



October Newsletter

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Important October Dates

(All times are CDT)

October 4, 7:35 pm - New Moon

New Moons are times of beginnings, opportunities to connect with all that is potential and plant seeds for the birth of that which we want to create. As this New Moon is in Libra, it's a good time to survey our relationships and see how we may encourage them to flourish so that our lives can be even more graced by them.

Using the image of the Scales, the symbol for Libra, as your guide, weigh and assess the value of your existing relationships, considering their strengths and weaknesses. While Libra is the sign of beauty, order, and grace, this is not to say that this day may be filled solely with gracious affectations and romantic notions. Some good questions to ask during the New Moon include: Can existing relationships, with a little shifting, better serve me? Would new friends (or a new partner) help me to prosper and be more fulfilled? Are some of my unmet needs actually those that I can provide for myself? If objectively seeing the ins and outs of your relationships seems especially challenging, consider finding a neutral mediator who you can talk to about this, someone who can help you clearly negotiate a deeper understanding of this area of your life.

October 14 - Columbus Day

The Few

The easy roads are crowded
And the level roads are jammed;
The pleasant little rivers
With the drifting folks are crammed.
But off yonder where it's rocky,
Where you get a better view,
You will find the ranks are thinning
And the travelers are few.

Where the going's smooth and pleasant
You will always find the throng,
For the many, more's the pity,
Seem to like to drift along.
But the steps that call for courage,
And the task that's hard to do
In the end result in glory
For the never-wavering few.

~ Edgar Guest

October 18, 6:38 pm - Full Moon, 6:50 pm Lunar Eclipse

Blood Moon

This time of year, our ancestors would have been busy preparing for the long winter ahead--and naturally, contemplating death and our very existence. Ponder these things too, as you honor the blood that sustains human life. For your ritual, light a red candle in a jar and burn dragon's blood or patchouli incense. Pour a goblet of pomegranate juice to use as your ritual beverage, symbolizing life-blood: the blood of animals from the hunt and livestock and the blood in your veins.

*In the sacred night, the blood is spilled
By the hunt and harvest life fulfilled
Blessed be the animals and grains
Blessed be the earth and sun and rain.*

*In the sacred night, a candle burns,
Every night and day the wheel turns,
Sun and moon trade places in the sky,
Guiding us as every year goes by.*

~ Ember Grant in [Llewellyn's 2013 Witches' Datebook](#)

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October 21, 5:29 am to November 10, 3:12 pm - Mercury Retrograde

This Mercury Retrograde will be in Scorpio and emphasizes integrity! Over and over again, we'll be reminded of the importance of doing "completions" ahead of the Mercury Retrograde cycle — completing agreements, getting repairs done, sending important messages you want others to receive — let alone "hear," and paying bills earlier than usual. Integrity is going to be under intense scrutiny!

Otherwise...

Many of you know the drill: Count on greater misunderstandings, as all communications are more likely to suffer; expect delays and/or undelivered mail or messages. EXPECT to write and rewrite in the present and WISH to rewrite the past. Always get repairs done of any kind before Mercury Retrograde begins or wait until it ends.

Emergencies should be expected. Mercury Retrograde is definitely NOT the time to start a new relationship, a new job, or long-term project — let alone a new career; it is not the time enter into binding commitments (marriage, financial, or otherwise) without the absolute expectation of necessary modifications, alternative compromises or reversals in the original plan and/or intent. Unless it's an emergency, it is generally not a good idea make or go to medical appointments during Mercury Retrograde.

Interpersonally, communications at all levels are problematic, and we are inclined to think slower and process communications more slowly! We have to be patient with each other and ourselves. Expect computer issues, not the least of which will likely include slower connections. Back up data BEFORE the retrograde begins.

EXPECT misleading information, if not deception, especially with Neptune in Pisces; EXPECT missed appointments, traffic problems, failure to keep one's word because of a promise that could not be kept and misplaced documents.

Any Mercury Retrograde cycle is THE time to re-think, re-do, re-define, re-organize, re-assess, re-orient, and/or re-plan without taking action on the "new plan" until after the Mercury Retrograde ends. It is the time for completions, i.e., cleaning up paperwork, paying old debts, doing what we've promised that hasn't been completed OR otherwise handling those matters responsibly.

It is not the time for repairs to machinery or automobiles in particular. Chances are, more repairs will have to be made to the repair! It IS the time to think more than expand our activities and plan what to change and how to move forward after Mercury Retrograde ends. Think of it as an opportunity that comes around 3 or occasionally 4 times in a year.

