

# EARTH TIDES PAGAN NETWORK NEWS

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## *About The EarthTides Pagan Network*

The EARTH TIDES PAGAN NETWORK was established in 1989 as a support resource for Maine's Pagan community. This community is diverse, independent and geographically distant. We practice earth-based alternative religions. Most of us worship in existing groups or as solitaires, but feel a need for contact and a shared forum to express opinions and concerns over issues bearing on the Pagan Community in general.

The EPN keeps names, addresses and phone numbers confidential except to other network members. Individuals who are under 18 years of age must submit written parental approval to attend gatherings or study with members. The EPN will aid in establishing contacts between individuals if asked to do so, but accepts no legal responsibility for the results.

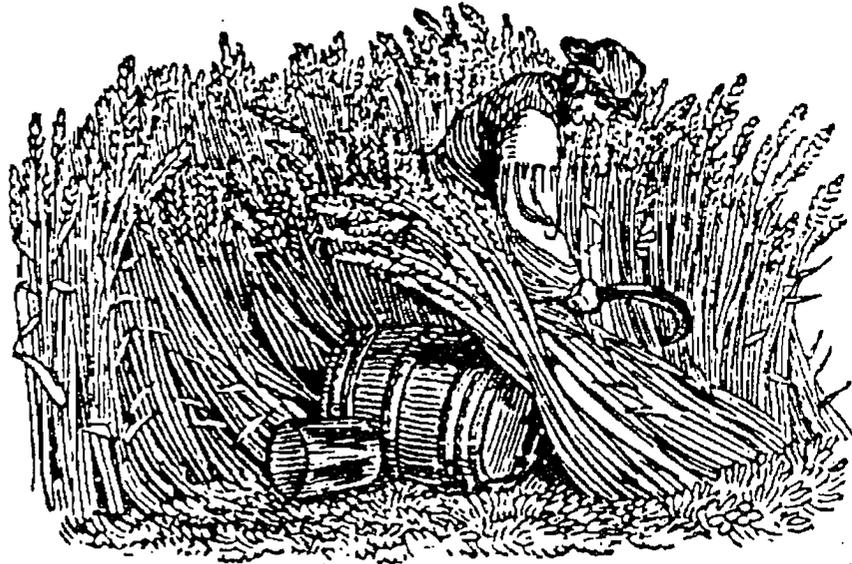
This newsletter comes out eight times per year around the Sabbats. Literary, poetic and artistic contributions are welcome as well as letters, articles, book reviews and editorial pieces. Please keep submissions to no more than two pages, typed and double spaced. You may also send your submission in ASCII, MSWord or WordPerfect format on disc or submit it by e-mail to [wachel@wa2000.winarea.biddeford.com](mailto:wachel@wa2000.winarea.biddeford.com) or [mugwert@ime.net](mailto:mugwert@ime.net)

Submissions will be edited for grammar, spelling and to fit available space. The EarthTides Pagan Network News is copyrighted 1997 by The EarthTides Pagan Network. All submissions remain the property of the authors and may not be reproduced without their permission.

Subscriptions are available for a suggested donation of \$11.00 US funds per year. Single copies may be obtained by sending a \$1.50 donation and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to EPN, PO Box 161, E. Winthrop, ME 04343. The next EPNN will come out around Mabon. We hope to hear from more of you before then. . Blessed Be!

### EPNN STAFF

Arwen Evenstar	editor
Harper Meader	editor
Kelt	business manager
Elkwing	production editor
Mugwort	production editor



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**PO BOX 161, EAST WINTHROP, MAINE 04343-0161**



# EVENTS CALENDAR



The calendar section is a service to our members. It is intended for events that are either free or have a nominal donation. Several of these places have more extensive workshops; please call them for info. Support our supporters!

August 1 LAMMAS

August 1-3 EarthTides Chicken St. Lammas Festival: You probably should have signed up by now, please call 696-8565 for last minute info

August 3 New Moon 4:14 AM DST

August 3 Silo7 Bangor. Every Sunday Meditation and Mysticism. Call 942-5590.

August 4 Silo7 Bangor. Every Monday Course in Miracles. Call 942-5590.

August 11 First Quarter Moon 8:42 AM DST

August 16 Dowsers Gathering in Bangor. The group meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each Month. For info call Gordon Barton 963-5801

August 16 Silo7 Bangor. 10AM-4PM. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holistic Fair. Free Admission. Speakers, demonstrations, readings. Call 942-5590.

