

Blue Raven's News

Store Hours:

Monday
Thru
Saturday

10:00am
To
9:00pm

Sunday
12:00pm
To
6:00pm



August 2010

What's New?

Support Triple Goddess
2142 Hamilton Road
Okemos, MI 48864



The property that houses Triple Goddess Bookstore is in foreclosure. The Mid-Michigan Pagan Council is planning a rally to show support to help keep the culture and integrity of this corner. Events, rituals, drum circle and a local pagan meet and greet are only part of the days festivities planned. We hope to see a wonderful turnout to help support and show gratitude to the Lansing area's oldest New Age store.

Saturday, August 7, 2010

12:00pm - 9:00pm

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Lughnasadh ~ *Dan Furst*

Lughnasadh, celebrated in the first week of August, is the last of the four great midseason, crossquarter festivals. Long associated with the summer vegetable and early grain harvest, this is also a time to honor the Sun and ask his blessing of vitalizing warmth for the crops to grow now toward the second harvest at Mabon. The Lughnasadh celebration comes about a week after the Sun enters Leo, the sign of his rulership, so not surprisingly; Lughnasadh celebrates the kingly figure of the mature, prolific Father in his lordly abundance, and in his mastery born of experience that makes him, and other elders of his community, treasures of wisdom for the guidance of their people. This is why Lughnasadh so often features, along with all the sprightly music for dancing and games, ceremonies of poetry, sacred music, and spiritual teaching. The festival's name comes from the deity Lugh, who seems to have been all things to all people. Julius Caesar identified him with Mercury because of the god's practical knack for teaching many essential arts – including shoemaking – and a cleverness in commerce that naturally aroused the interest of Greeks and Romans over the centuries when Celts prospered in trading along the Rhone, the Rhine, and the Danube. Lugh is also identified with marriage – Lughnasadh may mean “give in marriage” – and with betrothals and marriage contracts for the new couples recently formed at Claiming Moon in June. The northern deep-forest peoples, such as the Teutons, celebrated fire on July 31 in the person of Loki, whose marriage to Sigrun precedes Lughnasadh in this season when both the solar king (Lugh) and the fire trickster (Loki) are honored worldwide. While some links and shared traits between Lugh and Loki have been established, it is also possible that Lugh had in his makeup elements of a Sun god, the Prometheus who gives fire and other gifts to men, and a beneficent trickster that combines with the Goddess, strategically if not sexually, to defeat darkness and bring new life. Irish Celts recited and enacted a ritual drama of the young hero Lugh defeating the dark lord Balar the “venom-eyed,” and bringing renewed plenty to the land. Lughnasadh is said to have been instituted by Lugh himself, to honor his mother Teiltiu (also spelled Tailte). Legend has it that this goddess was so determined to help her people farm Ireland's rich soil that she worked relentlessly to clear boulders in the fields, not even resting during the blaze of summertime, so on August 1 she died of exhaustion and heat stroke. Her name comes from Taitiu, one of the two very ancient sites – along with Carmun – that were sacred to an Earth goddess of grain and fertility, so one likely scenario of primeval Celtic mythology is that the male solar fire mates with his mother Earth now to renew the world. Whatever the mother-son relationship of Teiltiu and Lugh entails, he named the midsummer feast Teltaine in her honor. At this time, Lugh also decreed the obvious: since Father Sun is making it much too hot to work, and Mother Earth would prefer that we just let the grain grow for a while, high summer will be a time for games and contests – of poetry and singing as well as athletic sports, and for celebrating the bounty of this early summer harvest served in all its feast of color by maize, carrots, potatoes, celery, broccoli and leafy greens, and berries in black and blue and strawberry red. The main colors of the feast, though, are always white, brown, and gold for the center and crust of the bread and the sparkling beer. For both ancient Celts and medieval Christians – who called it Lammas, meaning “loaf mass” – Lughnasadh is the Feast of New Bread, celebrated in the baking and offering of ritual bread and cakes, and the brewing of ale and beer. This time just after the first harvest was also the movement to ask Earth's blessing. When Sir Toby Belch warns Malvolio in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night that his piety had better not get in the way of cakes and ale, its feasts like Lammas, with plenty of grain in both loaf and liquid form that the old Pan-soaked knight has in mind. The German Oktoberfest – as Oktober is the eighth month – is another relic of ancient rites that rejoice in the Sun's reason in the mysteries of what grain and fire create together. Lugh was usually imagined dressed in fire red and he is naturally the lord of the feast's great fire. This bonfire contains the bones of the animals that our hunters have killed and will track again at Hunter's Moon. This August fire gives thanks for both bread and meat, with prayers that Lugh, the Mother Goddess, and the Horned One bless their people with abundant food and game. The Lughnasadh fire is one of those that are born each year in total darkness. All of the people douse their home fires before they come to the fire ceremony, bringing firebrands so they can carry the New Fire home to light their hearth fires again. As they have all received their light and heat from the same communal fire, they are unified now for the teamwork they will need to soon for the maize harvest and the elk hunt. This sacred summer fire, one of the years most exalted, is called the Teinne or Tan and is especially associated with the Tan Hill festival that is celebrated in the first week of August. As Lugh is the solar deity of the Tuatha dé Danann, the Fairy people of Ireland, his feast is considered an excellent time for communication with spirit beings and with the spirits of animals. Tales of shape-shifters, tricksters, and changelings abound now, in a season considered propitious for prophecy, and for the working of white magic by figures such as Lugh himself.

