

Blue Raven's News

Store Hours:

Monday
Thru
Saturday

10:00am
To
9:00pm

Sunday
12:00pm
To
6:00pm

517-507-5051



March 2011

What's New?

Psychic Fair

Saturday, March 26, 2011

12:00pm - 6:00pm

Spend \$20.00 on Merchandise and receive a free 15 minute reading.

Available Readers:

Cristo Bowers - Life & Archetypal Readings

Bradley Moore - Chaldean Numerology & Palmistry

Frank Graham - Rune & Oracle Readings

CeCe Foster - Tarot Readings

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Prosperity's in the Bag: Using Gris Gris to Attract Financial Gain - This article was written by Jude Bradley and Chere Dastugue Coen. - *The Llewellyn Journal*

Cultures worldwide have long incorporated small bags containing herbs, stones, and other sacred items as part of their belief systems, whether to ward off evil, protect them while traveling, or to attract positive elements into their lives. Egyptians carried amulets for protection and included them in their burial rituals. Native Americans wore medicine bags filled with healing herbs as well as protection items. African Americans collected "sticks, stones, roots and bones" inside flannel bags and them "mojo" or "gris gris" bags, carried for protection, luck in business, or to ward off evil, among so many other uses. Whatever you call these bags -- Mojo, Gris Gris, Conjuring Bags, Lucky Hands, or Spell Sachets -- they provide a useful instrument in collecting nature's bounty to bring about spells and intentions. Gris Gris bags are, in essence, a prayer or magical spell you can carry around with you that serves as a reminder of your intention. "The gris gris bag, as with any other talisman or amulet, acts as a psycho-spiritual support; it implies faith," writes Ray T. Marlborough. "It serves to intensify the faith in yourself that through the help of the gris gris bag you will obtain this or receive that." Attracting prosperity is a good example. To create a prosperity gris gris bag, either purchase or create a green bag that will hold an odd number of herbs, stones, and items that represent prosperity to you. The size of the bag doesn't matter, as long as you find it appropriate for the ingredients you wish to include. The best time to create a prosperity gris gris is during the waxing moon, which includes growth. If your prosperity wishes are linked to the beginning of a project, new job, or new career, a new moon is best, representing the start of a fresh lunar cycle. The day of the week linked to good fortune and prosperity is Thursday, so a Thursday during the new or waxing moon makes for an ideal gris gris creation environment. The list of money attracting herbs is extensive: Angelica Root, Ash, Basil, Bay Laurel, Birch, Blackberry, Black-Eyed Peas, Camellia, Cedar, Chamomile, Cinquefoil, Four-Leaf and Five-Leaf Clover, Cloves, Comfrey, Dandelion, Dill Seeds, Echinacea, Fenugreek, Ferns, Fig, Ginger, High John the Conqueror Root, Lucky Hand Root, Mandrake, Mint, Mojo Beans, Moss, Myrtle, Nutmeg, Oak, Orange, Palm, Pecan, Pine, Rice, Sage, and Vervain. One of the things we encourage people to incorporate into their bags are herbs that resemble money. For instance, on January first, Southerners enjoy Hoppin' John, a dish of black-eyed peas and rice accompanied by greens (kale, chard, mustard greens, turnip greens), in the belief that this will attract prosperity in the coming year. The greens match the color of money and the peas resemble coins, and a hot slice of cornbread makes it all taste good together. Southern sayings for New Year's Day include, "Peas for pennies, greens for dollars, and cornbread for gold," and "Eat poor on New Year, and eat fat the rest of the year." You can use these same ideas when creating a prosperity gris gris bag. Items to put in your bag that resemble money include large basil leaves, black-eyed peas, dill seeds, mojo or fava beans and pecans, and of course you can add green stones such as emeralds, green aventurine, green jade, or malachite for the same reason. Some stones, metals, and shells containing a history of attracting prosperity include: Citrine, Clam Shell, Emerald, Garnet, Green Aventurine, Green Jade, Green Tourmaline, Gold, Lodestone, Opal, Magnetic Sand, Malachite, Peridot, Pyrite, Ruby, Sand Dollar, Staurolite, Tiger's Eye, and Vanadinite. We also love to include items such as actual coins and dollar bills, a rabbit's foot, or the amount of money needed written on a piece of paper. Magnets, Magnetic Sand, and a small mirror or a piece of mirror amplifies the money drawing power. Once you have assembled your ingredients, find a calm and sacred space to create your bag. From a beloved altar to a well-used kitchen table, the space should speak more to your comfort level so that your loving energy comes through. Light a candle that matches your intention, such as a green candle to represent the easy flow of money. While one or more candles may be used, we suggest using three candles - a white candle as the universal color of protection, a black candle to offer acknowledgement and appreciation of the role dark energy plays in the balance of the universe and in spell creation, and a candle to match your intention. As you light your candle(s) you may ask for blessings in the creation of your bag. Place your ingredients with the bag, making sure that only an odd number of ingredients are included. You may read aloud your intention from a prepared speech or incorporate a chant that relates to your intention. These can be as simple as "I assemble these herbs and stones and ask for prosperity" or as elaborate as "Mother Earth, Father Sky, Goddess and Universal Spirits, grant me the means to live a healthy, prosperous life so that my family will never want, my work can continue and blossom, and stress will be alleviated from this household." If you prefer to be silent, visualize yourself as prosperous and happy, always knowing for certain that your gris gris bag will produce. Prosperity can be a catch-all, encompassing wealth, success, and good fortune, so focus clearly on what prosperity means to you as you create your bag. Imagine, in your world, how your success will manifest and be recognized, and embrace the feelings that will come with it. Your gris gris bag is now complete. Place it where you may look upon it easily, enjoy its aromatic earthy scents, and remind you daily that prosperity is on the way. For indeed, it is!



