

**THIS ISSUE**

*Homeschooling Quick Take*

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Want to see something else? Let us know! [paganmoonbeams@yahoo.com](mailto:paganmoonbeams@yahoo.com)

## Religious Tolerance

Religious Tolerance is a long winded title for all religions getting along. It promotes everyone being their own religion and others respecting them for it. When true religious tolerance is practiced everyone knows the religion of others and they respect it and never try to influence their chosen religion on others. It is a time when people see past religion and look only at the true person.

Today's world is not a perfect one, so true religious tolerance is very rare. The reasons for this can outnumber the people that don't practice religious tolerance. Each day it seems more people forget the meaning of religious tolerance

*(See Celebration pg. 4)*

## Harvest Home

Abraham Lincoln once described thanksgiving as being the late celebration of "fruitful fields and healthful skies." Most of us are familiar with the traditional story told in American history; in 1621 the Plymouth Colony invited the Wampanog tribe to celebrate their first harvest with them. The local Wampanog Indians had helped plant their first crops in the new land and helped them hunt the unfamiliar territories. This is the story that lives within the history books of today, but did you know that there was a history to Thanksgiving before the well known one in America and its origins come from the Pagan people of long ago.

Thanksgiving has not always been about turkey and dressing or figgy pudding. It was not even a holiday that sprang forth from the New England colonist. The Encyclopedia Britannica, 1980, Volume 5 tells about the "Harvest Home" which you will find very similar to the meaning and celebration of Thanksgiving. To summarize, it states that Harvest home was a traditional English harvest festival. Participants celebrated the last day of the harvest by singing, feasting, and decorating the village with boughs. The cailleac, or last sheaf of corn was made into a Harvest Doll and drenched with water as a rain charm. This sheaf was saved until the spring planting. So, as you can see Thanksgiving has been around much longer than the expected 1600's, and carries a very distinguished Pagan background. It is no wonder the holiday became so popular in America as the people of that time were doing nothing more than continuing a very familiar tradition.

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# News Spin



## Quick Clips

By: P. Nichols



### Plants Demand Their Space

Did you know that the roots of Pine trees, Walnut trees, and even sunflowers give off chemicals that prevent other plants from growing too close to them? That's nothing compared to what biologist recently discovered. There is a marsh reed called Phragmites that releases gallic acid from its roots. It is so powerful that it disintegrates the roots of other plants within 20 minutes

### Walking Upright

Scientists studying the fossil backbones of the ancestors to modern day chimpanzees and gorillas have concluded that they walked upright. Using both feet and knuckles to walk on is apparently a fairly recent development. Fact: Some apes, like gibbons, still walk upright today.

### Internet 2

Ever heard of the Internet 2? It is the superfast network recently completed for universities and corporations that can reach speeds of 10- Gbps using light. (That's ten billion bits of information per second) That is thousands of times faster than any internet connection in our homes. And if you think that's fast, engineers have also figured out a way to boost that speed to 100 Gbps by using ten different colors of light in one cable.

### Moonbeams Shorts

Moonbeams will no longer be available in Word format due to technical difficulties.

Also, Moonbeams December issue will be a fun issue due to breaks in homeschool schedules and the Winter Solstice. The regular format will be returning in January

Starting in January Moonbeams will offer it's readers an option to subscribe. Subscribers will receive printed monthly issues through their home mailbox before they are posted online. Semi-Annual subscriptions will only be \$18.00.

## Halloween Decoration Offends

During Halloween a guy put up decorations in his yard. His neighbor was a witch and the decorations hurt her feelings.

The man lived in Massachusetts. Look at a map and see how far it is from your state to the place of this event.

Draw a picture using the description below which will be like the decoration he had in his yard:

1. Draw a tree
2. Draw a woman with rosy cheeks and a pretty smile wearing colonial clothes beside the tree and floating a little off the ground
3. Add a black witch's hat to her head
4. Add a broom in her hand
5. Now draw a hangman's noose (tied rope) around her neck

Now after looking at the picture you drew do you think the woman was right to be upset? Write on the back of your picture how it makes you feel and why.

In the 1600's in the same state many witches and people who were believed to be witches were killed. Now years later this man puts up Halloween decorations in his yard showing a witch being killed. People still remember the past and they do not want to see things like that happen again today. Has knowing what happened in the past changed your feelings about the decoration? Write on the bottom of the paper or tell a grown-up how you are feeling about this event now.

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## The Haunting Woman

The death toll was said to have reached nearly 50,000 in Europe during the burning times. Yet there is one woman that stood out above them all. Anna Goldi was Europe's last so-called witch, and her story is still very much alive in the Swiss canton in Glarus. Two hundred twenty five years have past sense the death of Goldi by decapitation, yet the sleepy little town of Glarus is still fighting hard to turn Goldi's persecution into enlightenment. What sets this woman aside from the other 49,000 witches that were convicted and killed? What pleas of help did she cry before she was convicted, tortured and tried?

Her story is so touching that one town is willing to risk it all to clear her haunting name. Check out the link below and do your own research on Anna Goldi.

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/link/bcpid1076567347/bclid372181063/bctid1243543651>

## Ireland's Tara & MP 3 Highway Dilemma



### Tara

Tara is a very known hill and valley in Ireland. It has been called the Land of the High Kings. This area has many religious connections and there have many important archeological finds there. The hill is magical and sacred to most Celtic based Pagans.

### MP 3 Highway

The MP3 highway is a 36 mile, 4 lane highway connecting Clonee (a small city on the outskirts of Dublin) to Kells Ireland. The highway is needed to help the shorten the route between the two cities (the 30 min. trip now takes several hours). The new highway will run right down the middle of the valley.

**Putting** in the highway is going to damage Tara forever. Many people are fighting the destruction of Tara both locally and internationally. Construction of the road has begun but gets held up daily due to protests. (Delays are costing the government \$972,509 a day).

After reading about the problem in Ireland over Tara do your own research to find out the meanings of words you don't know and of the things discussed in the article. Write an article of your own on your solution to their complicated problem.

*Adding the swan and it's meaning would be a great addition to your journal !*

### Simple Symbols

#### SWAN

All over the world the swan is considered to be a symbol of purity and perfection. In Western Europe it was the inspiration of philosophers and poets and still is to this day. Asia has made it the symbol of prudence, courage, nobility, elegance, purity and beauty. Greek mythology has both Apollo and Zeus taking it's form. To native Americans the swan is a symbol of trust and submission. It's song has been referred to both as one of life and of death throughout history.

*\* The song of the dying swan is said to be about joy at the prospect of entering the afterlife.*

### Draw a Swan



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# Religious Tolerance

(Continued from pg. 1)

The best way to see religious tolerance is to practice it. The results from that will amaze you as religious tolerance will spread to those around you very quickly.

The best way to handle a situation wherein religious tolerance is not shown towards you is to ignore it calmly. There are times, however, when you aren't capable of ignoring it. During those times be sure to remember that it isn't actually you that they are referring to but instead the religion that they don't know much about. Try to ignore their misguided attitude and nurture those wanting to learn. When giving information about your religion try to give the most accurate information as possible, even if it means having to say you aren't sure or don't know. Sometimes when we have to say that we don't know something it is a sign that we need to learn more about our own religion.

## Make Fliers

Make a flier about your religion. Put important information you would want to share with someone that knew nothing about it. When you are done make a flier about at least 1 other Pagan religion and 1 non-Pagan religion. When you are done compare the two using a chart or graph. After this project come to your own conclusion to the following statement:

*Religions are not that much different when you really look at them*

## Pagan Problems

### Nov 16 Tolerance Day

There is a day set aside for worldwide involvement in tolerance. Many different topics are discussed on this day, religion being one of them, and many people work to find ways to promote tolerance on this day.

Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> was chosen by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) they promote the day with tons of ideas for individual and community activities.

You can contribute to religious tolerance on this day by attending a meeting, ritual, or service not held for your religion. While there try to learn as much as possible about their way of thinking. This will show your support and may even give a hint to others to follow your lead and take their own steps to aid in religious tolerance.

UNESCO website:

<http://www.betterworldcalendar.com/toleranceday.htm>

In last month's issue of Moonbeams you can find one place where religious tolerance was not practiced. Did you even notice it? I bet most of you didn't.

*Go ahead look at the issue and see if you can find it.*

The reason you didn't notice it may have been for one of two reasons:

1. There are many Pagan's that do not tolerate Christians that well and are very vocal about it. This can happen so much that it becomes common place to hear about it.
2. The words that were used were not directed to you or your religion. It is harder sometimes to notice things that don't affect us.

*Now that you are aware of some Pagan contributions to negative religious tolerance; you can take notice and do what is right!*

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# Monthly Unit: MOON

## Moon Phase Magic Reference Guide

**Full Moon** – transformations, increase abilities

**Waxing Moon** – healing, positive thinking, good luck, wealth, growth of any kind

**Waning Moon** – remove bad luck, ending things (relationships, habits, etc...), decrease pain

### The Moon Flight

Waxing through the night;  
This is always right.  
The first quarter is the waxing crescent moon;  
That rides till midnight starting at noon.

Quarters turn the number two  
When getting a visit from the full moon.  
Sharing evenly both night and day;  
Surely aiding travelers in finding their way.

The waning is now left;  
Almost catching the light it is kept.  
Turning to the third halfway in it's plight;  
Then into the finish by hiding and out of sight.

***Make a complete moon cycle using quarters & permanent markers for a review aid. It would also be a nice display, maybe on a window ledge or above your headboard.***

***Follow a complete moon cycle starting this month. Start with the first quarter on Nov. 6 or with the new moon on Nov. 27.***

### Learning The Moon Phases

We say the moon is \_\_\_\_\_ when you can only see the right side of it. When the moon is a \_\_\_\_\_ waxing moon the first quarter begins.

The waxing moon goes to a full moon marking the beginning of the \_\_\_\_\_ quarter.

The moon is \_\_\_\_\_ when you can only see the left side of it. When the moon is a crescent waning moon when it begins the third \_\_\_\_\_.

The fourth quarter begins when the moon \_\_\_\_\_. Then it starts all over again.

*Do a simple moon Ritual to celebrate each phase of the moon. Afterwards sit watching the moon and sharing energy with it. See if you can find the phase that connects with you!*

# Monthly Unit: MOON

## The 13 Moons of the World

**Moon** traditions and lore vary from religion to religion. You will find that there are many different names for the 13 Full Moons, each one representing the culture of the people, their seasons, traditions and locations.

**The** names of the Moons listed below are referred to in the Farmer's Almanac and come from the Native American culture. The American Indians based their lives around these 13 Full Moons. Look at the name of each of the Moons. Come up with your own Full Moon names for each month. Base your name off of where you live, your family traditions, and how the seasons affect you. There are 13 Full Moons in a calendar year. In the chart will only see 12, one for each calendar month. There is one month in which there are two full moons, this one is called the Blue Moon. Look at a calendar and find which month holds the Blue Moon, don't forget to name it as well.

**Your** correspondence journal will be a great place to record the names of the Full Moons listed as well as from any other cultures you finding interesting. Be sure you record your own Moon names.

### FULL MOON

(sung to: "Row, Row, Row Your boat")

**Full moon shining bright,  
(Flutter fingers downward.)  
Shining in the night.  
What a lovely face you have,  
(Hold arms in circle above head.)  
Big and round and white.**

*Susan A. Miller*

**Honor our Mother Moon by  
making a Moon braid.**

Take three ribbons half yard in length of white, silver, and black (symbolizing the three phases of the moon). Braid them half way down leaving the rest to dangle. Use the home made paper craft from page 14 and cut out lunar symbols. Glue the symbols on the dangling ribbons and place in the window.

Month	Moon name	Why that name?
January	Wolf Moon	Hungry wolf packs howled at night
February	Snow Moon	Heaviest snowfalls in the middle of winter
March	Worm Moon	Start of spring, as earthworms (and the robins that eat them!) began to appear
April	Pink Moon	An early spring flower called "moss pink" started to bloom
May	Flower Moon	Many types of flowers bloom in May
June	Strawberry Moon	Strawberries were ready to be picked and eaten
July	Buck Moon	New antlers of buck deer, coated with velvety fur, began to form
August	Sturgeon Moon	Sturgeon, a large fish found in the Great Lakes, were easily caught at this time of year
September	Harvest Moon	Farmers could continue harvesting until after sunset by the light of the Harvest Moon
October	Hunter's Moon	Hunters tracked and killed prey by moonlight, gathering food for the coming winter
November	Beaver Moon	Time to set beaver traps before the swamps froze, to make sure of a supply of warm winter furs
December	Cold Moon	The cold of winter sets in

## The Color of Magick

Color plays a major role in our lives. It can affect our moods, feelings, and emotions. Color is a way of self-expression. It helps define our soul and personalities. Have you ever noticed how certain colors can change your mood or make a space seem bigger or smaller? In the mundane world color is used in every aspect from persuading you to shop at certain stores, or buying certain products. They can even help to create and set the mood in a restaurant by the color the walls are painted. In the magickal world color sways our subconscious mind by influencing the flow of energy in our bodies. Each of the seven chakras is influenced by a certain color. Below I have shared with you my color chart. You may agree with the color attributes listed or you may feel that some of the attributes don't fit the way you interpret the colors. This is perfectly fine. Go with your gut instinct. Just because red makes me feel happy it may make you feel angry. Here is a short exercise to help you make your own color correspondence chart. Record both the one listed and the one you create in your correspondence journal.

**Exercise:** Find a quiet place to sit. Close your eyes and count backwards from ten. Visualize the color you are working with in your mind's eye. What do you see? How does that color make you feel? Does this color bring any specific thoughts or feelings to mind. Once you have answered these questions open your eyes and record your answer in your journal. Do this for each color listed. You can even add colors if you'd like.

**white**- spirituality, peace, higher self  
**red**- energy, Element of Fire, strength, anger, love, happiness  
**orange**- ambition, justice  
**yellow**- the Sun, intelligence, imagination  
**copper**- earth magick, prosperity, beauty  
**gold**- wealth, male, power, The God  
**green**- Earth Mother-healing, success, money, fertility, Ele-

**blue**- good fortune, protection, calm, Element of Water  
**purple**- third eye, psychic, ability, spiritual power, hidden knowledge  
**pink**- romance, love, planetary good will, emotions, healing, caring, nurturing  
**silver**- female, intuition, psychic, dreams, Moon, The Goddess  
**brown**- friendships, earth magick  
**black**- protection, repelling negativity

### Herb Focus: Aloe



**Color:** Dark green leaves  
**Location:** Everywhere; originally from Africa  
**Common Use:** Burns, rashes & irritations  
**Gender:** Feminine  
**Planet:** Moon  
**Element:** Water

Magickal Attributes: Peace, beauty & protection

\*\* As with all natural medicinal items and purposes be sure to talk to a parent before using.

### Mineral Focus: Aquamarine



**Color:** Pale or light blue, blue green  
**Healing Properties:** Calming emotional problems, brings peace & happiness, promotes logical thinking  
**Element:** Water

**Care:** Cleanse in ocean water at night during a full moon and let it sit in the moonlight overnight. A vial with a little salt can be used if you're not by an ocean.

\*\* *Crystal Healing is an acquired art and shouldn't be practiced without parental permission and/or guidance.*

# The Nature Of It

## Your Local Trees

The type of trees in your area depend mostly on the weather and their physical location.

It is a great idea for you to get more familiar with the kinds of trees you see.

Learn to identify them:

- \* Trees can be divided into basically 2 categories determined by how they reproduce; Conifer's are cone-bearing trees but most trees produce flowers.
- \* To identify Conifers use their needles, scales, shapes and cones.
- \* Be sure to learn identities of flowering trees leaves, flowers and bark can be usfull. It is best that you learn to identify them in both warm and cold times of the year.

## Project: Foster A Tree

Find a fairly new tree that is in a place where it can get sunlight. Make sure the location is something you can visit often.

Spend a whole year watering it and preparing it for weather by wrapping it, tying it down etc.... Be sure to share energy with it and show respect by accepting it when the tree gives you energy too.

*You can also keep a diary!*

### Tree Information

*Keep an eye out in future issues for information on different trees; like botany, history, healing, and lore.*

## To The Trees

Plant life accounts for 95 percent of the living substance on earth. Out of all the plant life trees are the most interesting.

A tree is a permanent fixture in it's growing area. It stands through all seasons and can survive almost any weather.

Trees play a major role in understanding, reading and connecting with nature.

Read, explore and try some of the things listed here to educate and connect you with the nature around you through the trees.

## Animal Tree Signs

You can tell if an animal has been in an area simply by reading the signs of a tree.

- A pointed stump is signs of a beaver
- Small tooth marks resulting in smooth scar tissue is sings of a porcupine
- Stripped bark, claw, and large tooth marks are signs of a bear
- