



Sacred Spiral News

Sacred Spiral Pagan Church of Arizona (www.sacredspiralpaganchurchofarizona.org) Sept. 2009

Pagan Harvest Festivals

Lughnasadh (aka Lammas), Mabon, and Samhain are the names given to the three Pagan harvest festivals celebrated annually during the waning half of the Wheel of the Year.

Lughnasadh is celebrated every August 1 and Samhain every October 31. Mabon, also known as the Autumn Equinox and the Second Harvest, is the second of the three harvest festivals and occurs anywhere from September 21 to 24. This year it falls on September 22nd.

At the Autumn Equinox, day and night hang in perfect balance, reflecting our own internal struggles for balance in our lives. Appropriately enough, it is on this day that the sun enters Libra, the zodiac sign of the Scales. Mabon, therefore, is a good time to reflect upon your life, reviewing what is in balance and what is not, and how to put things to right.

At Mabon, we also prepare to bid farewell to the Sun God, who is growing weaker with each passing day. Soon, at Samhain, the Final Harvest, he will die, giving himself to the Earth, so that he can be born again at the Winter Solstice, for this is the cycle of life - birth, death and rebirth.

Mabon is a time for being thankful for the harvest and bounty of the Earth, as well as a time for reflection as we move towards winter.



Become a Witch! Earn £50,000 a Year!

A job center is advertising a "witch" vacancy with tourist site Wookey Hole, in Somerset, England for £50,000 (approximately \$77,000 U.S.) a year.

The witch, who has to live in the site's caves, is expected to teach witchcraft and magic.

Wookey Hole staff say the role is straightforward: live in the cave, be a witch and do the things witches do.

The ad for the post, placed in the local newspaper as well as job centers, says applicants must be able to cackle and cannot be allergic to cats.

The job opening came up after the previous witch retired from the role.

"We are witchless at the moment, so need to get the role filled as soon as possible," said Daniel Medley from the tourist destination.

"Wookey Hole wants the appointee to go about her everyday business as a hag, so that people passing through the caves can get a sense of what the place was like in the Dark Ages."

"This was when an old woman lived in the caves with some goats and a dog, causing a variety of social ills, including crop failures and disease."

The £50,000-a-year salary is pro rata, and based on work done as needed, largely in the summer holidays, but also at Halloween and at Christmas.

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Become a Witch! (cont'd from pg 1)

"Wookey Hole is advertising nationally and hopes to attract a strong field of candidates with the £50,000 serving as a major incentive," said the site.

It said ambitious witches looking for a "key career move" should arrive dressed for work armed with any "essential witch accoutrements".

Due to sexual discrimination law, the job cannot demand that the post be filled by a woman. Unless Wookey Hole can provide "documentary proof that the original witch was female" it can't issue a gender-specific job description.

Interviews, which will involve on-site assessment incorporating a range of standard tasks, will take place on 28 July at 1100.

- BBC News (July 8, 2009)

The Black Cauldron

(Your Anonymous Questions Answered)

Is it okay to buy a "spell kit" online?

Rather than buying a spell kit, whether it's online or not, why not make your own spell kit?

Thought is energy, so the more thought you put into something, the more energy you put into it, making it more effective, more powerful.

When you think of the components of a spell kit, what comes to mind?

Basic items usually include some combination of candles, herbs, crystals, oils and the spell itself.

Doing a little research will reveal a vast quantity of information, and taking the time to find what you need, and what feels right, will not only do a better job of bringing about your desired results, it will also, most likely, save you money.



Astro Corner

Your Horoscope for September

Aries - Work responsibilities and challenges are highlighted, but others are easily charmed by your warmth and sincere approach to the world and will assist you in your endeavors.

Taurus - Hobbies, enjoyable pastimes and romance are all top priority. Your home life will be satisfying and heart-warming.

Gemini - Peace, harmony and pulling yourself together are your immediate goals for this month, but your larger focus is on home and family.

Cancer - A sociable and energetic month is in store. You have big plans and the ability to achieve them.

Leo - A real go-getter, your desire for pleasure and comfort tends to rule your behavior. Kick back, be more receptive, and let others take care of your needs.

Virgo - You may feel misunderstood at times, so make your intentions known and make it clear what you want and need. You'll find great reward in activities with groups or friends.

Libra - Being honest with yourself is important right now. Weed out that which is holding you back from accomplishing your goals.

Scorpio - Your need for adventure, excitement and mental stimulation is strong. Reach out for new experiences, fresh ideas and interesting friendships.

Sagittarius - As the more responsible and competent side of your nature swings into high gear it's time to shine! Others place a lot of faith in you and your goals become more clear.

Capricorn - Impatience is driving you. Examine all of your options, and the possible outcomes of each, and look before you leap.

Aquarius - Significant others and their plans are given more importance in your life than your own personal goals right now. Keep a close eye on your priorities.

Pisces - Emotions run more deeply than usual. Go with the flow and be willing to lead or follow.

Book Review

The Way of Four: Creating Elemental Balance in Your Life by Deborah Lipp

What is the dominant element in your life? - Earth, Air, Fire or Water?

The Way of Four explores the meaning of the elements and offers easy-to-do quizzes to help you answer the above question. Also included are exercises and rituals designed to help you achieve balance in your life.

Music Review

Feast of Silence by Vas

Middle Eastern and Indian percussion, combined with Azam Ali's pristine voice, offer a mixture of deep throbbing rhythms and powerful vocals.

Feast of Silence takes the listener on an uplifting journey through the dark places of the soul.

Mission Statement

We are a non-dogmatic, eclectic Pagan Tradition that seeks to unite a collective under the leadership of the Sacred Spiral Pagan Church of Arizona. We are children of Mother Earth and Father Sky, dancing the Spiral Dance through Life, Death and Rebirth, again and again, Learning, Teaching, Loving and Gaining Enlightenment.

Our commitment is to ourselves and the Divine, to bring our Pagan beliefs out into the open, to let the world see through our example that Pagan values and Pagan lifestyles are to be respected and not feared, to make a better world for our children, to let the world know that the Old Religion is alive and that we will no longer live in fear of our non-Pagan brothers and sisters. We will promote Peace and Harmony with all of Earth's inhabitants.

**WE ARE THE PEOPLE!
WE HAVE THE POWER!
WE MAKE THE CHANGE!**

2009 Rituals *

Fri.	Jan 9	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	Jan 30	7pm - Imbolg
Fri.	Feb 6	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	March 13	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	March 20	7pm - Ostara
Fri.	April 10	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	May 1	7pm - Beltane
Fri.	May 8	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	June 5	7pm - Full Moon
Sat.	June 20	—— Litha (Camp Out)
Fri.	July 10	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	July 31	7pm - Lammas/Lughnasadh
Fri.	Aug 7	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	Sept 4	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	Sept 25	7pm - Mabon
Fri.	Oct 2	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	Oct 30	7pm - Samhain (Camp Out)
Fri.	Nov 6	7pm - Full Moon
Fri.	Dec 4	7pm Full Moon
Sun.	Dec 20	—— Yule

(Potluck at Noon / Yule Ritual at 2pm)

All Rituals (excluding Litha and Samhain)
take place at Falcon Field Park
4800 E. Falcon Field Dr., Mesa, AZ 85215

*dates/times/locations subject to change
(for up-to-the-minute info, contact Jane at Dragonstar 480-985-1308)

BE A STAR! SEE YOUR NAME IN LIGHTS!

(well, at least in print)

submission contact info:

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Submit your short stories, poems and non-fiction essays by the 15th of each month to be included in the next newsletter.
Based on first-come, first-served basis and available space.