We are all being forced to loosen our grip on one or more situations in order to prepare for what is coming. The first half of Mercury Retrograde is the time for the greatest reflection and introspection.

During the second half of Mercury Retrograde, people will be especially inclined to just get on with business/life as usual. Added tension stems from a new perspective and the awareness that we are literally blocked from doing what we feel ready to DO to the fullest extent. What we SHOULD focus on is physical, mental, spiritual and emotional well-being, as well as plans for greater fulfillment in our lives after the cycle ends.

REMEMBER: Sleep deprivation during Mercury Retrograde causes extreme confusion, inflexibility, and general difficulty staying in reality-based thought. When we feel the least bit sleepy it is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, not to mention refreshing, to STOP what we are doing, and close our eyes just long enough to allow the sleepiness to subside. It can be as little as 2-5 minutes.

REMEMBER ALSO: During ANY Mercury Retrograde cycle, most folks are inclined to think/process information slower. USE that for deeper thinking about any subject, issue, or idea. Be patient with each other.

Mercury Retrograde also affects all modes of travel and all modes of communication. It is definitely not a good time for travel and we should do so ONLY when our Personal Energy Influences show positive indications. EXPECT greater stress in any event. Also, it is no secret that when people use cell phones while driving, the distraction can cause disastrous accidents. During Mercury Retrograde, the hazard is multiplied when those who use them are so busy talking or worse texting. People are supposed to be able to think, but thinking is more often impaired during Mercury Retrograde, and when using a cell phone, thinking may not be sharp enough to negotiate both the situation on the road and the telephone interaction.

October 31 - Samhain (Cross quarter November 7)

Samhain

Animals/Mythical Creatures - bats, cats, dogs, pooka, goblin, medusa, beansidhe, harpies

Gemstones - black stones, jet, obsidian, onyx, carnelian

Incense/Oil - frankincense, basil, yarrow, lilac, camphor, clove, wood rose, wormwood, myrrh, patchouli, apple, heliotrope, mint, nutmeg, sage, ylang-ylang

Colors/Candles - black (ward off negativity), orange (good luck), indigo, homemade apple or mint scented herbal candles to light jack-o-lanterns or for altar candles

Tools/Symbols/Decorations - black altar cloth, Halloween items, jack o' lanterns, oak leaves, acorns, straw, balefire, besom, black cat, black crescent moon, cauldron, divination tools, grain, magic mirror, mask, bare branches, animal bones, hazelwood, pictures of ancestors

Goddesses - The Crone, Hecate (Greek), Cerridwen (Welsh-Scottish), Arianrhod (Welsh), Caillech (Irish-Scottish), Baba Yaga (Russian), Al-Ilat (persian), Bast (Egyptian), Persephone (Greek), Hel (Norse), Kali(Hindu), all Death & Otherworld Goddesses

Gods - Horned Hunter (European), Cernnunos (Greco-Celtic), Osiris (Egyptian), Hades (Greek), Gwynn ap Nudd (British), Anubis (Egyptian), Coyote Brother (Native American), Loki (Norse), Dis (Roman), Arawn (Welsh), Sacrificial/Dying/Aging Gods, Death and Otherworld Gods

Essence - magick, plenty; knowledge, the night, death & rebirth, success, protection; rest, new beginning; ancestors; lifting of the veil, mundane laws in abeyance, return, change

Dynamics/Meaning - death & transformation, Wiccan new year, wisdom of The Crone, end of summer, honoring, thinning of the veil between worlds, death of the year, time outside of time, night of the Wild Hunt, begin new projects, end old projects

Purpose - honoring the dead, especially departed ancestors, knowing we will not be forgotten; clear knowledge of our path; guidance, protection, celebrating reincarnation

Rituals/Magick - honoring/consulting ancestors, releasing the old, power, understanding death and rebirth, entering the underworld, divination, dance of the dead, fire calling, past life recall

Customs - ancestor altar, costumes, divination, carving jack o' lanterns, spirit plate, the Feast of the Dead, feasting, paying debts, fairs, drying winter herbs, masks, bonfires, apple games, tricks, washing clothes

Foods - apple, pumpkin pie, pomegranate, pumpkin, squash, hazelnuts, corn, cranberry muffins, bread, ale, cider and herbal tea

Herbs - allspice, broom, comfry, dandelion, deadly nightshade, mugwort, catnip, dittany of Crete, ferns, flax, fumitory, mandrake, mullein, dragon's blood, sage, straw, thistles, oak (leaf), wormwood (burn to protect from roving spirits)

Element/Gender - water/male

Threshold - midnight

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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Pagan Family Campout in Oklahoma

If you're in Oklahoma, please join us at Pagan Family Campout, October 4-6 in NE Oklahoma City. Visit the Facebook

page <https://www.facebook.com/events/376101032492718/> or the event web site www.artandspiritguild.org for more details.