Magic, 7 Days a Week ~ by Ellen Dugan

Every day of the week is a magical day, Sunday through Saturday. Each of the seven days of the week has its own magical correspondences such as deity associations, colors, crystals, and herbs. Each individual day also carries its own bewitching specialties. The trick is finding a way to apply these correspondences in a practical and fresh way to your Witchcraft. You may feel like you don't have much room in your schedule to add to your magical practice. Between your job, hauling the kids to soccer practice, walking the dog, and doing the laundry you've got maybe 20 minutes to spare for magic...no problem. Magic doesn't have to be complicated to be effective. The powerful works of magic are those that are simple, practical, and come from the heart. And whether you are an old hand at the Craft or a new practitioner, you'll always feel the desire to learn something new. Taking a fresh and realistic look at the daily correspondences gives you an opportunity to expand your skills. Each day of the week has its own magical associations. These energies, associated deities, colors, scents, crystals, herbs and Tarot cards all have the same sort of vibrations. This means they work well together, in harmony with one another. Correspondences are much simpler to work with than you think. Learning to combine these various related items together in spell-work strengthens your magic and unifies the punch of your charms. As you begin to focus on daily correspondences, you'll understand that by working with these accessories in a new way, you are allowing yourself more creative ways to personalize your witchcraft. So, let's dive right in and take a look at all of the days of the bewitching week. Don't panic now, I'm not going to bombard you with huge correspondence charts, or expect you to memorize massive amount of information. What I am going to do is try to inspire you to look at daily correspondences in a whole new, practical, and fun way. I want you to use your imagination and look around you to see what sort of accessories you may already have on hand—or growing in your backyard. It's actually very simple when you break down the daily correspondence information and look at it from a different perspective. Sometimes, we all need some no-muss, no-fuss magic. To do this, we start at the beginning. By taking a look at Sunday, our first day of the week.

Sunday: Sunday corresponds to the sun, our closest star. This day is full of wonder and all sorts of magical potential for success, wealth, and fame. Sundays are for personal achievements of any kind such as working towards a promotion at your job, seeking fame and wealth, or being acknowledged for a job well done. All of these goals fall under the golden influence of the sun. Some suggestions for Sunday enchantments would include: Sitting outside at sunrise and calling on the goddess Brigid for illumination and inspiration; Wearing gold jewelry or clothing that is gold or sunshine yellow to pull some color magic into your life; Arranging a few sunflowers in a vase and empowering these "flowers of the sun" for fame and ambition; Gathering up the common marigold flower and scattering it's petals about to encourage prosperity; Baking up a batch of cinnamon rolls for the family and enchanting them for health and success; Snacking on a solar fruit, the orange, and enjoying the magical boost it brings to your life.

