



July Newsletter

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Important July Dates

(All times are CST)

July 4 - Independence Day

Freedom Spell

You can celebrate your freedom any time you like with this freedom spell. This ritual is a way of strengthening the qualities of freedom within you, by visualizing, meditating, and performing the symbolic act of blowing a candle out.

Things You'll Need:

- * An outdoor space
- * A green, blue, or white candle
- * A plate or candleholder
- * Matches or a lighter

Take a moment to feel the seeds of freedom inside you, and to picture times or places when you felt particularly free.

Select a color of candle to burn. Green, blue, or white may be especially helpful, since they can symbolize freedom in distinctive ways. Green can mean the freedom of the forest (youthful, physical freedom). Blue can mean the freedom of the ocean or the sky (an awe and openness, a sense of wonder). And white, the color of purity, can represent a spiritual freedom (freedom from earthly cares).

Put the candle in a cup or bowl: something that will protect you from drippings and also protect the candle from blowing out (if it is windy).

Take the candle to a quiet spot outside. Outdoor spaces allow us to connect with nature, and enhance our ability to visualize freedom. If you don't have access to an outdoor space, or it isn't safe to go outside where you live, try to do this by a window or a picture of a nature scene.

Sit or stand quietly, holding the bowl, or set the bowl down on a table, if there is one. Look into the flame for however long feels comfortable, picturing the freedom welling up inside you. During this time, you should also summon your favorite memories and images of freedom.

If you are having trouble visualizing "freedom," try picturing a bird in flight, an animal bounding through its habitat, or an energetic, joyful dance or run you've done. You can also picture times when you have felt suddenly freed from a negative feeling or thought that was causing you pain.

When you have fully visualized these images on top of the flame, imagine pouring your energy into them. For at least a few seconds, try to become one with your own idea of freedom, whatever that is. Now would also be a fine time to speak, if you choose to. "Let me be free," "Release us from our cares," or "Liberty!" are some simple incantations that might help.

When you feel your energy has reached its height, blow out the candle. Watch the smoke from the candle rise up into the sky, and in your mind, imagine yourself also rising up, into a connection with the greater universe above.

After all the smoke is gone, stay for a few moments to collect your thoughts, and gradually bring your mind back down to earth. If you wish, you can take six slow breaths, each of five seconds in and five seconds out, to appreciate the air around you.

Walk back indoors silently, letting the power of your spell be felt in your body. Once indoors, put away your candle for next time you need to reconnect with yourself and cast another freedom spell.

July 11, 2:33 pm - Solar Eclipse

Solar Eclipse in Cancer

The Eclipse of the Sun

The eclipse of the Sun has traditionally been viewed with dread over the ages, as the great giver of life seems inexplicably to disappear from the sky. Birds prepare for bed; the sky darkens in the middle of the day. It seems as though something dreadful is about to happen. Over the years, experience has shown us that old things come to an end (or are overthrown!) under a solar eclipse and a new beginning can be made. The effect on the world of eclipses has been seen to be generally felt for some six months, until the next eclipse then restructures the cosmic energies.

Astrologically, solar eclipses signify the fall of the mighty (or at least, they're in big trouble!). Depending where in the zodiac the eclipse occurs, stress is always placed on the matters governed by that sign, or sector of the zodiac. A powerful Solar Eclipse can create massive havoc, in accordance with other aspects in the heavens at the time, as can be clearly seen by the trail of earthquakes and other disasters associated with the Solar Eclipse and Grand Cross of August 1999.

At a more personal level, the solar eclipse can have a big effect on our personal lives when it occurs in conjunction with one of our natal planets, especially our natal Sun, Moon, or Ruling Planet. Other important chart factors, such as Moon's Nodes, Ascendant, Mid-heaven, or Part of Fortune can also have a very significant

effect when impacted by a solar eclipse. Where the eclipse falls in the chart is significant, as the energies expressed by its house placement will show the areas of life that are affected by the new beginning that is implied.