August 19 Dowsers Gathering in Gardiner. The group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tue. of each month. For info call Barbara Foust 582-8615

August 18 Full Barley Moon 6:55 AM DST

August 24 Last Quarter Moon 22:23 PM DST

September 1 New Moon 19:52 PM DST

September 9 First Quarter 21:31 PM DST

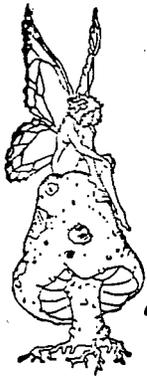
September 16 Full Harvest Moon 14:50 PM DST

September 19-21 MOFGA Common Ground Fair. Windsor Fair Grounds. Come visit the EarthTides Both in the Social/Political Action area. To volunteer to staff the booth call 848-2850

September 22 MABON 7:56 PM DST

Monthly Dowsers Gathering in Falmouth. Contact Richard McKenzie 797-2513.

Winthrop Area Saturday Night Drum Jam - Held semi-monthly at One Heart Studio. Donation \$2.00 call 377-3967(days) for more info.



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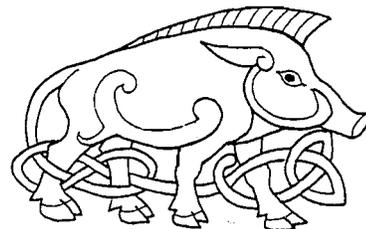
## Dragon Of The Mist



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## EARTHTIDES CONTACTS

**NOTE:** The EarthTides Pagan Network does not screen the contacts listed below. We are not the "policemen" of Paganism in Maine and would frankly resent such an authority. Everyone should be able to follow their own path. But the downside to this freedom is that YOU must exercise GOOD JUDGEMENT when using this list. Anyone who makes you uncomfortable or asks you to do anything which makes you uncomfortable is probably wrong for you. Individuals who are under 18 years of age must submit written parental approval to attend gatherings or study with members. EPN will aid in establishing contacts between individuals if asked to do so, but accepts no legal responsibility for the results

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### EARTH TIDES MEMBERS:

#### Augusta Area:

*Bill and Johanna Chellis* - 685-3860 Pantheists working with the circle, wheel, and labyrinth.

*Immanent Grove:* a fellowship of practicing pagans of all persuasions. All are encouraged to pursue their own world views & personal relationships with the Gods. Contact: Harper or Evenstar, The Immanent Grove, PO Box 233, Readfield, ME 04355.

*Wahtonah Grove* - A Pagan circle honoring a variety of traditions, newly founded, April 11, 1997. Dedicated to seeking knowledge and understanding, as well as to good friendship. Contact: Aree Blackcat e-mail: QGCY88B@prodigy.com

#### Bangor Area:

*Elkwing and Mugwort* - 848-2850 We're garden witches; Organic Gardening-arians. We are following the garden path to enlightenment! [mugwort@ime.net](mailto:mugwort@ime.net)

#### Clinton Area:

*Nemeton Community Center* Celtic Spirituality - 426-2964 We are rediscovering and practicing the nature-centered spirituality of the Celtic tribes. We observe and celebrate agrarian festivals, and holy days based on a celestial calendar and lunar cycles.

#### Jay - Farmington:

*Circle of the Jade Tiger* - *Kerry Phillips* 645-9570 (after 5:00) - Goddess-oriented Shamanism, with a definite splash of Green Man energy. Simplistic and creative rituals that allow for growth and the understanding of death, change, and personal healing.

#### Madison Area:

*Far Flung Coven* - Pantheist Wicca Leigh and Fred Griffith - 696-8565 We focus on seeking the deeper truths shared by all religions, to respect all Gods and Goddesses, and to respect all religious paths.

#### Portland Area:

*Jane* 885-0424 Wiccan Priestess: networking, community, and ritual

#### Waterville Area:

*Dragon of the Mist* - Druid/Pantheist Wicca Contact Dragon of the Mist 9-5, M-Sat., 873-7776, 5 East Concourse, Waterville

*Melissa Moon* - 873-0528 Eclectic Wicca and Woman's Spirituality - Networking with all in the area online: [comptutr@maine.com](mailto:comptutr@maine.com)

#### Cyberspace

*The Maine Pagan Mailing List* All Maine Pagans with email capability may join in the lively conversation. Send email to [pjane@maine.rr.com](mailto:pjane@maine.rr.com) to sign up.

Bulletin Board: *Circular Logic* - 873-4981 Data line

### OTHER CONTACTS (NOT EARTHTIDES MEMBERS):

#### Bangor:

*Tom Lawrence* - 866-3994 CUUPS: Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans, monthly meeting in Bangor.

