



## August Newsletter

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### **Important August Dates**

(All times are CST/CDT)

### **August 1 - Lughnasadh/Lammas (Crossquarter - August 7)**

#### Lughnasadh

**Animals/Mythical Creatures** - griffins, basilisks, roosters, calves, centaurs, phoenix  
**Gemstones** - aventurine, citrine, peridot, sardonyx, yellow diamonds and citrine  
**Incense/Oil** - wood aloes, rose, rose hips, rosemary, chamomile, eucalyptus, safflower, corn, passionflower, frankincense, sandalwood  
**Colors/Candles** - red, orange, golden yellow, green, light brown, gold, bronze, gray  
**Tools/Symbols/Decorations** - corn, cornucopias, red, yellow flowers, sheaves of grain (wheat, barley, oats), first fruits/vegetables of garden labor, corn dollies, baskets of bread, spear, cauldron, sickle, scythe, threshing tools, sacred loaf of bread, harvested herbs, bonfires, bilberries, God figures made of bread or cookie dough, phallic symbols  
**Goddesses** - the Mother, Dana (Lugh's wife & queen ), Tailltiu (Welsh-Scottish), Demeter (Greek), Ceres (Roman grain goddess honored at Ceresalia), the Barley Mother, Seelu (Cherokee), Corn Mother, Isis (Her birthday is celebrated about this time), Luna (Roman Moon Goddess), other agricultural Goddesses, the waxing Goddess  
**Gods** - Lugh (Celtic, one of the Tuatha De Danaan), John Barleycorn, Arianrhod's golden haired son Lleu (Welsh God of the Sun & Corn where corn includes all grains, not just maize), Dagon (Phoenician Grain God), Tammuz/ Dummuzi (Sumerian), Dionysus, plus all sacrificial Gods who willingly shed blood/give their life that their people/lands may prosper, all vegetation Gods & Tanus (Gaulish Thunder God), Taranis, (Romano-Celtic

Thunder God), Tina, (Etruscan-Thunder God), the waning God

**Essence** - fruitfulness, reaping, prosperity, reverence, purification, transformation, change, The Bread of Life, The Chalice of Plenty, The Ever-flowing Cup, the Groaning Board (Table of Plenty)

**Dynamics/Meaning** - Lugh's wedding to Mother Earth, Birth of Lugh; Death of Lugh, Celtic Grain Festival

**Purpose** - honoring the parent deities, first harvest festival, first fruits grains & drink to the Goddess in appreciation of Her bounty, offering loaves of sacred bread in the form of the God (this is where the Gingerbread Man originated!)

**Rituals/Magick** - astrology, prosperity, generosity, continued success, good fortune, abundance, magickal picnic, meditate & visualize yourself completing a project you've started

**Customs** - games, the traditional riding of poles/staves, country fairs, breaking bread with friends, making corn dollies, harvesting herbs for charms/rituals, Lughnasadh fire with sacred wood & dried herbs, feasting, competitions, Lammas towers (fire-building team competitions), spear tossing, gathering flowers for crowns, fencing/swordplay, games of skill, martial sports, chariot races, handfastings, trial marriages, dancing 'round a corn mother (doll)

**Foods** - loaves of homemade wheat, oat, & corn bread, barley cakes, corn, potatoes, summer squash, nuts, acorns, wild berries (any type), apples, rice, pears, berry pies, elderberry wine, crab apples, mead, crab, blackberries, meadowsweet tea, grapes, cider, beer

**Herbs** - grain, acacia, heather, ginseng, sloe, cornstalks, cyclamen, fenugreek, aloes, frankincense, sunflower, hollyhock, oak leaf, wheat, myrtle

**Element/Gender** - fire/female

**Threshold** - noon

To learn more about this and other Sabbats, get our Sabbats eBook at

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&products\\_id=129](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=129)

## **August 14, 9:53 am - New Moon**

This New Moon breaks the recent pattern of challenging moon phases, and astrology in general. The strongest influence on the New Moon is the close alignment of Venus. Sun conjunct Venus is a great omen for love and money during this four-week New Moon phase.

Venus will have a harmonious influence on relationships of every kind. Peaceful settlements can be found to recent disputes as there will be a general feeling of calm and good cheer. Love relationships become more important with everyone feeling more affectionate and in need of company. This sociable influence favors making new friends and improving existing relationships.

Venus retrograde at the time of the New Moon suggests the possibility of connecting with previous lovers or past life contacts. There is a theme of sadness and disappointment attached to the Venus retrograde cycle, but this should not be felt strongly.

A much stronger influence than Saturn on the New Moon is Uranus. Venus, the Moon and Sun trine Uranus to bring anticipation of an exciting new romance. New relationships started in this New Moon phase will be thrilling or peculiar in some way, but may not be long-term.

### **August 29, 3:51 am - Full Moon**

#### Hungry Ghost Festival (China)

Today is the Ghost Festival, also known as the Hungry Ghost Festival, or Yu Lan. It is a traditional Chinese holiday celebrated in many countries. With roots in Buddhism, the Hungry Ghost Festival is a time of honoring ancestors and appeasing the "hungry ghosts" that wander the world of the living when the "Gates of Hell" are opened this one day a year. To appease these lost souls and to prevent them from harming the living, people put food out for the ghosts to enjoy. Elaborate ceremonies and rituals are also performed to please the ghosts. Activities such as swimming and traveling are avoided because a malicious ghost might cause an accident. Getting married and moving are also avoided, since it is considered an unlucky time.

In certain ways, this is the Chinese equivalent of Samhain, or Dia de los Muertos. The passage to the afterlife is open, whether one calls it the Gates of Hell, or the veil between the worlds. People leave food for those who have died, and visit places of burial. If you can, visit the graves of ancestors or loved ones.

~ Magenta Griffith in Llewellyn's 2015 Witches' Datebook -

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&products\\_id=887](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=887)

Join the **Moon Water Challenge** this Full Moon. For more information, please visit

<https://www.facebook.com/MoonWaterChallenge>

#### **We're now on Twitter**

You can get recipes, updates when we add new products, announcements of local events and more. Follow us at <https://twitter.com/WitchSC>

#### **Like us on Facebook**

Visit our page at <https://www.facebook.com/WitchSuperCenter>

## Witch SuperCenter August Sale Items

Magickal Herbs Kit, 92 Herbs - Regular Price \$66.99, Sale Price \$59.99

Triquetra Carved Soapstone Mortar & Pestle Set - Regular Price - \$18.99, Sale Price - \$16.99

Dream Interpretation eBook - Regular Price - \$4.99, Sale Price - \$3.99

Herbal Allergy Relief Tea - Regular Price - \$5.99, Sale Price - \$4.99

Our entire line of smudge sticks, smudge sprays and charcoal - 15% off!

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=index&cPath=15](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=15)

To see all of our sale items, visit

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=specials](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=specials)

## New Items at Witch SuperCenter

Travel Altars, many styles with tote bag or mangowood box -

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=index&cPath=3](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=3)

Gemstone Rune Sets with bag -

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=index&cPath=19](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=19)

Hand Carved Tarot Card Box -

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=19&products\\_id=1008](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=19&products_id=1008)

Smudge Sprays -

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=index&cPath=15](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=15)

## Herb of the Month

**Eucalyptus** - Air/Moon; Gender - Feminine; Parts Used - Leaves, Seeds (pods);

Magickal Properties - Healing, Sleep and Reconciliation; Uses - Used in sleep and dream sachets; place with other healing herbs for healing, especially in the chest area; hang in the home to ward off sicknesses; carry in an amulet or sachet to help in the reconciliation of a relationship (the other person must be willing)

To learn more about this and other herbs, get our Magickal Herbs eBook at

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=9&products\\_id=120](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=120)

## Stone of the Month

**Petrified Wood** - Petrified wood is basically fossilized wood that has had its organic matter replaced by agate, bit by bit, as it decomposes. The wood structure is maintained, but the wood fibers are slowly changed into stone. Sometimes a jasper, quartz, pyrite or even opal can be found fossilized in wood. More often than not its coloring is brown, but it has been found in grey and even green color.

Petrified wood is a stone that is good for grounding and stabilizing one's emotions. It is particularly useful in calming survival-based fears, as it assists one in accessing their

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practical side for answers, then offering a feelings of safety and security. It is a stone of business success, and a good stone for general protection.

Can be used to calm down survival based fears, helps to make one feel safe and secure, helps one feel ageless. It also offers "gentle hours in the day," to assist one in keeping pace with the day, keeping the hours from neither hurrying by or moving to slow...you are therefore moving forward in a good and steady way. It helps one feel that all will be right, and to be connected to their spirit in such a way that one's knows that time is not really what it appears, and that there is no such real thing as time...just forever.

During a crisis, a piece of Petrified Wood will give you strength and support, providing insight into cause and effect. You will remember lessons, avoiding repetitive mistakes. Petrified Wood will help you forget petty worries, so that no thought or action is useless. Petrified Wood is an excellent gem for leaders. It has endured the ravaging changes of time and become stronger, as will you if you ask for its help in your leadership role.

Petrified wood stabilizes general health and the body's defenses. It generates calm and encourages contentment. Physically, it is beneficial for the bones, backaches, skin and hair. Petrified wood is also used for past life regressions because of its inherent link with the past.

Healers have used Petrified Wood on atrophied limbs and to relieve paralysis. It can help align your spine or give you more control over bodily functions. Use this stone to strengthen your spiritual and physical backbone. A Petrified Wood Elixir will add thickness and shine to your hair.

### **Rune of the Month**



**Wunjo** (W or V: Joy.) – Joy, comfort, pleasure; Fellowship, harmony, prosperity; Ecstasy, glory, spiritual reward, but also the possibility of going "over the top;" If restrained, the meaning is general success and recognition of worth. Wunjo Reversed or Merkstave: Stultification, sorrow, strife, alienation; Delirium, intoxication, possession by higher forces, impractical enthusiasm; Raging frenzy, berzerker.

To learn more about this and other runes, get our Rune Dice Book at [http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=9&products\\_id=124](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=124)

## Tarot Card of the Month

**The Lovers** - The Lovers represent a new breath of life. They symbolize love, devotion and spiritual friendship. Positively associated with desire, new lover, relationships, physical attraction, love, sex, and commitment. Negatively associated with lust, moral lapse, temptation, indecision, separation, failed love affair, and emotional loss of control.

To learn more about this and other Tarot Cards, get our Basic Tarot Card Reading eBook at [http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=9&products\\_id=107](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=107)

## Correspondence of the Month

### Mythical Creatures

**Centuar** – the arts, creative inspiration, divination

**Dragon** – protection, transformation, spiritual guide, long life, strength against fear

**Gargoyle** – silence, shadows, freedom

**Griffin** – spiritual clarity, faith, understanding

**Leviathan** – influence, foresight, time for meditation

**Manticore** – embodiment of evil, dark force, powers working against you

**Minotaur** – defense against harm, protection, power, fertility

**Pegasus** – inspiration, astral travel, divination, romance

**Phoenix** – rebirth, reincarnation, new beginnings, courage, adaptation

**Unicorn** – prosperity, adventure, purity, of gentle nature, mental strength

To learn more about this and other correspondences, get our Magickal Correspondences eBook at

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=9&products\\_id=118](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=118)

## Spell of the Month

### Spell Binding

Repeat the following chant before releasing your circle to bind your spell and make it more powerful:

"Water to water, a witches' spell.

Cast I now to speed this well.

Focus and powers from out of the night

Gather within and give my spell flight."

To receive more spells, get our Wicca 101 and Beyond: A Witch's Grimoire eBook at [http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=9&products\\_id=108](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=108)