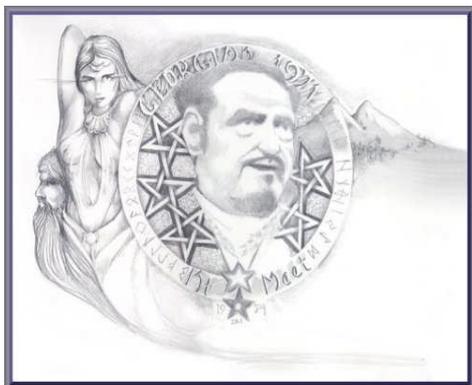


THE GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER



LITHA 2011

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ANNOUNCEMENTS!

I don't know bout you guys, but I'm JAZZED bout Mt Meet....July 29th I am sooooo gonna be in them mountains!

Mountain Meet (1974 to now) - July 29th - 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.. For more information check out the web site provided and managed by our own RW! (who needs to update it) <http://www.angelfire.com/country/MountainMeet/mainpage.html>

Prairie Meet

A Georgian Family and Friends Retreat

What: Prairie Meet 2011

Where: Osage Hills State Park, Oklahoma

When: September 9, 10, and 11, 2011

This is a group camp with climate controlled cabins and one of the most lovely lodges I've seen.

This year, the workshops, circles, and even Iron Witch will be themed around the elements.

Three days with all meals for adults: \$55. See attachment for kids pricing. If you cannot read the attachment, you can find the file in the document section of the lists.

This is an event for Georgian Family and Friends. If you are not initiated into the Georgian Tradition, you can still attend with the recommendation of a Georgian initiate.

Details:

A Georgian Family and Friends Retreat

September 9, 10, and 11, 2010

Osage Hills State Park Group Camp

	Group camp, all meals	Day pass, 2 meals
(Adult)	\$55	\$25
(Kids 12 +)	\$30	\$10
(Ages 7-11)	\$25	\$6
(Ages 3-6)	\$20	\$4
(3-0)	\$0	\$0

After the 31st of August 2011, add \$10.00 to each of the above prices. If you want a day pass, please, purchase it in advance. If we don't know and have not received your money we can NOT guarantee you food. If there are special circumstances, **please** contact Tony or Emilie a minimum of 48 hours before the event starts.

If you have any questions, please contact me at egiustozzi@gmail.com.

Birthday's

On May 31st Lady Du Dragcorum's celebrated her 73st Birthday!!...errr 10th Birthday I mean. 7+3=10, 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

NEW BIRTHS!!!

On Sat, Jun 18, 2011 at 9:21(around there) Rhianan delivered a healthy baby girl, She has been named Hayleigh Lynn Jepson an she weighs 7lbs an 4 oz an is 19 inches long.

Proud Grandparents Maureen and Gene

Passings

Jeff Heuer, was a 3rd Degree Georgian Elder, so he was not just a brother in the craft, but also in our tradition. He went to sleep Sunday night (June 26) and passed peacefully in his sleep.

On a personal note...When my brother crossed over last August 29th, Jeff's note to me was " My condolences Loye. Summerland is a nice place to be in". I believe he is right, and I can't help but be a little jealous that he is able to see my mother, brother, aunt, cousin and good friend who all crossed over within the last 10 months.

Lets also not forget Marla's father, Gary Roberson, age 75 who crossed over June 29th.

My mother, Gloria Pournier, 72, on June 3

This has truly been a hard year for many of us. If I did not mention someone, please forgive me. But, if you

would like them remembered at Mountain Meet, please let us know and we will raise a cup for the ones passed



Balder, son of Odin and Frigga, the god of Love and Light, is sacrificed at Midsummer by the dart of the mistletoe, and is reborn at Jul (Yule). His return will

not occur until after the onslaught of the Ragnarok, which could be interpreted as a cleansing and enlightenment more than wanton, purposeless destruction. Balder's blind brother Hodur was his slayer, whose hand was guided by the crafty Loki. He is married to the goddess of Joy, Nanna.

Having dreamed that Balder's life was threatened, Frigga extracted an oath from the forces and objects in nature, animate and inanimate, that they would not harm Balder, but she forgot the mistletoe. The gods, thinking Balder safe, cast darts and stones at him. Loki, being who is twig of mistletoe in the hands of Balder's twin, the blind Hoder, god of darkness, and directed his aim against Balder, who fell pierced to the heart.

After the death of Balder, Odin sent another son, the messenger Hermod, to the underworld to plead for Balder's return. The god would be released only if everything in the world would weep for him. Everything wept except one old woman in a cave, and Balder could not return to life.

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]

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 Lughnasadh (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, Balder, 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, pumpnickel bread, ale, carrot drinks, mead.

frothy. Beat in sugar, oil & vanilla until thick & lemon colored. Sift in flour, cinnamon, baking soda, baking powder, & salt. Fold in zucchini & walnuts. Pour mixture in 2 greased & floured loaf pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

From Red Deer's & Elenya's

Recipes for the Eight Sabbats

http://www.unc.edu/~reddeer/recipe/rec_litha.html#zuchinnibread

Arts and Crafts

Recipe's!

ZUCCHINI BREAD

- 3 eggs
- 1 Tablespoon vanilla
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup oil
- 2 cups flour
- 2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 Tablespoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 medium, grated, unpeeled zucchini
- 1 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 350 degrees
In mixing bowl, beat eggs till



Here's something I did about a million years ago...1997

This one I did when trying to quit smoking. did it with soft pastels.



I hope all had a very blessed Litha, and hope you enjoyed this issue of the Newsletter.

Blessings and Light - Loye