Total Solar Eclipse in Cancer on July 11th, 2010

The second solar eclipse of 2010 is a total eclipse of the Sun, at the New Moon in Cancer on July 11th—the climax of the FIFA World Cup. Football fans can expect some real excitement, even though the eclipse will not be visible in South Africa. A total eclipse is when the whole of the eclipsed body of the Sun is blocked out and darkened. This eclipse, although total, will not be seen by many people, as most of its pathway lies over the vast expanses of the South Pacific Ocean. It makes no landfall except for Mangaia (Cook Islands), Easter Island (Isla de Pascua) and several isolated atolls. The umbra, the path of totality, ends just after reaching southern Chile and Argentina. The much broader path of the Moon's penumbral shadow produces a partial eclipse visible from a larger region covering the South Pacific and southern South America. Unfortunately no eclipse is visible from the rest of the world.

Eclipse in Cancer

This eclipse occurs at 19°24' of Cancer, the sign of the Crab, tightly conjunct the malefic Fixed Star, Wasat (geminorum), a star of Saturn (karma; restriction; sorrow) and Mars (violence; action; passion; warfare) on the midriff of the Immortal Twin, Pollux, son of Jupiter. Wasat is especially significant as it is almost on the ecliptic (the path of the Sun), so is more powerful than we might expect, even though it is only a 3.5 magnitude star. Some view it as the elbow of Castor, the Mortal Twin, but it seems more to me to be part of Pollux, the "Heartless Judge". It is interesting that the planet Pluto, which plays a major part in this eclipse season, was discovered close to this star on Feb 18th 1930, by Clyde Tombaugh. Wasat is a malevolent influence, awakening violence and destructiveness as a first principle, governing chemicals, poisons, and gas. This fits with Pluto rather well! People will tend to be pessimistic under this influence, though will be swayed by a clear, authoritative voice. Those born under this star may find prominence in public affairs.

The eclipse is also conjunct a star of lesser malevolence, Muliphein, in Canis Major, the Great Dog. Although it is a star of Venus, this does not necessarily make it easygoing, but under current aspects, more likely to raise violent and dangerous passions. Be sure to watch out for dog-bites. However, it does have a good heart, so may mitigate the fire and wrath of the cosmic mood in this period. Robson says Canis Major is connected by the Cabbalists with the Hebrew letter Tzaddi and the 18th Tarot Trump, "The Moon". So the Sun and Moon are awakened and according to Manilus" it barks forth flame, raves with its fire, and doubles the burning heat of the Sun. When it put its torch to the earth and discharges its rays, the earth foresees its conflagration and tastes its ultimate fate..." A touch melodramatic perhaps, but it doesn't it give you the shivers!

The asteroid Juno is conjunct the eclipse and also Wasat, but interestingly, the eclipse Uranus (disruption) is retrograde and exactly conjunct President Obama's natal Juno. Juno, the wife of Jupiter, can be fierce and is bound by a sense of duty and social obligation. Her dark side also rules such things as divorce, and separation, infidelity and open conflict between partners. Will the pressure tell on his marriage? Or will he face the issues of compatibility, receptivity to others, mutual sharing, trust, jealousy, possessiveness and power struggles..? Uranus and Jupiter were conjunct this point in early June 2010, but moved on past it only to turn retrograde subsequently. Since Juno governs such things as contracts and binding agreements, will these unravel, once Jupiter turns retrograde too? Jupiter re-crosses this point during the first ten days of September while retrograde, then hits it again traveling forward in the last fortnight of January 2011. Obama's public and private commitments will come under scrutiny, so let us hope he can maintain his integrity and his wife stands by her man.