Lovely Lapis Lazuli - This article was written by Ember Grant - *The Llewellyn Journal* -

Many people are drawn to the mysterious deep blue of lapis lazuli, or lapis for short. It is one of the oldest “spiritual” stones, first mined six thousand years ago in Afghanistan - the finest stones still come from that area. Its name comes from the Latin word lapis, meaning “stone,” and the Arabic word azul, which means “blue.” In addition, it has been noted the Persian word lazward means blue and could possibly be another origin of the name. But whatever its origin, lapis is a wonderful stone rich in folklore and metaphysical tradition. Before you buy a piece of lapis, it’s useful to know something about its content to ensure you obtain a good quality specimen. Lapis is a rock consisting mostly of the mineral lazurite and commonly contains pyrite and calcite, among other minerals.



It sometimes has a greenish or violet tint and the presence of pyrite often creates lovely metallic sparkles on the surface. Calcite sometimes produces white streaks in the stone. Well-formed crystals of pure lazurite are rare and valuable. Lazurite is sometimes confused with lazulite but they are different minerals; lazurite is softer and lighter. In addition, azurite is very similar in color to lapis, but is also a different mineral that is associated with malachite. Sodalite is a similar blue stone, but it lacks the occurrence of pyrite. Varieties of Chilean lapis contain more calcite; the Afghanistan variety contains pyrite and is more highly prized. Lapis has been used in ornamental decoration for thousands of years. The Egyptians crushed it and used it to decorate their eyelids. It was also ground and used for paint. In Egypt lapis was used mainly by royalty and priests, and it is believed that the sapphire referred to in the Bible was actually lapis lazuli. Lapis is often worn as talismans and used in inlaid work and ornaments. The Romans believed it was an aphrodisiac. Lapis is associated with the astrological signs of Sagittarius and Libra and the planets of Neptune and Venus. Reputed to be a stone for teachers, lapis has many useful magical properties. It has been referred to as a stone of awareness and wisdom and may be used to enhance creativity. Its gift of insight is useful in divination – it is useful to keep a small piece of lapis with tarot decks – and lapis aids in understanding and psychic work. Other areas of use include the throat and brow chakras, overcoming depression and balancing yin and yang energies. Lapis is a protective stone, both from physical danger and psychic attacks. Lapis is probably most well-known metaphysically for its use to promote psychic awareness. To aid in achieving meditative states such as trance and other altered states of consciousness, hold a piece of lapis in your hand to accompany visualization or whatever other technique you prefer. Or you can use the stone as a focal point and concentrate on its deep blue color. Lapis Lazuli is fairly soft, so it should not be soaked in water for a long period of time. After cleansing, dry the stone immediately. Also take care if you wear lapis jewelry and remove it before swimming. Lapis is an expensive stone but good quality small pieces can be found for just a few dollars. With its striking beauty and metaphysical properties, lapis is an essential stone for any collection.

