



EARTHTIDES PAGAN NETWORK NEWS

LIVING IN MAINE, CELEBRATING THE EARTH

Samhain 2000

About the EarthTides Pagan Network

The Maine Pagan community is diverse, independent and geographically distant. We worship in groups or alone, but sometimes need contact and a shared forum to express our ideas and concerns for this community.

The EarthTides Pagan Network was established in 1989 as a support resource for Maine Pagans. All solitaires and groups are welcome to join. Some may choose simply to receive this newsletter. Those who wish to be listed among our contacts or vote on organizational matters must sign our Standards.

A subscription to this newsletter is available for a suggested donation of \$11 per year. Single copies may be obtained by sending a \$1.50 donation and a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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earthtides@celticweb.com
Web:
<http://www.mix-net.net/~anmarie/earthtides>

Kents Hill Labyrinth begun

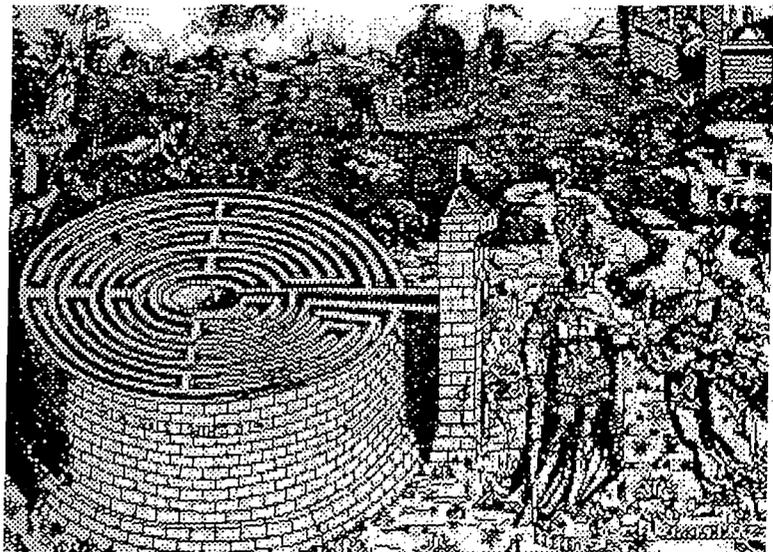
By Kelt

Come walk the labyrinth! The community has been loaned the use of land in Kents Hill to be used for a permanent labyrinth.

The 7-course "Cretan" labyrinth was laid out on Sunday, October 1. Many thanks to the group who joined me for the project. It now consists of 400 ft of string and stakes. It will need 400-plus stones, and other additions, to become a permanent structure.

Now that it is finished, it needs to be used and walked. It is located 1.2 miles from the Kents Hill intersection of Routes 17 & 41, on Rt. 41, across from the riding stable. Look for the recumbent granite stones blocking the entrance. When you come, you are encouraged to bring a gift, to add to the permanent structure. Statues, large rocks, perennial plants, or spring bulbs are possibilities.

I can be available to guide you, and teach you or your group about labyrinths. I hope to write more about labyrinths in the future. For more information call or e-mail me at: 685-3860 or wchellis@zwi.net.



NETWORKING

The people and groups listed here are mentioned because they have done two things: They have volunteered to serve as points of contact for those seeking Pagan community, and they have signed the EPN Standards, which pledges them to follow a set of basic rules of ethical conduct. Any person or group may be listed here by subscribing to this newsletter and agreeing to those Standards; please contact EPN to arrange such a listing.

EPN has no interest in serving as the "Pagan police," and explicitly supports the autonomy of each person and group in matters of faith, belief and worship. The Maine Pagan community encompasses a wide variety of people and practices, and seekers are cautioned that any person or activity that makes you uncomfortable is probably wrong for you.

Groups and individuals who seek networking opportunities but are reluctant to sign the Standards are encouraged to take advantage of our advertising columns.