Witch SuperCenter October Sale Items

Hand Crafted Book of Shadows, Triquetra Design - Regular Price \$34.99, Sale Price \$29.99

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

Money Spell Kit - Regular Price - \$11.99, Sale Price - \$9.99

The Sabbats eBook - Regular Price - \$4.99, Sale Price - \$3.99

Divination Herbal Tea - Regular Price - \$5.99, Sale Price - \$4.99

To see all of our sale items, visit

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=specials

Herb of the Month

Catnip - Water/Venus, Gender - Feminine, Parts Used - Roots and Leaves, Magickal Properties - Happiness, Animal Magick, Psychic Enhancement, Healing Pets, Uses - Use as a tea for happiness and increasing pet healing. It can also be used as a relaxant during meditation and dried leaves can be burned for love wishes.

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

Onyx - Onyx is thought to increase regeneration, happiness, intuition and one's instincts. It is also told to decrease sexual desire, and to aid in changing bad habits.

The shapes or patterns that onyx holds inside it have led some to suggest that Onyx has a picture in it that tells a story or carries a lesson. Lore tells us that an onyx will retain memory of the physical occurrences surrounding a person. A strong stone to use in psychic work as it tells the story of the wearer.

It is a strength-giving stone, good for athletes or people under extreme mental and emotional stress. It brings balance to mind or body as well as strength of mind. Onyx is a wonderful stone for those who are flighty by nature, as it will help ground and focus your attention. A strengthening stone that can help you approach a lesson or task with greater self-confidence. It is highly recommended that Onyx be used in conjunction with pearls and diamonds to increase their own metaphysical qualities.

Onyx must be laid directly on the body or worn over a long period of time as it's power develops quite slowly. It is known to be particularly helpful with skin ailments, healing infected wounds as well as fungal infections, inflammation and even sunburn. Pat the affected skin with onyx water several times during the day and cover with an onyx water compress at night.

Due to the fact that onyx needs time to develop its full power, it should be discharged once a week under running water, and if used for a long period of time, it should be placed in the earth overnight once a month. This will regenerate it to help keep its energy strong.

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

Tarot Card of the Month

The Devil - The Devil is the embodiment of primal instincts. Heated emotions run strong with him, passions devour the mind and self-control is lost. Positively associated with permanence and commitment. Negatively associated with entrapment, lust, greed, ignorance, anger, tyranny, and obsession.

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

Some Goddesses appropriate for invoking during the Waxing Moon and at First Quarter:

Artemis, Inanna or Persephone - for their continued assistance for projects you called on them for at the New Moon

Aphrodite - for self-esteem, and the confidence to follow through on developing projects

Venus - for balance and resolution of problems in growing relationships)

Kwan Yin - for promotion of compassion, wisdom and healing within humankind and the Earth

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

Fireplace Magick

The fireplace has long been regarded as the magickal portal of a home. It was through this opening that Witches were said to fly away on their broomsticks, and in modern mythology, it is the opening through which Santa Claus comes and goes. The fireplace once was the center of home life. In it food was cooked, clothes washed, and by its light, families gathered to visit and tell stories. Due to its vital importance, people developed ways to protect the fireplace, such as tossing a handful of oak leaves, cloves, holly, rosemary, frankincense, cinnamon, or nettles onto the already smoldering fire.

Setting a Witch's besom (broom) near the fireplace or crossing the andirons were also ways of blocking negativity from entering the house. Keeping a cauldron boiling on the hearth was another. Some fireplaces were decorated with three concentric circles above the opening. This probably harkens back to a very old belief that the Triple Goddess protected any home wherein a fire was kindled. The sun god Lugh could also be called upon to protect the hearth by hanging a pouch containing the first grain of the harvest on the mantle. This was also a charm for fertility.

Other herbs were often hung to dry near the hearth, the heat and dryness curing and preserving the plants until they were ready to be used. These herbs could be enchanted and hung up as an additional talisman of protection.

Scrying by hearth light is a relaxing pastime, and gazing softly into a roaring fire to catch glimpses of visions is an age-old practice. You can predict the future by the manner in which the coals, peat, or wood burns.

The fireplace can be as magickal as your imagination will allow. Here you are working directly with the transformative element of fire, and how you choose to utilize it is up to you and your inner self.

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