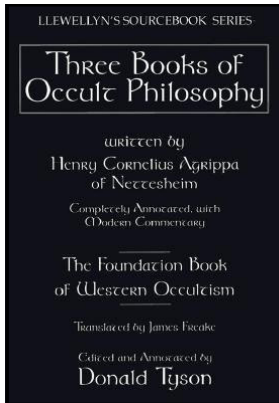


Eostre Frittata - Omelets and frittatas developed from ancient dishes that were not only relatively simple to create but also combined eggs, meats, fruits, and vegetables in a never-ending feast of creativity. Perfect for your Ostara breakfast, this one brings through the colors and balance of the season.

1/4 small onion, chopped; 2 tbsp olive oil; 2 cloves garlic, chopped; 1/2 red bell pepper, chopped; 1/2 green bell pepper, chopped; 1 can black beans, drained; 6 eggs; 1/3 cup water. — In a large frying pan, cook the onion in oil over medium heat until transparent. Add garlic, peppers, and beans and cook for 5 minutes. In a medium bowl, beat the eggs and water until mixed well. Pour egg mixture over vegetables in frying pan. Cover and cook for approximately 10 minutes, until eggs are nearly set. Broil about 5 inches from heating element for 2 minutes.



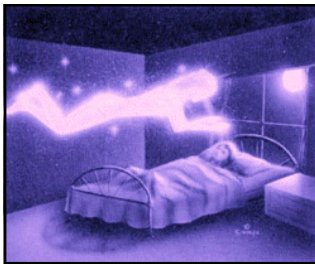
CURRENT CLASS OFFERINGS



Wednesdays, March 2, 9, 23, 30 - 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 neoplatonic 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.



Tuesday, March 8th - Astral Projection II - 7:00-8:30pm - \$20 -

This class picks up where Astral I stopped. We will be discussing and applying six techniques for projecting and returning. We will also be developing our astral vehicles, and our astral eyes.



March 15th - Intermediate Ritual Workshop - Creating the Script - 7:00pm - 8:30pm - \$20.00

We will be breaking down the different aspects of the script of a ritual: How to enable the energy; How to expand and empower the energy; How to execute the energy of the result intended; What can be utilized to focus the energy.



Wednesday, March 16th - 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.

[More Classes to be offered soon. Please check our website often for an updated class listing. www.blueravenimports.com](http://www.blueravenimports.com)



CURRENT CLASS OFFERINGS



Thursday, March 17th - Meditation - 7:00pm - 8:30pm - \$15.00 - What is Meditation? How is it done? Are there any benefits? What tools do I need? When should I do it? How often should I do it? These questions and many more will be answered as we look at this centuries old practice of going inside to our sacred space on our way to “becoming” and journeying toward enlightenment.



Tuesday, March 22nd - Advanced Psychic Protection – 7:00-8:30pm - \$20.00

This class is for creating protection at it’s highest level. We will be going over: The Superior Banishing Ritual of the Pentagram; The Superior Invocation of the Pentagram; and mixed element projective protection.



Tuesday, March 29th - Lucid Dreaming for Beginners – 7:00-8:30pm - \$20.00 - Join me into the wondrous realm of dream control. We will be discussing techniques for conscious dreaming. We will be learning how to: Live your fantasies; Heal yourself; Discover past lives; Consult dream guides; Solve real life problems; Explore alternate realities.

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