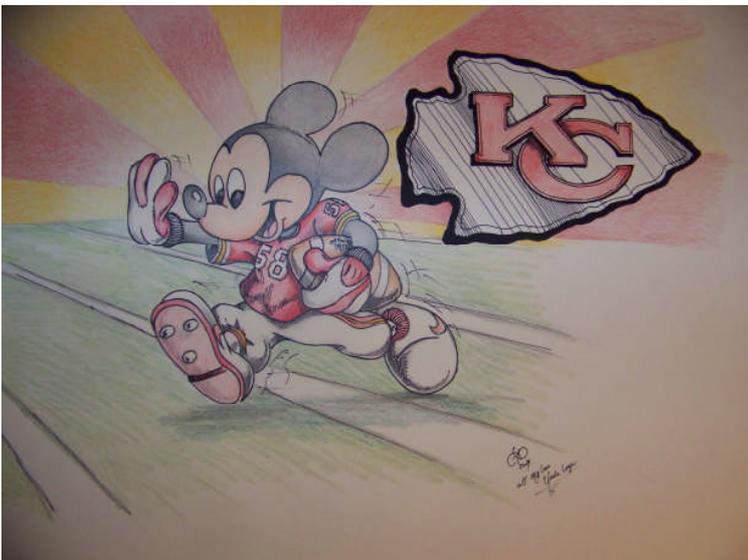
Foods

Honey, fresh vegetables, lemons, oranges, summer fruits, summer squash, pumpernickel bread, ale, carrot drinks, mead.

A Little Art

HERE WE HAVE MY MOST RECENT WORK. IT IS A BIRTHDAY PICTURE FOR A MEMBER OF MY COVEN. IF YOU LOOK YOU CAN SEE THE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS. EARTH AIR FIRE AND WATER. SINCE HE HAS AN AFFINITY TOWARDS DRAGONS I TOSSED ONE OF THOSE IN AND SINCE HIS CRAFT NAME IS TREEBEARD I DID A PORTRAIT OF HIM ☺

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MY FRIEND!



Here we have Mickey. My niece cornered me and asked what it would take to convince me to draw a special picture for the wall of the nursery room in her house. Evidently, their Kansas City...somebody fans. Well, the bill was steep but she accepted my terms. I got a hug and kiss on the cheek...bill paid in full ☺