America and Europe

Both the US chart and the EC chart are buffeted by the eclipses, with Saturn (restriction, control, sorrow, karma, the past, the masses) rising within 2 minutes of the EC ascendant (29°27' Virgo) and conjunct the mid-heaven of the US Silby chart, again almost to the minute. The ascendant stands for the sense of selfhood of the community and the way it projects itself to the world. The self-image of the community is hit for six. The mid-heaven stands for the leadership and the way the nation is seen by the world, as opposed to the way it would like to be seen, represented by the ascendant. A lot of pressure is on. Interestingly, eclipse Saturn is closely conjunct the ascendant of the new British Prime Minister, David Cameron, and Mars in the Solar Eclipse is exactly conjunct his natal Pluto at 19°07' Virgo, receiving a powerful aspect from the Solar Eclipse itself, which is at 19°19' of Cancer. He will no doubt be shocked by the situation this once-great nation has got itself into, once he is fully briefed by the Civil Service mandarins. Everything comes together at once this year!

Uranus and Jupiter in the first degrees of Aries are in opposition to Saturn. Jupiter's gifts often bear hidden twists or heavy responsibilities, and when opposed to Saturn, suggest that actions or hangovers from the past drag back the progressive forces, or those that wish to be seen as progressive. Leaders will seek to form partnerships to move forward, but the masses will resist their marvelous solutions, perhaps even to the point of rebellion, or revolution. Uranus adds a potent element of uncertainty, marking the catastrophic and disruptive influence of those over whom we have no control. The Dragon's Tail (the Moon's south node), which implies loss and karmic fruition is conjunct the US Sun. Eclipse Neptune is retrograde, right on the US Moon, showing that the general public has no idea of the seriousness of the situation and is still living in a dream world, though they might be forced to wake up thanks to these aspects. Ugh. Not a pretty sight.

Okay, we get the picture, but what will happen on Wall Street? This is a key factor in the ongoing financial crisis that is still gripping the world, despite the apparent easing earlier from October 2009 to April 2010, when Saturn was in the sign of its exaltation, Libra. Well, now stern Saturn has moved back into calculating Virgo, thanks to a retrograde phase that began in January 2010. The collapse and bank-run on Northern Rock, the big British bank, that began and prefigured the horror show, was triggered by the entry of Saturn into Virgo in September 2007. Northern Rock was the first of the dominoes to fall, followed by even bigger collapses once Jupiter entered Capricorn in December 2007 and Pluto entered Capricorn in January 2008—and we all know what happened in 2008/2009.

What About Wall Street?

When we look at the Wall Street chart (NY, May 17, 1792) we see that during this eclipse phase, Saturn is conjunct the Moon's north node and Uranus is conjunct the Moon's south node. Jupiter is also conjunct the south node, and the significance of this must not be underestimated, as the opposition of Saturn and Jupiter at the Aries Point (in the first degree of Cardinal Signs) is a very major event. When you add disruptive Uranus into the mix we must be ready for some very unusual events, which seem to come out of the blue. Uranus last entered Aries 75 years ago, in 1935! Remember, you heard it here first...

The Lunar Eclipse falls exactly across the axis of speculation (5th and 11th house cusps) within a few minutes. This is very close to exactly square the Wall Street nodes (and the Saturn/Uranus/Jupiter opposition), making a powerful and stressful Grand Cross. The Solar Eclipse is conjunct Wall Street's Part of Fortune, square its Moon and Saturn, and in aspect to its Mars. Eclipse Mars is conjunct Wall Street Mars, which is itself aspected by the eclipse Juno. Wall Street has a Mars Return in this phase, which leads up to the Cardinal Climax chart of July 31, where Saturn and Mars are conjunct in the first degree of Libra, opposing Uranus, Jupiter and the Moon in Aries.

This is very ominous for the financial community, though it probably does not mean the collapse of civilization

as we know it. Venus (money) is conjunct Wall Street ascendant, though opposed to Chiron. This may mean financial healing, through the lancing of old financial wounds that the community and the world has been carrying for far too long. This said, eclipse Neptune (delusion; deception) is square Wall Street's Sun and mid-heaven, so delusions of grandeur will still dog them. It will be hard for traders and bankers to get a clear picture, as the view is very foggy, but if they read this, they will know to be ultra-cautious and to take a very conservative position. Head for safe havens and bulk up on gold.