#### N. Waterford:

*Circle of Trianon* - Eclectic Wicca Gene and Judy Hemingway - 583-6519

#### Sebago Lake Region:

*House O' The Greenwood* - Lorelei - 583-2420 Focusing on using our spirituality and Eclectic Wiccan concepts to help us cope with daily life. While there is no formal coven at the moment, Lorelei is available to teach. <http://www1.usa.com/~valiriantng.html> or [lorelei@ime.net](mailto:lorelei@ime.net)



## UPCOMING FESTIVALS IN NEW ENGLAND

8/16 Silo 7's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holistic Fair 7 Bomarc Rd. Bangor ME 04401. Free Admission; 10AM to 4PM. Speakers on many subjects including Chinese Herbal Medicine Tarot, Astrology and Mysticism. Aura photography will be available, along with sessions on Reiki and massage. Tarot and Psychic readings along with info booths on gardening and books, music and storytelling. Bring something for the Pagan Pantry!

8/23-30 Witchcamp Vermont/Quebec. Focused workshops, rituals etc. with Reclaiming. Trillium c/o 360 Toad Rd. Charlotte VT 05445

9/5-7 Unity with a Beat Hebron, CT. Learn skills facilitating drum circles in clinical & community setting Bob Bloom (860) 429-9280

9/12-14 Wisdom of Lakota. Shamanism. Wallace Black Elk teaches, leads sweat lodges, etc. \$195-\$350. Rowe Camp, Kings Highway Rd., Rowe, MA 01367 (413)339-4954

9/19-21 Making It Real: Deep Ritual. Starhawk helps women explore ritual. \$195-\$350. Rowe Camp, Kings Highway Rd., Rowe, MA 01367 (413)339-4954

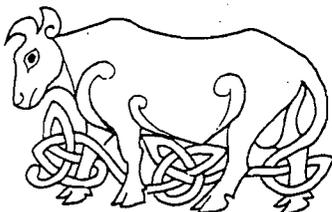
4/17-19 CraftWise Danbury Hilton Danbury, CT Workshops, rituals, music, with many mystic, Pagan, etc. paths. CRAFT WISE, P.O. Box 457, Botsford, CT 06404 (203) 874-5832 e-mail: [fdalton367@aol.com](mailto:fdalton367@aol.com) <http://www.mhv.net/~tsheeley/craftwise.html>

An international Pagan Events calendar is published by Larry Cornett, 13347 Caves Road, Chesterland, Ohio 44026. Six issue, one year hardcopy subscription: \$11.00 U.S. \$16 Canada. You can get a frequently updated calendar on the Worldwide Web at: <http://members.aol.com/lcorncalen/CALENDAR.htm>

## THE PAGAN PANTRY

MAINE has it's own "Pagan Pantry"! It is here to help people and animals in need, Pagan or not. Those who are in need should call (207) 296-3482 and ask for "Star". You may also write to her at PO Box 10, Stetson, Maine 04488

Donations of non-perishable food, money, and non-food items such as cleansers, pet food, toilet paper, shampoo, etc. can be dropped off at Silo 7 in Bangor, Dragon of the Mist in Skowhegan or with Star in Stetson - call for directions.



## OTHER PAGAN PUBLICATIONS

*EarthTides Pagan Network News* has subscription exchanges with the following Pagan publications. They are all worth your interest:

*Horns and Crescent* PO Box 540622 Millia MA 02054-0622

*Our Pagan Times* New Moon New York PO Box 1471 Madison Square Station New York NY 10159

*PAEAN* PO Box 635 Farmington NH 03835

*That Bonny Road* PO Box 857 Bath ME 04530

*The Northern Grove* PO Box 5363 Portland ME 04101

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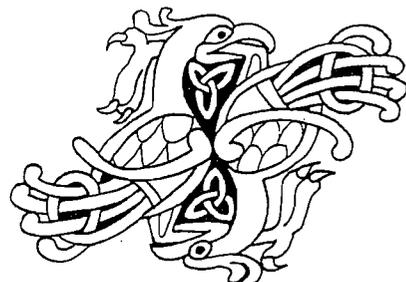
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## READER'S FORUM: COVENS AND SOLITARIES

*Editor's note: The Mabon issue Readers Forum will be "Why I Follow a Pagan Path". This issue will be distributed at MOFGA's Common Ground Fair. Our booth there is one of our major outreach efforts. Thousands of folks visit the booth and they want to know about Paganism - So tell them! We want and need your opinion!*

### One Alone or ONE Together

When I first began my practice of The Craft, in the Sixties, it was in the company of a close friend who shared a similar curiosity for making connection with the spiritual qualities of the natural elements around us. For a couple of years, we worked in what we thought was relative isolation, primarily in celebrating the eight Sabbats, with the occasional full moon or dark moon ritual. Then my friend found his own personal Goddess, and in time, they relocated, and I lost touch with them. (I wish them blessings, for they were, and I hope still are, a lovely couple!)