Monday: This day of the week is dedicated to the moon and all of her magic and mystery. Mondays are for women's mysteries, illusion, prophetic dreaming, emotions, travel, and fertility. Some suggestions for Monday enchantments would include: Getting outside and looking for the moon in the heavens. Sit under her light and absorb a little glamour. Call on the moon goddess Selene for practical help in magical issues; Invoking the god Thoth for wisdom and insight; Empowering your silver jewelry under the light of the moon. Wear moonstone or pearl jewelry today to add a lunar and magical shimmer to your outfit. Be mysterious and subtle and wear moon-associated colors such as white, silver, and blue; Working spells for safe travel with a simple moonstone; Gathering bluebells, jasmine, gardenias, or white roses to create a little garden witchery with the flowers that are associated with the moon; Setting up a lunar Tarot spell today to increase your psychic powers; Eating a lunar fruit such as a melon to be healthy, serene and at peace; Brewing up a cup of chamomile or mint tea and enchanting it for sweet dreams and restful sleep.

Tuesday: Tuesday is a Mars day, and just like the god of war, this the time to tap into magics to call for strength and courage. This day of the week is for rebels and warriors. If you are facing a challenge of any kind, need a boost to your courage, or want to enhance your passions, Tuesday is the day of the week for you. Some suggestions for Tuesday enchantments would include: Wearing the fiery colors associated with this day: scarlet, red, black and orange. Don some of the more daring and bewitching colors of your wardrobe on Tuesdays and turn a few heads; Carrying a bloodstone in your pocket or wearing garnet-studded jewelry to reinforce your convictions; Working with protective and fire-associated plants such as the snapdragon, thistle, and holly to boost your shields and bravery; Burning spicy-scented energy-enhancing candles to add a little magical aromatherapy to your home; Cooking up a hearty meal featuring carrots, peppers and garlic (all Mars foods and spices) to empower yourself for victory and success.

Magic, 7 Days a Week ~ by Ellen Dugan

Continued.....

Wednesday: Wednesdays are wild and wacky days. They are for communication, change, cunning, and the arts. This is a Mercury day, and just as its patron god this day is full of contradictions, change, and excitement. Some suggestions for Wednesday enchantments would include: Pulling a little Wednesday color magic into your life by wearing purples or orange; Carrying a multi-purpose agate with you and tapping into its various charms; Working with magical plants such as the fern for protection. This plant will also boost the power of any other magical plants with which it is arranged; Incorporating lavender into charms and spells for transformation; Using the charming scent of lily of the valley to improve your memory, or working with the aspen tree for communication; Calling on Athena, patron of arts and crafts, for inspiration for a new project - fanning out a Tarot spell to increase your creativity; Calling on Hermes on a Wednesday night to bring movement and good luck into your life.

Thursday: Thursday is a Jupiter day. Here is the day of the week for prosperity, abundance and good health. Thursday's are "Thor's day". This Norse god gave the day his name and many of his attributes, including strength and abundance. Some suggestions for Thursday enchantments would include: Wearing a regal and royal shade of blue to see how it affects your mood and your magic. Other colors for the day include purple and green; Carrying a turquoise tumbled stone in your pocket to draw a little protective and healing energy your way; Incorporating honeysuckle blossoms and cinquefoil foliage into prosperity charms; Calling on Thor for abundance, or on the Roman god Jupiter for the ability to peacefully referee a fight; Adding a few oak leaves (which are sacred to these Thursday gods) to your charms to see how much better your spell works out; Casting a charm with wheat stalks for prosperity, and calling on Juno Moneta to bring wealth into your life; Baking up some whole wheat bread and blessing it for abundance. Be sure to thank the gods for your family and your good health.

Friday: Friday belongs to Venus, both the planet and its namesake Roman goddess of love. This day is sacred to many other gods and goddesses of love such as Eros, Venus, Aphrodite, and the Norse goddess that gave the day it's name, Freya. This day of the week is for magical topics such as love, birth, fertility and romance. Colors for today include pink and aqua. Some suggestions for Friday enchantments would include: Carrying a rose quartz with you today to send out some gentle and loving vibes to those crabby co-workers; Working a loving Tarot spell to charm a friend's pregnancy with good health and safety; Working a little flower magic to enchant a single pink rose for friendship and inner beauty, and setting it on your desk. Or try empowering a red rose for passion and placing it in your bedroom; Burning rose-scented candles to encourage the same effect. Call on Eros to "bring a passion for life" to your days; Sharing a romantic snack with your partner. Feed each other ripe, red strawberries. Those strawberries are love-inducing food, and are sacred to many love goddesses, including today's patroness, Freya.