AUGUSTA AREA

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

Immanent Grove. A fellowship of practicing Pagans of all persuasions. Members pursue their own personal relationships with the Gods. We're interested in corresponding with experienced Pagans who would like to work with us. *Harper/Arwen, Immanent Grove, P.O. Box 233, Readfield, ME 04355*

Wahtonah Grove. A Pagan Circle honoring a variety of traditions, dedicated to seeking knowledge and understanding, as well as to good friendship. *Aree, tsiganka@prodigy.net*

OXFORD HILLS AREA

Khyrohn Ni Mara. Eclectic Wiccan focusing on healing through herbs and drumming. RR1 Box 2606, N. Waterford, ME 04267. 583-4215.

PORTLAND/YORK COUNTY

Temple of Brigantia. Wiccan group honoring the Goddesses and Gods of Britain and Rome. Offering open Full Moon rituals and accepting selected candidates for apprenticeship. *Jane/Cassius, 646-6634 or temple@janeraeburn.com*

Circle of the Silver Cauldron, Atlantic. Eclectice Wiccan coven emphasizing creativity and self-development. Great Day celebrations open to the community. *Thea or Harry, 641-0996 or thea@loa.com*

WATERVILLE AREA

MoonGoddess. Eclectic Wicca and Women's Spirituality; area networking online. *Mmmmoongoddess@yahoo.com or 873-0528.*

SPECIAL INTERESTS

Deaf Pagans. I would love to meet Deaf adults who are Pagan and other Pagan parents of Deaf children. *Ede, 353-6202 (V/TTY) or ede@clinic.net*

PanCraft. Pagan artists, musicians and others beloved of the Muses get together to share their work and honor the Deities who inspire them. *Harper and Arwen, P.O. Box 233, Readfield, ME 04355*

ONLINE RESOURCES

EPN Web site, <http://www.mix-net.net/~annmarie/earthtides>

Maine Pagan Resource Page, <http://www.janeraeburn.com/maine>

Maine Pagan Mailing List, to join send blank e-mail to mepagan-subscribe@egroups.com

EPN Mailing List (open to newsletter subscribers only), to join send blank e-mail to earthtides-subscribe@egroups.com

Maine Pagan Politics List, to join send blank e-mail to meppolitics-subscribe@egroups.com

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CALENDAR

As a service to the Pagan community, we seek to list as many events as possible that would be of interest to Maine Pagans. You need not be a member of EPN, or even a subscriber to this newsletter, to list an event here. All we ask is that events be non-profit -- that is, that any fees for participating not exceed the reasonable cost of putting on the event -- and submitted to us by e-mail or post by the publication deadline. (Those planning for-profit events are welcome to avail themselves of our very affordable advertising opportunities.)

We make no claim as to the value or safety of any of these events, and caution our readers to rely on their own best judgment when assessing any situation, particularly those involving strangers. That said, we also encourage you to participate in as wide a spectrum of the Pagan community as you can, both for your own enjoyment and because our community needs your positive energy and good fellowship

OCTOBER

27 Friday

Open Samhain ritual hosted by Immanent Grove, 7:15 p.m., Ironwood Hollow, Sidney. Bring written messages to your departed loved ones to send in the fire, and magickal items you wish to dispose of ritually. Persons under 18 are welcome with a custodial parent. Children should be able to maintain respectful quiet. Dress for the weather and season!

New Moon in Scorpio, 2:58 a.m.

28 Saturday

Annual Witch's Costume Ball 8pm-midnight, University of Southern Maine, Portland Campus Center, Bedford Street. Dress up as your favorite fantastic creature, deity, what have you. DJ, munchies and punch, cash bar. All proceeds will benefit a local women's or family shelter. FMI: Julie 727-5844, or anubis@sacoriver.net.

"The Goddess Remembered," film and discussion, 9:30 a.m., Bangor Public Library. Free.

Goddesses and Gods Costume Ball, Bangor Community Center, 8 p.m. Cost \$13 per person. Live music with The Beatroots. For more information, e-mail genesisseven@aol.com.

29 Sunday

Goddess Books and Crafts Bazaar, noon to 5 p.m., Unitarian-Universalist Church, Bangor.

Daylight Savings Time ends.

31 Tuesday

Open Samhain Ritual, Circle of the Silver Cauldron, Wells, 9 p.m. Weather permitting, this will be held outdoors. Those under 18 are welcome with permission from a parent, and this is a particularly fun ritual for kids. FMI email thea@l.ca.com.

SAMHAIN. Celebrated among many Pagans as a feast of the dead and "New Year."

NOVEMBER

4 Saturday

Second Quarter Moon in Aquarius 2:27a.m.

7 Tuesday

ELECTION DAY. Issues on the Maine ballot include gay rights, clearcutting and assisted suicide.

11 Saturday

Open Full Moon ritual, Temple of Brigantia, Wells at 7:30pm. Ritual honors Concordia, goddess of harmony among disparate peoples. In honor of Armistice/Veterans' Day, an offering will also be made in thanks to warriors ancient and modern, and with prayers for their safety. Potluck supper to follow. Minors welcome with parent's permission. FMI: email temple@janeraeburn.com or call 646-6634.

Crafting/Gift-Making Day, all day, home of Lorelei Greenwood, Auburn. Kids welcome. Bring craft materials. For more information, e-mail mermaidmusic@adelphia.net.

Full Moon Gathering, 6 p.m., home of Lorelei Greenwood, Auburn. Kids welcome. Bring snacks/drinks to share, musical instruments, seasonal poetry. For more information, e-mail mermaidmusic@adelphia.net.

Veterans' Day.

Full Mourning Moon in Taurus 4:15p.m.

18 Saturday

Fourth Quarter Moon in Leo 10:24 a.m., void of course 12:03p.m., enters Virgo 4:15p.m.

21 Tuesday

Herbal workshop. 34 Church Road, Readfield. Discussion will cover the medicinal and magickal uses of at least 5 herbs. There will be samples and handouts for participants. Coffee/tea and snacks provided. Directions: off Rte 17, two houses past the brick church. FMI: please rsvp draco@powerlink.net.

23 Thursday

Thanksgiving Day.

25 Saturday

New Moon in Sagittarius 6:11 p.m.

DECEMBER

3 Sunday

Second Quarter Moon in Pisces, 10:55 p.m.

10 Sunday

Eponalia, Temple of Brigantia, Wells, 7:30 p.m., with potluck supper to follow. At this special Full Moon ritual, we honor the Celtic horse goddess

Calendar

From Page 3

Epona. Dress in layers (ritual may be outside).
Donations of pet food will be collected and given to a
local animal shelter.

11 Monday

Full Long Nights Moon 4:03 a.m., v/c 9:15
a.m., enters Cancer 8:48 p.m.

16 Saturday

Open Yule ritual, hosted by Immanent Grove
at Evergreen Circle in South China, 7:30 p.m.
Participants should bring a candle to represent
themselves and a potluck snack to share. Persons
under 18 years of age are welcome with a custodial
parent. Young children should be able to maintain
respectful quiet. For directions, or to let us know
you're coming (space is limited), please respond via e-
mail to snspear@pivot.net.

17 Sunday

Fourth Quarter Moon in Virgo 7:41 p.m.

About This Newsletter

This newsletter comes out eight times
a year, around the Sabbats. Literary, poetic
and artistic contributions are welcome, as
well as letters and opinion pieces.

Please keep submissions to no more
than two pages, double-spaced. Submissions
sent via disk or e-mail to
earthtides@celticweb.com are preferred.
Articles are edited for spelling, grammar and
to fit available space.

Subscribers' names, addresses and
other personal information are kept
confidential except to other network
members. EPN will aid in establishing
contact between individuals if asked to do
so, but accepts no legal responsibility for the
results.

The deadline for the Winter Solstice
issue is Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2000.

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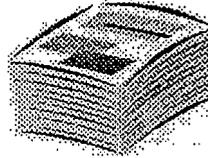
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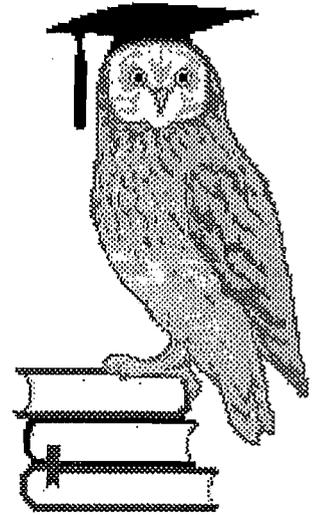
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CAMPUS PAGANS

Online

There's a new discussion list for Pagan students at Maine colleges and universities, sponsored by The C.I.R.C.L.E. at Colby College. You can subscribe to the discussion list by sending an e-mail to majordomo@colby.edu, with the message "subscribe circle" in the text (no subject heading). The list is open to anyone interested in discussing issues of spirituality, particularly "alternative" spiritual paths.

If you are interested in networking with other Pagan college or university students in the state, you can send e-mail to Susan on the CIRCLE e-list, and she will get in touch with you. Plans are already underway to try to arrange carpools to events in the State, to share programs on different campuses, and to offer support to folks who would like to get a Pagan group going on their own campus.



In Print

EarthTides Pagan Network offers a free subscription to this newsletter to any Pagan student group. We'd prefer to send information to a campus address, because we want to encourage the formation of official Pagan student groups, but will consider applications from unofficial groups at Maine schools or colleges. To request a free subscription, please send a description of your group and contact information to Jane at pjane@journalist.com.

In Action

Buoyed by the success of the excellent Teen Pamphlet (a project led by Ann Marie and Marilyn), EPN is crafting a similar pamphlet to be distributed to the state's school districts. This pamphlet will provide basic information about Pagan religion and student rights, along with contact information for schools seeking more information or dealing with a Pagan-related issue. If you have time, energy or expertise to contribute to this project -- particularly experience as a teacher or school administrator -- please e-mail Jane at pjane@journalist.com.

HOLIDAY HELP

As I have done since 1994, I am collecting money to be given to the Bruce Roberts Santa Fund in the name of "Maine Pagans." This fund, run by the Portland Press Herald and Maine Sunday Telegram, uses donations to buy holiday gifts (including books and age-appropriate toys) for children of all religions in Cumberland, York, Sagadahoc, Oxford and Knox counties. Donations are acknowledged in the paper, making this a public but non-threatening way to let the community know that Pagans care.

If you can help, please send any amount, however small, to Jane Raeburn, P.O. Box 1897, Wells, ME 04090. Checks should be made out to "Bruce Roberts Santa Fund." Deadline is Dec. 6.

THE DARK MOTHER

By Starcat

Now is the time of the year when the Goddess in her aspect of Dark Mother makes her appearance. The harvest is done, and we settle in for the long hard winter. All that was born in the spring and flourished through the summer, brought to fruition at the time of the harvest, must now begin to die. The physical darkness comes earlier than ever each day. Rather than dread the approach of winter, we can welcome this aspect of the Goddess, and let her help us with our spiritual work.

Something the Dark Mother, or Crone, is especially good at is winnowing. What is it that we need to winnow, or purge, in our lives at this time? What part of your life can you destroy? Sometimes we have addictions we need to purposefully get rid of. Maybe addictions is too strong a word; perhaps they are just behaviors that have somehow become habits. Examine your daily actions, your mental constructs, even your spiritual disciplines. Is there something that may have once been good for you that you have now simply grown out of?

Call on the Dark Mother, she who fiercely guards the tender, fragile parts of your self, to destroy that which is harmful on any level. Invoking her at the waning moon, in this waning time of year, is even more powerful. Find that one thing that you wish to be rid of, and perform a banishing ritual. You might want to find a symbol of the habit or behavior that you have outgrown, and then burn or bury it as

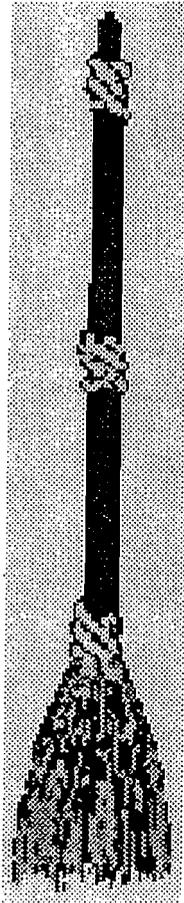
part of your ritual. Or you can write it down on a piece of paper and consign that to the flames.

Call on the Crone at this time of the year as the Hermit, one who turns inward. The cold fall evenings are an ideal time for introspection. Examine those fragile or hidden parts of your nature. What can you do to nurture that secret aspect of yourself? How still and quiet can you be? Invite yourself to take more time than usual for rest and meditation. Explore your personal mysteries. The dark night sky can help us see the tiny flame at the core of the soul.

The Dark Mother can also help us to reach out to those who have crossed over to the other side. The Crone can pass with ease through the veil between the worlds, which is especially thin at Samhain, and enable us to communicate with the spirits of loved ones. Invoke her before scrying, or ask for her aid as you do magick to recognize and honor your ancestors. Watch for her presence in your dreams, and see who accompanies her. Make room for messages sent to you through her presence.

Open your heart to the Dark Mother this Samhain season, and see what richness arises in your spirit. Rather than fear the dark parts of your self or of the earth, consciously honor the dark time of year as an integral part of the wheel. Death on any level also brings transformation, from which the light is born once again. Enjoy your journey, with the Goddess, into the depths of your being.

See you on the other side.



BE A PART OF EPN

Stay connected with the community! Annual subscription is \$11.00 for 8 issues of this newsletter. (Full membership, which includes voting privileges and festival discounts, requires signing our Standards; please contact us to obtain a copy.)

Name _____

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New full membership

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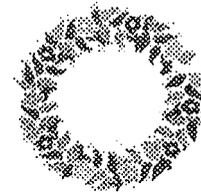
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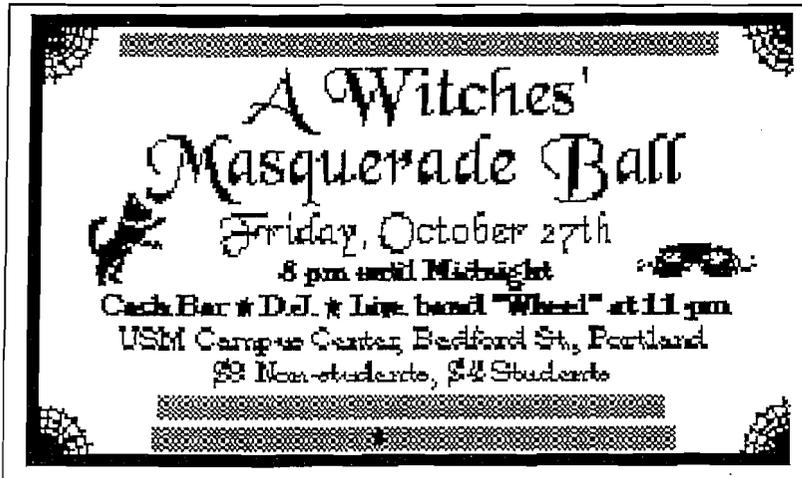
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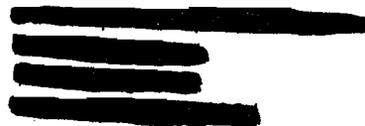
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