It is also instructive to see how the eclipses strike the chart of the Federal Reserve (Washington DC, Dec 23, 1913). During the Lunar Eclipse, the Moon and Pluto are conjunct the Fed's Sun and Ceres; Mercury and Sun are conjunct the Fed's natal Pluto, so in effect, the eclipse is mirroring one of the deep contradictions in the Fed's chart, the need for complete control. We'll be flooded with propaganda, as the Fed struggles to maintain its position. Disruptive Uranus is rising in the Fed chart, within minutes of the noon ascendant, opposed by Saturn, suggesting the collapse of institutional structures, possibly through unfavorable legislation (as Jupiter is in on the act also, rising conjunct Uranus). The Solar Eclipse is exactly conjunct the Fed's Mars (action—will the troops be called in?) and exactly inconjunct the Fed's Venus (money; foreign dealings as Venus is conjunct Mercury in the Fed's ninth house). Eclipse Mars is exactly conjunct the Fed's south node (loss) and exactly square its Venus! This energizes the inborn T-square in the Fed's chart, a very stressful aspect. But that gives us a fair idea of what to expect in the public and financial arenas. The Fed is also having its Chiron Return, so it will have to shed some karmic baggage and prepare for a big restructuring. Chiron at the eclipse is exactly conjunct the Fed's Vesta, so it will have to do some housekeeping. This action is happening in the Fed's twelfth house of secrets and sorrows, so expect some revelations that many will find hard to believe.

Solar eclipses like this one don't often pass over populated areas. That's a good thing! However, when they do, they appear to have significant disruptive effects on the people and nations concerned (e.g., economic or political crises, civil unrest). Solar Eclipses also seem either to trigger or amplify natural events in the regions they affect (e.g., severe weather, earthquakes). Whether this effect is an astrological one or not, is a moot point, though recent scientific work on the effects of the Moon on earthquakes and other terrestrial phenomena is interesting. No doubt they would hasten to deny any astrological effect! The eclipse being in Cancer means that people with Cardinal signs (Cancer; Libra; Capricorn; Aries) featured in their birthcharts are more likely to be affected. The next eclipse of the Sun will be on January 4, 2011, but it will be 29 months before the next total Solar Eclipse on Nov 13, 2012.

July 11, 2:40 pm - New Moon

New Moon in Cancer

Well, by now we could all use a little mothering. Thank Heaven there are Cancer people in the world wanting to take on the job and Cancer energy comes around on a regular basis. After the trauma some of us are having with transiting Pluto opposing the placements in Gemini, a retreat back in to the comfort of home and family may be very much on the agenda.

The exaggeration Sagittarius brings to the already ferocious expressions of stressed Pluto energy may cause a lot of second thoughts before venturing out again. It may take the dramatic, publicity-hungry, and supremely self-confident energy of Leo to cobble up enough courage. For now, we need a little down time ... and with any luck a little peace and quiet is on the agenda.

Having ventured out in the world despite the hazards, and picked up some new ideas, gathered in some valuable information about our growth and new directions, and done a little research and other homework, we need to pull back and process the things we know now that we didn't know earlier. Fortunately, Cancer energy carries heavy motivation and opportunities to do exactly that.

In terms of the creative process, this is a time of processing the raw materials you've assembled in response to your new inspirations -- and letting the subtle, inclusive wisdom of your subconscious mind have a chance to put things together for the initial presentation, the first public viewing soon to come when Leo energy arrives and brings the insistent impulse to shout, "Look at me!!"

In the neutralizing response to this last intense month of high-strung, highly mobile, and restless Gemini energy -- made more so by Pluto's aggravating influence in Sagittarius -- the soothing energy of Cancer urges more serenity; prompts a withdrawal into the protective recesses of your home, your family circle, and your private life; and promotes the occasions for you to reconnect with your own emotional center.

Abstractly, in the metaphors which are the heart and soul (oh, what a Cancerian concept) of Astrology, Cancer energy represents the establishment of emotional bonds and connections. Deep within ourselves, we are beginning to care about what exists and what we have decided to create. It's not just a neat idea, a curious possibility, or an intellectual concept anymore.

Our new beginnings formed in the time of Aries need more support now than just the physical care and feeding gained during Taurus or the awareness of its own existence that came with Gemini. Now it and we are establishing symbiosis, reciprocity, and recognizing an emotional component to what is happening.

Most notably now, we are feeling feelings and attachments, building a sense of family, putting down roots, nurturing our new creation as it acquires a consciousness of its own heritage and background, and constructing a home base with traditions and responsibilities toward family members who already exist.

With the arrival of the New Moon in Cancer, we really do have, on many levels, the astrological event of "coming home." Cancer energy is deeply concerned with matters of home, family, one's domestic surroundings, issues of ancestry, traditional culture, memories or and connections to "the past," and the emotional support and sustenance gained primarily through the conduct of one's private life.

Indeed, the Moon itself rules the sign of Cancer which in astrological terms represents a direct linkage and correlation between the symbolism each represents. Thus the Moon is very much "at home" in the soft, gentle, solicitous, responsive sign of Cancer.

Although many of us never find such ideal conditions, "home and family" is where we want to be understood without having to explain ourselves, unconditionally loved without having to necessarily deserve this, and provided with the support and protection we need before we even have to ask. Ideally we expect our families and our mothers in particular to intuit what we require and what is in our best interests ... and hand it over on the spot.

Again, this is the ideal -- the elusive dream and stereotype of the family circle. It rarely happens in real life, even in the best of situations ... but all of us keep on hoping and trying. That peculiar psychological fact of yearning after total acceptance and the knowledge that we have pleased and bonded with "Mother" ... is at the foundation of many psychological constructs, obsessions, longings, and efforts -- some of them chronic, futile, and tragic.

We may not want to literally return to the womb, but many of us -- perhaps all of us at some level -- would sure like to be received back into the all-nurturing, eternally caring, tender and doting embrace of "Mom" ... and endlessly welcomed home. These are our deepest longings and our most unseverable security issues. No matter who or what we are, these are part of us.

Moods, feelings and emotional attachments are "coin of the realm" where Cancer energy is concerned. And

these things are all necessary to the successful establishment of a sense of family and the lasting, dependable security one is supposed to be able to find there. With Cancer energy, the effort is always being made to grasp that elusive ideal.

Cancers are famous -- and infamous -- for being passionate, sensitive people. Their range of feelings, with all the various hues and shades, includes in the whole spectrum of possibility. Indeed, like the Moon cycling through its different phases more rapidly than any other astrological entity, Cancers are changeable, reflective of, and profoundly influenced by the atmosphere around them, sensitive to both their own inner moods and fluctuations and to other people and outer circumstances.

The energies of both Cancer and the Moon are affiliated with the Jungian archetype of The Great Mother, the very embodiment of home and family on a trans-personal level. Thus both deal with profound, primitive, and even precognitive (dealing with levels of awareness that exist even prior to conscious thought) needs in all individuals -- perhaps even all life forms.

Thus Cancer / Moon energy is emphatically maternal, compassionate, dependable, perceptive, nurturing, intuitive, protective, resourceful, sympathetic, sentimental and caring. (As is the stereotype of what every mother is supposed to be.) This is the very essence of what "home and family" are intended to provide -- and descriptive of what a desirable private life is presumed to furnish.

Cancer is Cardinal Water energy, active and reactive simultaneously, containing perhaps the greatest polarity range of all the mysterious water signs within its own expressions. As changeable as females themselves are said to be, Cancer energy can be fiercely territorial and combative one instant, reduced to shy tears and hurt feelings the next.

It can stand its ground as well as any Aries in defense of those unable to fend well for themselves and heaven help the unwary intruder who wanders "too close for comfort" and looks in any way like a threat. One look at the way Nature's mothers of many famous (and infamous) species respond when their "family" is endangered will show this example in spades. Arguably whole species survive because of this.

