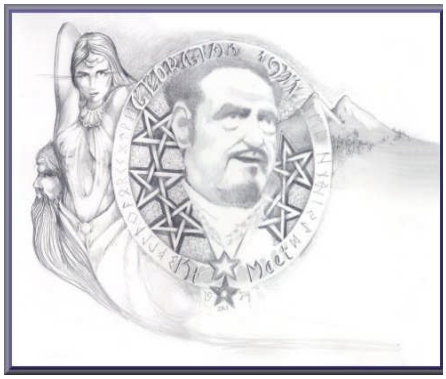
THE GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER



IMBOLC 2010

What's Inside:

- Spotlight
- Recipes
- Announcements
- Art and Poems
- Imbolc

SPOTLIGHT

Greetings All! Over the course of the last three years we have featured many Georgians and Georgian kin. Next Sabbat is the anniversary of the resurrection of the Georgian Newsletter, so I thought I would list those individuals that we got to know a little better. I have been fortunate enough to meet many of these people and can say for sure that I am better for it. So, instead of a single person, lets salute those already spotlighted!

2007
Ostara - Patterson
Beltane – Lady Du Dragcorum (Bobbie)
Litha – Lord Bel Taran (Loye)
Lughnasadh – Georgia
Mabon – Lord Shonsu Chiox (Allen)
Samhain – Cindy (Mab)
Yule – Lord Puck Shadowdrake

2008
Imbolc - Marla
Ostara – Lady Kundalini (Karen)
Beltane – Lady Rhiannon Etain (Sherri)
Litha – Lady Kerredwyn Springsong (Shawn)
Lughnasadh – Miranda Pourner
Mabon - Branwen
Samhain - Cosette
Yule - Fresno Jeff

2009
Imbolc - Balder (Jeff Ray)
Ostara – Lady Star Shadowdrake
Beltane – Treebreard (Robert)
Litha – Spiritmother
Lughnasadh –Skip Wa
Mabon - Fairweather
Samhain - Moondancer (Herb)
Yule - Lady Rowan Moonstone

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

It is always of the greatest pleasure when I get to put announcements into the newsletter! Congrats to all!

Initiations;
2nd Degree - Spiritmother received her 2nd degree initiation at the Children Between the Worlds covenstead today, Sat. 2/6/10. Our congratulations are afforded her at this very special time. Lady Kundalini

Birthdays;
Skip in BF – January 16
Cindy – January 16

Lady Autumn Star – Feb 3
Fresno Jeff's - February 21

Handfastings
Star and I will be Handfasted on Feb. 5th, in Ypsilanti, MI. Star's Birthday (her "Big 6-0", no less!) is Wed, Feb 3rd.! ***See more on this event in the Ostara Newsletter!!!***
BB!
Puck

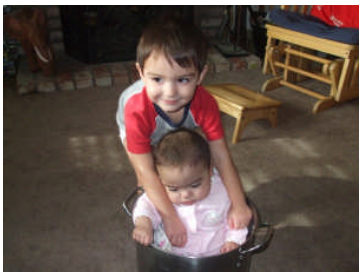
As soon as the happy couple send pics I shall put those in the newsletter with a short or long spot on the happy event!

Dedication: Circle of the Imbolc Moon would like to happily announce that we have a new Dedicant! Stephani, now Celtiss, Dedicated to the Georgian Tradition on December 5, 2009!

Rain

Grandbabies;
Earlier this year I was informed that I was officially the grandpa of two charming little ones. Margaret Tiffany Annabella and her big brother Gabrielle. When I think of little Margaret Tiffany I think of Boo from Monsters Inc. It means very little that they are not my biological grandchildren, I love em to death and look for every opportunity to spoil the hell outa them!