Saturday: This day of the week got it's name from the god of karma and time, Saturn. This day is obviously associated with the planet Saturn and is our last day of the week. Traditionally, Saturdays are great days for protection, banishing a negative situation, and generally a good time to clean up any magical messes that you have been ignoring. Some suggestions for Saturday enchantments would include: Wearing the colors of the day, black and deep purple. Here's your perfect excuse to be dramatic and witchy. Empower these dramatic pieces of your wardrobe for protection and strength; Burning black candles to absorb negativity and burning purple ones to increase your magical wisdom and boost your spirituality; Adding a touch of garden witchery to you Saturday spells by working with the pansy (in black or purple of course), the morning glory flowering vine, or the cypress tree; Carrying an obsidian, hematite, or jet tumbled stone in your pocket to reinforce your personal protection and to ward off bad vibes and sour feelings. You can also add these crystals to a candle spell on a Saturday night to really increase the punch of your spell-casting; Cleaning your house and cleansing it while you are at it. Tap into those obstacle-removing vibes and the positive, concluding energies; Closing up the final day of the bewitching week with a bang by calling on Hecate for protection and guidance.

Every day is a magical day. Just how enchanting a day it turns out to be is completely up to you.



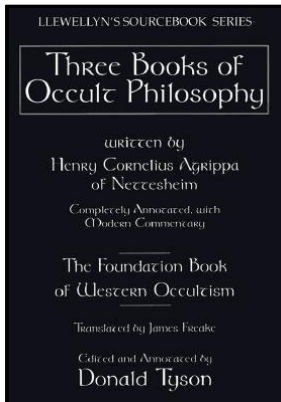


CURRENT CLASS OFFERINGS



Sundays, August 1,8,15, - Guided Meditation – 5:00-5:30pm - \$Free/

Donation - What is meditation? What does meditation do? Who can meditate? How does one meditate? The way I like to explain meditation is a cleansing of the mind. Meditation can do many things. It can make you aware, make you happy, or make you sleepy. It has many effects. Meditation occurs when you give the mind a focus. By keeping the mind on the focus it becomes effortless, and very relaxing. Anyone can meditate if blessed with the time and commitment. Using visualization, sound, breath, chanting, nature, it's easy to get the mind in a meditative state. The important thing to figure out which form of meditation works best for you!



Thursdays, August 5,12,19,26 - Three Books of Occult

Philosophy Discussion Group - 6:30-8:30pm - \$10.00/week

The Three Books of Occult Philosophy is the most complete repository of pagan and neo-platonic magic ever compiled. This book is packed with material you will not find anywhere, including extracts on magic from obscure or lost works by Pythagoras, Pliny the elder, Cicero, Ptolemy, Plato, Aristotle, and many others. It provides extensive insight into the foundations of all western traditions, and is the ultimate HOW TO for magical workings. It describes how to work all manner of divinations, natural and ceremonial magic in such detail that it is still regarded as the guide for modern and classical techniques. Please join me in exploring this magical masterpiece.