So it happened that for many years thereafter, I practiced my spiritual path by myself, little thinking there were likely to be any others nearby who shared these Pagan ways. Sometimes I would have doubts about the "rightness" of my isolated path, feeling perhaps I was not wholly in tune with the purposes I followed because I was not part of a coven. But about a year ago, I discovered the writings of Scott Cunningham, and I was quite pleased (and relieved!) to discover that what I had developed as a personal spiritual practice had a natural validity in the form of practice which Cunningham called the "Solitary Practitioner."

At about the same time I discovered Cunningham's books and began refreshing my study of Pagan ways, I made contact with the community of Maine Pagans who live and practice all around me. It began with a study group sponsored by EarthTides and certain members of Far Flung Coven, and it was incredibly exciting to be talking and working with several people in concert, to feel the group energy building and amplifying what had been for so long a solitary, mostly introspective, and private sort of communing with the spiritual world. After a few months of study and mutual discovery, that small circle of seekers decided to formally establish a Grove for ourselves, to make a commitment to each other to become more than individuals by joining in a sort of spiritual family.

In preparing our first ritual together, I volunteered to work on the Statement of Purpose. In creating this portion of the ritual, I found words to describe my feelings about evolving from a "solitary practitioner" to becoming a member of the larger community. Part of our ceremony was a web-weaving ritual, symbolizing our interconnectedness. On behalf of Wahtonah Grove, I share that Statement with all of you, with deep appreciation to EarthTides for making it possible for us to find each other. Blessed Be!!

Wahtonah Grove: Statement of Purpose  
- Aree Blackcat - April 11, 1997

A universe of starlight like a veil across the sky  
Becomes a web of stories in our mind's eye.

In whimsy, we connect the dots -- Imagination sings --  
And draws the pictures from our thoughts  
Of animals, and people, of seasons and other things.  
And from these visions come our stories,  
Of history and mystery,  
Of gods' and goddesses' glories.

And all these mystic stories in our celestial web  
Suggest to us our purpose  
For our lives, which flow and ebb.  
Our Purpose is to seek and find  
The pathway to the Soul  
Which best fulfills our needs and hopes,  
And this explains our role.

We use our lives in being free  
Yet helping one another  
To understand, to love, to dream,  
As sister and as brother.  
To care for all within our reach  
As sacred to our Being;  
To keep our world as safe and clean  
As may be, within our Seeing.

And so we gather, now and then,  
To study and to wonder  
About the tales and cycles  
Of this Star Web we live under.

ALL TOGETHER:

And to that mission, tonight we stand  
And form a circle, hand-to-hand.  
We come now to declare our plan:  
To join our minds in a quest to understand;  
To gain in Wisdom, as best we can!  
SO MOTE IT BE !!

- Aree Blackcat: Lammas, 1997



## STARCAT'S CORNER

Last Lammas, I was almost nine months pregnant, weary yet very happy, waiting as patiently as I could for the birth of my son. This summer I have been reminded vividly of that time, not only by his joyful, growing presence, but also by the smell of flowers and cut grass, the late-evening light, and the activities of this time of year. That got me thinking about memories and how we store and access them. For example: I can, when I consciously call it up, also remember the excitement and nervousness I felt when I first became pregnant. But that was in winter, and the memory does not spontaneously rise up as the others do.

Do we, as pagans or simply as humans, remember events and feelings as part of the Earth's natural seasonal cycles? Do the sights and smells and sounds of a particular time of year trigger those memories? I think this is true for many people.

As pagans, who choose to celebrate the seasons and natural cycles, I think we are more conscious of the link between memory and natural time. As we plan our Sabbat activities and rituals, we remember what we did and how we felt on this holiday in times past. Our record-keeping, in a journal or Book of Shadows, is enhanced by the sensory input we receive from nature.

Since I began to notice this phenomenon recently, I realize that I have also begun to move away from the twelve month calendar-structured memory, to remembering things by the moon's cycles. "Let's see, when did I last write to my brother? I think it was before last Full Moon..." Instead of delving for the month and date, it seems easier to mark things by the phase the moon was in.

In pondering why memory, which on the surface seems to be a mental process, is triggered by what surrounds us (smells, sounds, temperatures, etc.), I think of "cellular memory." I have encountered the concept in several places, but especially in Jane Roberts' Seth books (an aside: if you have not read any of these, I recommend them. Many of the concepts Seth, a channeled entity, discusses are very compatible with pagan beliefs). The body stores events and emotions on a cellular level, and can react to them in a very vivid, timeless way. Perhaps when my body smells the summer flowers and feels the warm breezes, I am prompted to remember last summer, and the feelings of being stretched tight with new life preparing to burst forth. For you, the same cues could trigger a happy memory of leisurely days by a lake, or a painful one when you broke your leg.