Little Boo is already into "pot"



and Gabrielle is the "pusher"

Gabrielle just celebrated his second birthday here at my house, a great time was had by all!
Here we are watching cartoons together ☺

Imbolc

(February 1)

Regardless of what you call it, or how you celebrate
We Wiccans celebrate a variation of Imbolc as one of four "fire festivals", which make up half of the eight holidays (or "sabbats"), of the wheel of the year. Imbolc is defined as a cross-quarter day, midway between the winter solstice (Yule) and the spring equinox (Ostara). The precise astrological midpoint in the Northern hemisphere is when the sun reaches fifteen degrees of Aquarius. In the Southern hemisphere, if celebrated as the beginning of local Spring, the date is the midpoint of Leo. Sometimes the festival is referred to as "Brigid". Among Dianic Wiccans, Imbolc (also referred to as "Candlemas") is the traditional time for initiations. Call it what you like, this is a time of Brigid AND the time when the oak King comes into his own after having been born at Yule. As we know, this is also Groundhog day. I recently read that PETA is wanting to replace Punxsutawney Phil with a robot because groundhogs are "shy" creatures and consider it inhumane to wait for ole Phil to come out and let us know what kinda weather we are going to have for the next 6 weeks.

Related Deities: Brigid, Brid, the Maiden, the Spring Goddess, the young Lord (trust me, this is no short list! seems every pagan tradition has their own take on it)
Related Herbs: Angelica, basil, bay leaves, myrrh
Related Stones: Quartz crystal, opal, moonstone, aventurine, sunstone

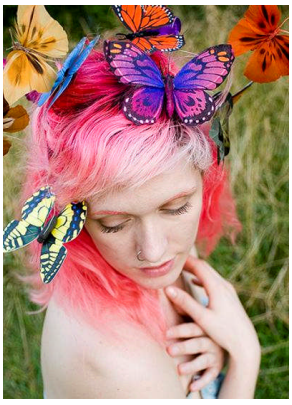
One theme for this celebration surrounds the preparation of Brid's or Brgid's [Breeds] Bed. This is usually a basket filled with raffia or Easter grass that's decorated with ivy and white satin ribbons. Then a corn dolly dressed as a bride is placed along with a symbol of masculinity. This represents the first intimate encounter between the Maiden Goddess and the Young Lord, and ensures fertility for the months ahead.

The most common theme, however, is that of purification. It's symbolized by the sweeping of the Circle, and is a little like Spring-cleaning for the body, mind, and spirit. We get rid of what's no longer of use

to us-bad habits, old ideas, pre-conceived notions, unsavory character traits, and so forth-to make room for the new and exciting things to come. We open our

minds and our spirits to change and all it entails. And in doing so, we embrace new life-a fertile, wonderful life where doors open and things fall in place, a life that greens our hearts as well as our spirits, the life that we truly want to live. Unfortunately I will not be able to celebrate Imbolc with all members of my coven, but this is part of that change we must embrace in our lives. My thanks go out to Dorothy Morrison for letting me use (in part) material from her books

Butterflies



Love is like a butterfly: It goes where it pleases and it pleases wherever it goes.
~Author Unknown

Biggest and Brightest Full Moon of 2010 (Jan 30)

By Robert Roy Britt

- Space.com

Tonight's full moon -- called the *wolf moon* -- will be the biggest and brightest full moon of the year. It offers anyone with clear skies an opportunity to identify easy-to-see features on the moon.

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This being the first full moon of 2010, it is also known as the *wolf moon*, a moniker dating back to Native American culture and the notion that hungry wolves howled at the full moon on cold winter nights. Each month brings another full moon name.

But why will this moon be bigger than others?

The moon is, on average, 238,855 miles from Earth. The moon's orbit around Earth -- which causes it to go through all its phases once every 29.5 days -- is not a perfect circle, but rather an ellipse. One side of the orbit is 31,070 miles closer than the other.

So in each orbit, the moon reaches this closest point to us, called *perigee*. Once or twice a year, perigee coincides with a full moon, as it will tonight (Jan 30th), making the moon bigger and brighter than any other full moons during the year.

I for one stepped outside and gazed at her for a while, she was truly magnificent that night!

Hand in hand, with fairy grace,
Will we sing, and bless this place.

~William Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Imbolc has passed, the wheel has turned! We eagerly await the arrival of the next Sabbat. For those of you celebrating Lupercalia, eat, drink and be merry! Break out the fur loin cloths, order up some pizza from some local establishment and enjoy life as the poor delivery person tries to be professional! May the house be filled with nothing but "High" Priestesses and laughter!

Blessings and Light
The Georgian Newsletter Staff.