



April Newsletter

In this Issue

Important April Dates
New Items at The Witch's Apothecary
The Witch's Apothecary April Sale Items
Herb of the Month – Dandelion
Stone of the Month – Red Coral
Rune of the Month – Perthro
Tarot Card of the Month – Wheel of Fortune
Correspondence of the Month – Stones
Spell of the Month – Love Charm Bag

Important April Dates

(All times are CST)

April 5, 10:55 pm – New Moon

Aries New Moon Meditation: Summoning the Power of Rebirth

by Karri Ann Allrich

Spring has arrived! The birds are returning. The long-awaited Vernal Equinox, that pivotal moment in the year when daylight finally equals the darkness, has come, fulfilling the promise of *Imbolc*.

For those of us who follow a path dedicated to the Goddess, this is a time of renewal and regeneration. A time of clearing away the lingering lessons of winter's long introspection, and making way for new growth. We stir from the surrender of our Piscean dreams to focus now on our awakening bodies. Our energy begins to flow outward, extroverted now in the stimulation of Spring.

With this month's New Moon in Aries we are challenged to look ahead with anticipation, **asserting the power of "I am."** This is the fire of the third chakra; the awareness of desire. The rebirth of life's first breath. The focus shifts from our intuitive nature to our Solar Plexus; aptly named. The New Moon in Aires provides us with an opportunity to create a focus for our goals. To honor spontaneity and take risks. This is the moment to be direct. To leap into a new venture, risk a new project or dare to make the first move.

For your New Moon ritual light candles of yellow and sunny orange. Wear the arousing scents of ginger, cinnamon and lemon verbena. As you meditate upon the energy of this Aries New Moon, concentrate on your breath. Take the time to breathe deeply from your abdomen and imagine the core of your very self as a flame. With each breath this flame grows brighter, more intense. This is the breath “I am,” this is the flame of desire. As you relax deeper into your meditation, focus on this simple act of self nurture. The fire of your focus, the burn of your intention needs to be cherished and fueled. Are you defining your needs? Are you giving yourself the care and consideration you so freely offer to others?

Make movement a part of your New Moon ritual. The body needs to stretch and reawaken this time of year. Play music that inspires you to dance; ancient rhythms that resonate within your Solar Plexus. Be present in your body as you breathe and move, opening yourself to rebirth and renewal. Embody the Goddess in this season of awakenings. Dance and revel in the mysteries of sensuality, the take and give of the feminine uniting with the masculine, of life generating new life. Pleasure and desire are holy pursuits. Eve's apple wasn't a temptation to sin, it was an invitation to wisdom. In Spring, the Goddess teaches us that the body and soul are one, each an integral part of the other. The soul expresses itself through the body, and the body breathes the very life of the soul. Both are sacred.

In this green season of renewal, celebrate the awakening earth and honor the divine within you. Rekindle your passion, body and soul.

April 20, 5:25 am – Full Moon

Plant a Magical Moon Garden

What could be more enchanted than to cultivate your own Moon Garden. Honoring the Silver Goddess in all her glory with a fragrant & luminous evening garden. A wonderful offering which you will benefit from as well. Many night-blooming flowers are white and rely on strong fragrance, rather than bright colors, to attract insects. Plant night-bloomers near a bedroom window, where the breeze can carry the fragrance indoors right into your dreams.

Plant some in a circle to mimic the Moon, they look terrific alongside silver-foliaged Lambs ears and Artemisia. Illuminated only by moonlight, pale flowers and foliage add a dreamy, ethereal feeling. You don't need to have a big space, potted plants work too, just remember to add a trellis or place where vine plants can grow onto because, unless they feel secure they will not bloom.

You can save and dry flowers to use in Amulets, Talismans or dress a Moon candle. Add fresh flowers to a special oil you have fashioned on the Full Moon or to water for magical workings. Press flowers and leaves into a Book of Shadows or make magical bookmarks for special journals. Following a Moon planting calendar will add a magical touch and keep you in the flow of her cycles. You can place Moonstones and or Crystals in the dirt of these pale beauties to energize them for meditations and spells. Don't forget when you take from a plant, to ask it's permission and give thanks, an offering of water or food (plant) is a perfect Thank You.

~ Barbara Morris

Try these night-bloomers in your Moon Garden:

~ Angels trumpet (*Datura innoxia*)- This annual vine has giant, trumpet-shaped, white flowers. You may need to discipline this rambunctious plant to keep it in line.

~ Moonflower (*Ipomoea alba*)- Related to morning glory, this annual may climb to 10 feet.

Tightly closed by day, its white flowers unfurl at dusk to release a lemony aroma.

~ Four o'clock (*Mirabilis jalapa*) - In late afternoon, this annual's flowers pop open in often-speckled shades of red, yellow, white or rose. It grows bush-like to 3 feet.

~ Yucca (*Yucca filamentosa*) - Flowers of this spiky perennial are open all day, but at night the droopy blossoms lift and release a soapy smell. Hardy in zones 4 to 9.

~ Evening primrose (*Oenothera speciosa* 'Pink Petticoats')- This fast spreading perennial is hardy in zones 5 to 9, and its pale flowers release a sweet scent in the evening.

~ Moon Garden flower list from Garden Gate Issue 15

April 22 – Earth Day

Here are a few things you can do to reduce your carbon footprint.

Buy in bulk. In short, bulk items use less packaging, which translates into less energy.

Buy one of something, not 21 of something. You don't need 21 pairs of shoes, if one pair works just as well.

Go through your closet. Donate or recycle what you really don't need, then make a pledge not to replace everything you just got rid of.

Buy quality products that will last longer. Over time, you'll obviously buy fewer products that way.

Be creative in what you use for work, play and leisure. You don't always have to buy new products for activities. Re-use in creative ways.

To learn more things you can do to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, see the Earth Day Network's Climate Change Solutions Fact Sheet posted on our web site at

<http://lib.store.yahoo.net/lib/yhst-17631510627492/ClimateChangeSolutions.pdf>

May 1 – Beltane

Beltane

Animals/Mythical Creatures – the white cow, goats, giants, rabbits, honey bees, faeries, satyrs, pegasus

Gemstones – emerald, orange carnelian, sapphire, rose quartz, lazuli, sapphire, yellow agate, bloodstone

Incense/Oil – passion flower, frankincense, tuberose, vanilla, lilac, rose

Colors/Candles – red & white (symbolizing God and Goddess), dark green, dark yellow, rainbow spectrum, blue, pastels, all colors

Tools/Symbols/Decorations – maypole & ribbons, flower crowns, fires, bowers, fields, May baskets, white flowers and ribbons, daisy chain, flower chaplet, white wine in clear crystal glass, chalice, butter churn, blackthorn & hawthorn branches, seasonal fruit

Goddesses – May Queen, Flora, Maia, Flower Goddesses, Lady of the Greenwood, Divine Couples, and Goddesses of the Hunt, Aphrodite(Greek) Blodewedd (Welsh), Erzulie (Voodun), Baubo (Greek)Rhea (Cretean), Prithvi (Hindu)

Gods – May King, Jack in the Green, Horned God (European), Herne (Greek), Green Man, Bel (Celtic), Baal (Phoenician), Gods of the Hunt,

Essence – compassion, youthful play, exuberance, sensuality, pleasure, action

Dynamics/Meaning – sacred marriage of the Lord and the Lady, arrival of the Tuatha de Danann in Ireland

Purpose – fertility festival, celebrate 1st day of Celtic summer, 1st day of the light half of the year

Rituals/Magick – The Great Rite, love, romance & fertility magick, elf & faery power, offerings to elementals, crop blessings, relighting sacred fires, divination, building shrines, fire-calling, honoring house guardians, snake dancing, bathing faces in the morning dew of May to retain their youthful beauty

Customs – maypole erection, dancing around the maypole, bonfires, jumping fire, mating, picking flowers, making flower baskets, frolicking throughout the countryside, archery tournaments, sword dances, feasting, drinking and music, moving the herds to high pasture

Foods – dairy, honey, oats, red fruits, herbal salads, red/pink wine punch, large round oatmeal/barley cakes, sweets

Herbs – almond, angelica, damiana, hawthorn, hibiscus, saffron, ash tree, bluebells, cinquefoil, daisy, frankincense, hawthorn, ivy, lilac, marsh marigold, meadowsweet, primrose, roses, woodruff, yellow cowslip, yarrow

Element/Gender – air/male

Threshold – dawn

To learn more about this and other Sabbats, get our The Sabbats eBook at www.the-witches-apothecary.com/the-sabbats-ebook.html

New Items at The Witch's Apothecary

Faerie Statues & Altar Items – <http://www.the-witches-apothecary.com/fairies.html>

Large Athame - <http://www.the-witches-apothecary.com/athame.html>

Custom Cloaks – <http://www.the-witches-apothecary.com/cloaks.html>

Mortar & Pestle Sets and Cast Iron Cauldrons – <http://www.the-witches-apothecary.com/mortar--pestle-sets.html>

Home Décor Items – <http://www.the-witches-apothecary.com/home--garden-decor.html>

To see all of our new items, visit www.The-Witches-Apothecary.com

The Witch's Apothecary April Sale Items

3 Magickal eBooks – Regular Price \$12.97, Sale Price \$10.99

Beltane Herbal Blend – Regular Price \$2.99, Sale Price \$1.99

Rune Oracle Cards – Regular Price \$12.99, Sale Price \$10.99

Magickal Herb Kit, 75 Herbs – Regular Price \$39.99, Sale Price \$36.99

Laminated Pendulum Chart – Regular Price - \$5.99, Sale Price \$4.99

To see all of our sale items, visit www.The-Witches-Apothecary.com/saleitems.html

Herb of the Month

Dandelion ~ Element – Fire, Planet – Sun, Gender – Feminine, Parts Used – The Whole Herb, Magickal Properties – Sleep Protection & Healing, Uses – The roots are used in dream pillows and sachets, the leaves and flowers are used in a tea for healing

To learn more about this and other herbs, get our Magickal Herbs eBook at www.The-Witches-Apothecary.com/magickal-herbs-spells--recipes-ebook.html

Stone of the Month

Red Coral – Calcium and calcite (*water*). Coral brings diplomacy and concurrence, quiets emotions, brings peace to the inner self. Facilitates intuition, imagination, visualization, expedites & accelerates the transfer of knowledge. Strengthens both circulatory and bone structure in the body. Stimulates tissue regeneration and nourishes blood cells. Helps with disorders of the spinal, alimentary canals, nervous system and thalamus. Red and orange: stimulates Root and Spleen Chakra for energy and warmth. Energizes emotions. Strengthens muscles, blood, heart, regulates thyroid & metabolism, helps with spine, bone and tissue regeneration. (Avoid if you have high blood pressure, fever or are anxious.)

Rune of the Month

✎ **Perthro** (P: Lot cup, vagina.) – Uncertain meaning, a secret matter, a mystery, hidden things and occult abilities. Initiation, knowledge of one's destiny, knowledge of future matters, determining the future or your path. Pertaining to things feminine, feminine mysteries including female fertility, and vagina. Good lot, fellowship and joy. Evolutionary change. Perthro Reversed or Merkstave: Addiction, stagnation, loneliness, malaise.

To learn more about this and other runes, get our Rune Dice Book at www.The-Witches-Apothecary.com/rune-dice-divination.html

Tarot Card of the Month

The Wheel of Fortune – The Wheel of Fortune is a sign of fates spinning round and round bringing in a new era. It represents the randomness of life and what comes at you. Positively associated with destiny, movement, vision, good luck, new cycle, and synchronicity. Negatively associated with obstacles, temporary bad luck, and unpleasant surprises.

To learn more about this and other Tarot Cards, get our Basic Tarot Card Reading eBook at www.The-Witches-Apothecary.com/basic-tarot-card-readin.html

Correspondence of the Month

Stones

Amber – protection, magickal workings, solar energy (*fire*)

Amethyst – dreams, astral work, relieves stress, imagination, meditation (*air*) **Aquamarine** – divination, relaxation, protects from drowning, creative imagination, removes blocks energy (*water*)

Aventurine – prosperity, abundance, fertility, optimism, healing old emotional wounds (*earth*)

Beryl – scrying, crystal gazing, intellect (*air*)

Bloodstone – confidence, strength, control over your life, luck (*fire*)

Blue Lace Agate – feminine energy, peace, soothes headaches, relaxation (*water*) **Carnelian** – intuitive talents, astral travel, sexual energy, prevent miscarriage (*fire*) **Chrysocolla** – balances emotions, relieves depression, emotional healing (*water*)

Citrine – healing, increased physical energy, hope, encourages new beginnings (*fire*) **Emerald** – love, protects against violence, communication (*earth*)

Fluorite – creativity, mental abilities, meditation, astral travel, confidence, inspiration (*air*)

Garnet – passion, courage, fertility, prosperity (*fire*)

Hematite – absorbing and grounding negative energy, healing, balances energy flow (*earth*)

Jade – long life, prosperity, dragons, good fortune, health and longevity (*water*)

Jet – protection, divination, Goddess energy (*earth*)

Labradorite – imagination, releasing inhibitions, self-confidence, communication with spiritual beings (*air*)

Lapis Lazuli – psychic protection, love, peace of mind (*water*)

Malachite – good fortune, business success, protection from accidents (*water*)

Moonstone – lunar energy, psychic matters, clarity of thought (*water*)

Moss Agate – plant magick, new friends, reveals deceit (*earth*)
Obsidian – inner strength, protection (*earth*)
Onyx – protection, hope, endurance, acquiring knowledge (*earth*)
Peridot – astral work, protection from nightmares, emotional healing, inspiration (*earth*) **Quartz**
– focusing energy for any purpose (*air*)
Red Jasper – passion, blood magick, protection from nightmares (*fire*)
Rose Quartz – love, friendship, joy, self-healing (*water*)
Sodalite – courage, intellect, creativity, protection on journeys (*water*)
Tiger Eye – protection, balance, mediation, starting new business (*earth*)
Turquoise – protection from psychic attacks, reconciliation, divination (*water*)

To learn more about this and other correspondences, get our Magickal Correspondences eBook at www.The-Witches-Apothecary.com/magickal-correspondences-ebook.html

Spell of the Month

Love Charm Bag

As with any love magick, spells like this are best done on a Friday.

small pink charm bag, any material
1 pink candle
4 white candles
Cauldron or fire-proof pot
Catnip and jasmine herbs
Small piece of paper, and pen

Cast your circle in your usual manner. Place the 4 white candles in a circle around your altar, at the 4 directional points, with the cauldron and pink candle in the center. Light each of the white candles, and then the pink one. On the slip of paper, write down some of the important qualities you are looking for in a mate. Place the paper with the herbs in the cauldron, and light them. As they burn, focus on your intent and repeat the chant below three times.

By the power of flame and herb, bring me love
By the power of flame and words, bring me love
By the power of flame and candle, bring me love

Let the candles burn out, and put the herb/paper ashes in the pouch. Carry it with you.

To receive more spells, get our Wicca 101 and Beyond: A Witch's Grimoire eBook at www.The-Witches-Apothecary.com/book-of-shadows-ebook.html