On an individual level, honoring the cycles as well as recalling our experiences within them can help us feel more connected - to the Earth, to the stories of our own

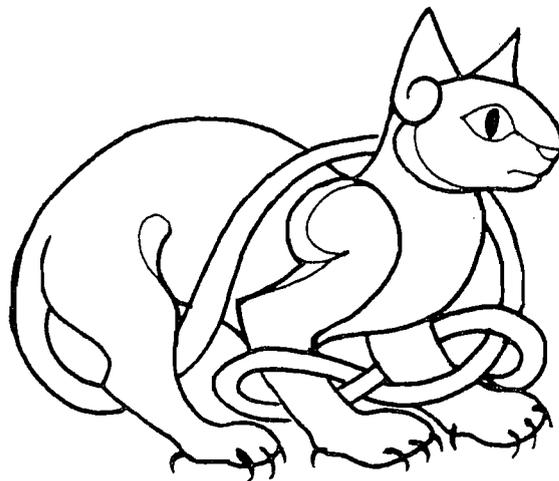
lives, and to others in our community ("Remember that Lammas when your cousin from Ireland was here?"). Those of us who keep a journal can, if we don't already, include sensory cues (new moon, awesome thunderstorm, jazz on the radio) which can help us more easily bring events, emotions or rituals to mind much later. And even if you don't bother with written records, you can expect that memories will arise as you need them, or you can search the records of your body's awareness.

These ways of remembering and a greater awareness of natural cycles of time seem to be both a return to the way our pagan ancestors kept track of milestones in their lives, and a look ahead to a future when we as a species are more aware of our natural environment and its messages, and also the messages of our bodies. Becoming aware of them, we can open ourselves to creative ways of remembering, and use the knowledge we find there to learn and grow as the wheel turns once again.

- Starcat

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# meanderings

Well it's official! As of July 15th, EarthTides Pagan Network is a domestic, non-profit corporation in the State of Maine. Time to celebrate!

Work on the by-laws continues (don't know how we would be able to do it without e-mail!) and, I think, we're pretty close to a final draft. While there's not room here to publish them in their entirety (and that would be premature anyway, since they're not done yet) I'd like to share some of our ideas with you all, and, I hope, get some feedback. Copies will be available at our annual meeting, if not sooner.

EarthTides will be governed by a Council, which will have two types of members. Member congregations (more about that below) will choose one representative and one alternate for the Council. In addition, there will be two representatives, and one alternate, to represent the many solitary members. From among its number, the Council will elect Directors, president, vice-president, recording and corresponding secretaries, and a treasurer. To save time and fossil fuel, as much Council business as possible will be conducted by e-mail (except for the annual meeting, of course).

Individuals will either be full or associate members. Full members are adult pagan residents of Maine who have paid annual dues. We're working on a shared membership idea, whereby people can pay a lower dues rate than the current \$11.00 per year and not get their own copy of the newsletter (say people in the same circle or household). Associate members are adult pagans who reside outside Maine, and pay \$11.00 annual dues.

To be a member congregation, a group would have to have most of its members also EPN members, then request membership in the organization. There would probably have to be some kind of explanation of how the group operates, and annual reporting information (required by the feds), but in no way would EPN determine that one group's path was more "valid" than another. The only absolute requirement would be that the group not violate state, federal, or local laws.

In working on the by-laws, we are also dealing with the issue of pagan clergy. Maine law recognizes clergy of several classes, none of which seem particularly applicable to the way many pagans operate. While it is possible, and absolutely legitimate, for pagans to perform the legal clerical functions as notaries, or by getting recognition through the Universal Life Church, we feel that, if members of mainstream churches don't have to do it this way, neither should we! For that reason, we're working on an equitable approach to legal recognition of pagan clergy through EarthTides. For this section, in particular, I am looking for feedback from the membership (standards? ordination process? duties and responsibilities? etc.).

Our annual meeting will be held at the end of January. Groups who want to become member congregations may want to start thinking about that, and about who should represent them.

The next issue of EPNN will have further information for those who want to become candidates for solitary representatives. According to the proposed by-laws, these representatives must be full members who are not also part of a group which is a member congregation. I hope we have lots of good candidates!

-Arwen Evenstar

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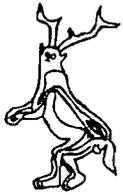
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## Which Witch



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## HOOFBEAT: A COLUMN ABOUT MEN'S ISSUES WITHIN PAGANISM

Oh God, Isn't this Guy Dead Yet?"