Properly expressed, Cancer energy provides safety, support, a feeling of continuity and bonding, the promise of someone who cares always "being there" for you, and the joyful relief of being intuitively accepted and understood.

Indeed, the feeling of "having a home" and being welcome there always, is fundamental to a solid, dependable sense of personal well-being. It is this feeling that deep in our collective souls, humankind associates with the concept of "mother."

This passionate connection to the elemental ideas of home, children, and family -- representing as it does a deep alignment to the life force of the species in Cancer, moves out and becomes the merging and transmutable energy aligned with the universal procreative force in Scorpio, and the dissolving, transcendent energy aligned with the Divine Source itself, the primal well-spring of all life, in Pisces.

When this energy is not well-integrated into a personal chart, or when it conflicts with more preferred strategies, the results show themselves in actions and attitudes that are passive, emotionally unbalanced, repressed, resentful, clinging, dependent, fretful, anxious, compulsive, moody, complaining, depressed, and self-pitying.

In extreme cases, this energy can also be reclusive, unstable, paranoid and hysterical. The potential for serious family problems and emotional complications are obvious under these conditions --and examples are common in all our lives.

The polarity sign for Cancer is Capricorn -- Cardinal Earth. Cancer build structures to support offspring and members of the extended family in direct, individual, personal, essential, and everyday ways. Its involvement is intimate, intrinsic, essential, and familiar.

Capricorn builds structures to support the family by taking on the world and earning the "essential supplies" through professional pursuits, the acquisition of income, the achievement of status and prestige --which may reflect in the establishment of "a family name," a dynasty, or even royal lineage when done on a grand enough scale. Its involvements, while just as important, are more remote, detached, stern, objective, and concerned with standing, reputation, and governance.

With the arrival of the New Moon in Cancer, the theme of life's creative cycle -- and the focus of people in general -- becomes more cautious, intuitive, instinctive, sentimental, sympathetic, and traditional. There is extra emphasis on security issues, emotional connections, family matters, domestic circumstances, more attention to the condition and maintenance of one's home, and the conduct of one's private life.

People may also be concerned with their inner feelings, their ability to empathize with others, and with memories or other situations from their personal past. This can be a reclusive, private, introspective time, conducive to self-examination, re-alignment of one's emotional foundations and boundaries, and gaining insight into one's psychological center.

Under stress, people may be unusually touchy, resentful, dependent, fearful, moody, compulsive, habit-bound, obsessive, overwrought, depressed, self-pitying and fretful.

July 25, 8:37 pm - Full Moon

Blessing Moon

In Cherokee tradition, July is the Ripe Corn Moon. First sweet corn and then dent corn ripen for harvest. As a staple food and sacred material, corn attracts much attention throughout its life cycle. To the Choctaw, this is the Crane Moon, recognizing these large water birds. The Dakota Sioux call this the Moon of the Middle Summer. Indeed, for much of America, so it is; the three hottest months are June, July and August.

July brings a swell of new foods: corn and tomatoes are ripening, along with many vine fruits such as squash and cucumbers. Visit your local farmers' market to enjoy fresh seasonal produce. Watch birds and other animals raising their young. But be careful. While the Sun passed its peak at the solstice, the heat is still increasing. Respect the Sun's power; avoid direct midday sunlight and excess exposure.

Rituals in July may celebrate staple crops such as corn or supporting crops such as squash--whatever ripens in your area at this time. Rituals to honor the Sun, light, heat, fire, and so forth are also appropriate. Magically, tap into the rich power of the Sun to fuel spells for success and prosperity.