Mondays, August 9,23 — New & Full Moon Rituals 7:30pm -

9:00pm-\$Donation-

Both rituals are composed of two parts. An informative breakdown of the energy transition is first. This explains all involved planets, their associated signs, and the houses in which the energy will be focused. Any planets conjunct the moon will be included, along with their signs, and houses. The moon sign will be broken down by gender (masculine feminine), element (Fire, Air, Water, Earth), quality (Cardinal, Fixed, Mutable), and finally by the sign itself. Whichever house the moon is in dictates how the energy needs to be directed. Houses consist of angular, succedent, and cadent and number twelve throughout the zodiac wheel. The second part consists of a lead meditation for focusing the incoming (New Moon), or outgoing (Full Moon) energy. A new moon ritual focuses on bringing in the positive energy of the moon's sign through whichever house it is being focused through. It will gradually build in strength (waxing) until it culminates at the full moon. The moon and the sun's sign will be the same on a new moon. A full moon ritual focuses on releasing the energy of the moon's sign. At this time the moon is in the opposite sign of the previous new moon. Opposing sign's energy does not work well together. We release the negative aspects of the opposing sign, through its house in order to maximize the positive energy of the new moon's sign. This opposing energy will gradually decrease (Waning) as the moon moves toward the next new moon.



Tuesday, August 10 - Crystal Workshop Series#1 - 7:30pm - 9:00pm -

\$15.00

- This is a hands on practical lesson on the energetic application of crystals and stones. This session will focus on: What crystals and stones actually are; The energies which form them; Their dualistic nature; Their elemental differences; Acquiring crystals or stones; Cleansing; Awakening; Pre-programming; Programming; and Attuning. Join us in this introductory exploration into the power of the mineral kingdom.

**More Classes to be offered soon. Please check our website
often for an updated class listing.**



CURRENT CLASS OFFERINGS



Tuesday, August 17 - Connecting to the Faerie Realm -

7:00pm - 9:30pm - \$15.00 - Practical applications are the focus of this class. The majority of this class will involve individual and group participation of these exercises. Topics covered are: How to create a faerie attracting environment; Fundamental faerie types and their characteristics (Salamander, Sylph, Undine, Gnome); Grounding exercises to connect to faerie energy; Feeling and interpreting faerie energy; Techniques to begin to communicate with faeries. You must Pre-Register for this class. Space is limited to 10 people. Class will be held at a private location.



Friday, August 20 - Spirit Guides & Teachers - 7:00pm -

8:00pm - \$10.00 What is Meditation? Why Should we Meditate? How do we Meditate? What's the best time to Meditate? Are there Health Benefits? Are there Spiritual Benefits? What are the overall effects of Meditation? These questions and more will be answered during the class.



Saturday, August 25 - Spirit Guides & Teachers - 6:00pm -

7:00pm - \$10.00 "Who are they and how do we contact them?" This class/lecture will focus on spirit guides, teachers, helpers.....Things like who they are, where they come from, what they do, and why they're in our lives. We will also learn how to contact them and how to listen to the advice that they give.



Wednesday, August 25 - Monthly Runestone Class - 7:00pm

- 8:30pm - \$20.00/Month - Our class follows a system developed by Diane Paxson from her book "Taking Up the Runes". We will systematically work from the beginning of the futhark. The runes energies are studied in pairs. This course runs for 14 months consecutively. Study includes: Ancient Interpretations; Phonetic Meanings; Modern Interpretations; Norse Lore; Old English Interpretations; Affirmations for Individual Runes; Meditations for Individual Runes; Individual Interpretations; Group Interpretations; and Energetic Connecting to the Runes, for magnified results.



Friday, August 27 - Introduction to Chakras - 7:00pm -

9:00pm - \$15.00 - Chakra is a Sanskrit word meaning "spinning disks". The Chakra System is akin to a personal power plant for the human body. In this class we will learn about and discuss the major as well as minor chakras. It will include their placement and purpose within and around the body.



Tuesday, August 31 - Crystal Workshop Series#2 - 7:00pm -

9:00pm - \$15.00 - Please join Frank Graham for the second installment in our practical hands on journey into the mysterious mineral kingdom. We will begin this journey with planetary rulers. What significance they bring to the crystals or stones and their practical application. Then onto colors, what they tell us concerning elements, properties, and practical utilization. Our next phase centers on individual crystals and stones. We will take an in depth look into the qualities of a number of popular crystals and stones beginning with Clear quartz, Citrine, and Rose quartz. Other varieties covered: Malachite, Lapis Lazuli, Kyanite, Selenite, Aventurine, Blood Stone, Moon stone, Agate (varieties), Etc... The amount of varieties of crystals and stones covered depends on questions and group interaction. The next part of series #2 will begin where this session leaves off, and so on.