One of the things I hear several times a year is that we seem to kill off the God far too often. Starting as early as Litha, and going as far as Yule, depending on your tradition, some version or aspect of male deity gets symbolically killed in circle several times. This year Arwen and I are beginning to change that in Immanent Grove's rituals.

In the past, I have been mostly involved in circles done by generally Wiccan groups, with the God being sacrificed at Lammass and at Mabon, with a special service to let his spirit pass through at Samhain. This year, I also participated in a really well-done Litha celebration that worked with the Farrarian Oak king/Holly king year. This meant that the enthusiastic young Holly King put the dignified but tired Oak King to the sword, which favor will presumably be returned at Yule. On grouchy days this emphasis on the God's termination reminds me all too much of the Christian fascination with the bleeding, pathetic, tortured, starved fellow nailed to a cross.

When I say "the God", what I mean is the spirit of growth for the present year. One of many deities, he is the one who is born at Yule, whose phallus is the maypole, and who sires next year's God. Next year's crop won't grow well if we don't bring in this year's harvest, and the world would be a crowded place indeed if we were born immortal, so he is the reminder that life comes only out of death. He is also the vital, growing, passionate force of life, the reminder that "youth prevails." The state of your garden (and your other endeavors) is a leading indicator of the effort and love that you put into it. The God, in this sense, is a perfect allegory for the span of a human life. This is a major part of what we recognize in ritual. Even so, we spend a lot of time celebrating the fact that the God's life comes to an end, and not much time celebrating the gifts that he offers us while he is vitality incarnate.

With this in mind, we put together a Litha ritual honoring the God in the form of a very large male figure woven out of bark, called the Summerking. We treated him royally, and asked for his support in our lives for the season. He has been standing facing into the sun at our North quarter all summer. We've been regularly adorning him with fresh flowers and bringing him offerings of food and drink. He is indescribably cool!

At Mabon we will thank the Summerking for his gifts, burn him in a royal send-off, and begin a period of Goddess-oriented ritual. Immanent Grove will not ritually sacrifice any deity at any other time of the year. Instead, we will celebrate life, we will honor other gods and goddesses, we will observe the sun, the moon, and the fertile soil. We will honor those who have gone, yes, but also those who are arriving, those who are growing, and those whose wisdom and love sustains us.

-Harper Meader



## ON THE GARDEN PATH TO ENLIGHTENMENT

I can't remember a better gardening summer. Everything is far ahead of where I would have expected. Even those things that should be choked off by weeds are pushing their way through. I haven't even seen a slug!

I've seen potato beetles, though. I found this great spray that is based on a bacterium that is specific for the larvae. And what makes it really great, is that the larvae have to eat the sprayed foliage to be affected. No shotgun application at all. It's an Organic Gardeningarian's dream!

The St. John's Wort is already in flower. These plants have seemingly delicate, almost transparent yellow flowers blooming above nondescript green bushes. For centuries, the oil from them has been used in medicine. I fill a canning jar full of the flowers and leaves and fill it with olive oil. I set the jar in the window until I feel like remembering it. The oil turns a lovely pale red and it smells like a clean summer day. Mugwort says that it helps his bad knee better than any commercial drug.

Speaking of mugwort, my Father disk-harrowed mine. He got a new plow with fancy attachments and was enthusiastic about using it. I asked to have a new section of field plowed for my anarchists. I carefully pointed out my cultivars. He missed. Fortunately, Artemesias are as tough as you'd expect plants named for the Huntress to be; I think they'll survive.

Through the window behind my desk, I can see the butterflies and bees happily doing their work. The apiaries should be overflowing this year, and that means lots of mead this winter! I planted a Sweet Woodruff in the shade garden; we're going to try a traditional May Wine for Beltane.

I walk through our gardens with my Mom a lot. I can see where I got my gardening style; both gardens are full of pretty weeds that have been left because they look nice or smell good, or aren't bothering anyone. Just because I didn't plant it, doesn't mean I don't want it!

I love being part of a garden!

-Elkwing



## BOOK REVIEW

*Inside a Witches' Coven*, by Edain McCoy (Llewellyn, \$9.95) is a book that has been needed for a long time. Here is a well-grounded, common sense approach to coven issues, even the tough stuff, like what to do when things go bad.

McCoy explains that, "If this is the first book...that you have picked up, be aware that it is not intended as a substitute for a book on basic Craft teachings." She gives some brief background information, and explains that "Witchcraft is not just an excuse to make Magick or shock our elders." That alone should be required reading for those investigating the Craft!