~ Elizabeth Barrette

August 1 - Lughnasadh

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), Tailtiu (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

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

New Items at Witch SuperCenter

Celtic Knot Hand-Carved Soapstone Box –

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=821

Celtic Cross Mangowood Box –

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=822

Triangle Celtic Knot Wood Box –

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=823

Copper and Brass Triquetra Bracelet –

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=824

Triquetra Soapstone Potpourri Box –

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=825

Round Triquetra Soapstone Trinket Box –

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=826

To see all of our new items, visit http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=products_new

Witch SuperCenter July Sale Items

Good Luck Horseshoe Windchime – Regular Price \$5.99, Sale Price \$4.99

Deluxe Wicca Kit w/Money Spell – Regular Price \$78.99, Sale Price \$74.99

Tarot Card Reading eBook – Regular Price \$4.99, Sale Price \$3.99

Spearmint Herbal Tea – Regular Price - \$5.99, Sale Price \$4.99

Metal Pony Tail Wraps & Hair Twisters – 10% off entire stock -

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=32

To see all of our sale items, visit http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=specials

Herb of the Month

Rose Hips - Water/Venus, Gender - Feminine, Parts Used - Fruit, Magickal Properties - Love, Health, Vitality, Uses - Use in healing spells & mixtures, brings good luck and good spirits

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

Stone of the Month

Opal - Opal is considered to be able to confer the gift of invisibility on its wearer. To accomplish this, Cunningham says "The gem was wrapped in a fresh bay leaf and carried for this purpose." He also says, "Opals are also worn to bring out inner beauty. A beauty spell: Place a round mirror on the altar or behind it so that you can see your face within it while kneeling. Place two green candles on either side of the mirror. Light the candles. Empower an opal with your need for beauty -- while holding the stone, gaze into your reflection. With the scalpel of your visualization, mold and form your face (and your body) to the form you desire. Then, carry or wear the opal and dedicate yourself to improving your appearance."

HEALING: Opals contain all the colors of the other stones, thus, it could be used in place of any of them. (They are akin to quartz crystals, in this respect.) Generally speaking, Opal is used more frequently for healing the spirit, rather than the physical body.

Rune of the Month

𐌷 **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

Tarot Card of the Month

Magus - the Magician is the male power of creation, creation by willpower and desire. In that ancient sense, it is the ability to make things just-so by speaking them aloud ("And God said 'Let there be Light!' and there was Light"). Reflecting this is the fact that the Magician is represented by Mercury. He represents the gift of tongues, a smooth talker, a salesman. Also clever with the sleight of hand (Mercury **was** the god of thieves!) and a medicine man - either a real doctor or someone trying to sell you snake oil. The 4 suits laid out before him remind us of the 4 aces, which in the Tarot symbolize the raw, undeveloped, undirected power of each suit. When the Magician appears, he reveals these to you. The reader might well interpret this card as telling the querent that they will be given a vision, an idea, a magical, mental image of whatever it is they most want: the solution to a problem, an ambitious career, a love life, a job.

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

Correspondence of the Month

Moon Phase

Waxing Moon - beginnings, health, beauty, fertility, psychic awareness, positive magick

Full Moon - all positive spells, protection, love, healing, money, travel, purification

Waning Moon - banishment, disease, negative thoughts, jealousy, hurt, renewal

New Moon - new ventures, new beginnings, love, romance, health, job hunting, exploring and understanding our angers and passions

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

Spell of the Month

Candle Magick

Candle magick can be fun and it's easy to do. Here is a list of how to interpret the candle flame. Try it during your next ritual.

A Strong Flame: this indicates that power and energy are going into your desire for manifestation. When a figure candle is used, a strong flame generally means that the person represented is winning or angry or using authority over another. When two figure candles are present, the higher and stronger flame represents authority over the other.

A Weak Flame: this can show that you are facing heavy opposition and must redo the magick several times in order to overcome the power you are facing. The weak flame can also indicate, on a figure candle, that the

subject is losing the battle. A weak flame that goes out, means that you've missed your target altogether, start over.

A Jumping Flame: This is an attention getter. It can indicate raw emotions along with explosions of energy.

Direction of flame movement:

NORTH: On a waxing moon, something physical is manifesting.

EAST: something mental is manifesting.

SOUTH: in love matters, you can expect a steamy love affair that doesn't last too long.

WEST: emotional aspects, a good sign of success and love.

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