The author goes on to explain clearly the different types of covens, e.g. initiatory vs. non-initiatory, open vs. closed, teaching vs. non-teaching, and so forth. She then encourages her readers to come up with a list of qualities they are seeking in a coven. She closes this section with a list of ideas for networking and some specific things to look for in checking out a coven, as well as step-by-step suggestions for forming a new group, whether social, for study, or a coven.

*Inside a Witches' Coven* is not just for neophytes looking for closer ties within the community. The author explains how her own coven, Clan Eireannach, handles its teaching responsibilities, gives a basic initiation rite, and briefly explains their celebratory cycles.

Finally, McCoy deals with some tougher issues. Handling conflict is both difficult and inevitable. She offers many practical suggestions, and, allowing for the occasional parting of the ways, outlines a banishing ritual.

While our libraries may have other sources which present rituals for initiation or rules for running a good coven, I can't think of any which cover the subject as clearly and inclusively as *Inside a Witches' Coven*.

--Arwen Evenstar

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## EARTHTIDES NEWS

### Full Circle Summer Fair

The WERU Full Circle Summer Fair was held the weekend of July 19 in Union Maine. This was the first year that EPN had a booth at the fair, but, judging from the response that we received, it won't be the last!

EPN made many contacts, gave out free literature, sold many items, and answered many questions. All in all, it was an unqualified success for EarthTides. Most exciting, however, was the way that members pulled together to make things happen. This was a wonderful expression of community, and is most auspicious at this time.

Thanks go to all those members who donated items to be sold at the booth. Helen for her magickal wands, Robin for his book of myths, Rachel for her mandalas, Michael for his homemade runes, Melissa for her notecards, Laura for her children's songbooks, Craftwise Creations for prints and votives, and Silo7 for their books.

Thank-you also to all those volunteers who peopled the booth and represented us so well. Helen, Robin, Rachel, Melissa, Geoff, Jim, Richard, Kitty, Marilyn and Lorraine. Well done.

An extra special thank-you goes to Arwen and Harper of Apple Valley Books. They turned their store over to someone else, and volunteered to spend the entire weekend at the booth. They donated time, merchandise and money well above the call of Pagan Duty.

### Common Ground Fair

Time to look ahead! The weekend of September 19, 20, and 21 will find EPN at the Common Ground Fair in Windsor. This is a huge fair, covering three entire days. It's run by committee, however, so vending will be limited. What we do need, is volunteers. Lots of them. With the amount of time involved, we'd like to be a little more formal at this fair; perhaps assigning times and tasks.

Common Ground is our biggest outreach effort of the year, and thousands of people come to the booth to try and network with others. This is why we're here. Please contact EarthTides to volunteer your time.

### Post Common Ground Ritual

So, after we've met all these people what do we do with them? Last year, Far Flung put together a public gathering and ritual where we made many new friends and members. Who'd like to take a turn this year? We need something to publish in the Mabon issue, so think hard and fast!



## DRAGON FLAMES

**P**ower, Energy, What is it? We use it and create it, both in ritual and in daily practice. Teri Mister answers this question for me. Read on.

*THREE UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLES* by Teri Mister, Haiku HA.  
(Extracted with author's permission)

### " The Law Of Attraction

Through our thoughts we create energy vortexes that create our future. What we create is a result of what we think. What we experience is a result of what we thought before. So, what ever energy we vibrate at, is what we attract to us. If we vibrate in abundance, love, and appreciation, etc., or in lack, fear, and doubt, etc. than that is what we attract to us.

### " The Law Of Deliberate Creation

We can create what we want. We are always doing so, however, some of what we get, and is what we don't want, is created out of default or unconscious creation. If we want to check our unconscious beliefs, we only need to look at what we have created. We are not victims to our present reality. We have only been unconsciously creating. To shift that energy, we need to remember that what we focus on expands. we only want to focus on what we don't want long enough to identify what we do want. We can choose what we want to create for our futures by taking responsibility for creating our realities.

### " The Law Of Allowing

This is about allowing others the right to choose how they flow their energy. I take responsibility for how I flow energy and can allow you to chose how you want to flow your energy. Where or how we vibrate is who or what we attract to us. we can focus on creating our future realities, allowing present circumstances to guide us, and allow others to do the same. Remember what we focus on expands, if we focus on what we judge as wrong, then what we draw to us is more wrong making. Take the experience, focus long enough to identify what you do want, and then focus on what you do want. Allowing keeps energy flow. Judging shuts it off.

How do we know we are flowing energy? By how we feel. We have two feelings, either expanded (feel good), or contracted (not so good). When we are on the path of our purpose we feel happy, free, and flowing. When we are off point we feel contracted, fearful, we are holding energy in limitation.

How do we create a shift? The fastest way to shift energy is to go into appreciation. Identify what you don't want so you can shift your energy to what you do want. Stop, notice how you feel, appreciate what ever

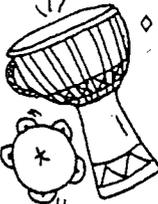
comes to mind until you feel the energy shift, now affirm. Do it anytime you are in doubt, as many time as needed, remember we are not victims: we can be conscious creators. Happy creating.

I hope I have given you a sense of what Teri had to say, I found it of interest. You may write her with your comments (75734.367@CompuServe.COM). I have the original article if you want a copy.

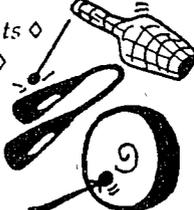
Flames are energy <Kelt>

## The Rhythm Inlet

**" Drums Heard 'Round the World "**

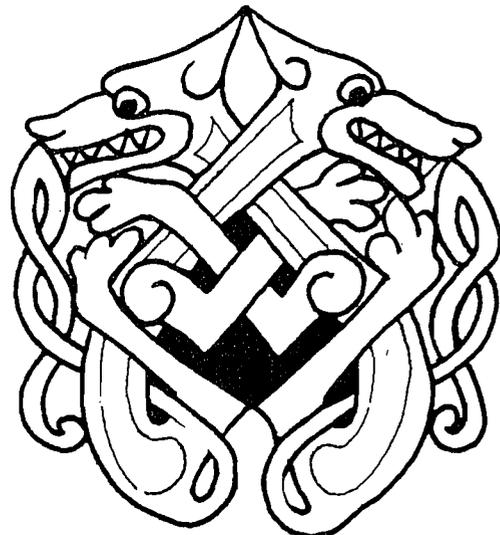


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## EPN Organization Explanation and Questionnaire

EarthTides Pagan Network is about to become an official, tax-exempt organization! Thanks to a lot of hard work and organizing, we are now officially recognized by the State of Maine. This means that we will no longer have to pay taxes for printing or supplies, and any moneys collected at fairs are non-taxable. Possible future endeavors include ordination of clergy and taking part in political causes.

We have a lot of dreams and plans for EPN and they are about to become a reality. In order for this to succeed, however, we need input from all our members. Bylaws of how EPN is to be run are now being put in place. There are rules regarding what a Group is, and provisions made for Solitary Practitioners.

Basically:

Full members are those adult residents of Maine who have paid up membership dues. Associate members are non-Maine residents who have paid-up dues. Annual dues for both types of members are \$11 per person, household, or business. All named adult members of a household or business are members. Note: there are other categories of subscriber, for instance subscription exchanges, but only those that pay dues to EPN are members.

A group, coven or organization will consist of at least three (3) adults who practice together. At least 50% of Group members must be full EPN members. Each group will be self-governing.

A Solitary is any member of EPN that does not belong to an EPN member Group.

All groups may have one (1) representative and one (1) alternate to EPN council. Each coven will elect or appoint its own representative. Solitaries will vote two (2) total members to the council and one (1) alternate; representatives will be chosen from interested solitary members. The council will choose five (5) representatives from the council to form a Board of Directors.

The enclosed questionnaire needs to be filled out and mailed back to EarthTides if you wish to participate in the organized network. Each member household or business should fill one out; please include your mailing label with the questionnaire. The questionnaire will be read only by the ad-hoc Board of Directors. Please call, write or email with any questions.

**1. EPN subscription name**

**2. EPN subscription address**

**3. Name(s) of other EPN members at this address**

**4. Craft name(s)**

**5. Solitary(s)**

**6. Group name**

**7. Other members of Group**

**8. If solitary, are you willing to run for Solitary Rep?**

**9. EPN member type**

**10. email address**

### NOTES:

- 1) Name that you receive the newsletter under. This can be either mundane or craft, but we need to know who we're talking to.
- 2) Address that EPNN arrives at.
- 3) If there are several members at household or business, not on label, please tell us. It will be important for voting.
- 4) Craft names are optional, but helpful if you tend to trade off.
- 5) Yes/No. Should be yes if you want to vote for Solitary representative. No if your group will be a member group.
- 6) Optional. Helpful for cross-checking.
- 7) Again, for cross-checking. Also to check on membership requirements.
- 8) Yes/No. If yes please send a biography sketch of yourself. Include things like path, EPN future, geographic location. These will help others decide on their representative and will be printed in the next issue of EPNN.
- 9) Household, business, associate, full. Please fill us in on each member.
- 10) email address. If you have one; we won't discriminate if you don't.

Mail completed questionnaire and mailing label to: EPN PO Box 161 East Winthrop, ME 04343  
Write to that address with questions, or call 848-2850, or email mugwert@ime.net

E.P.N  
P.O. Box 161  
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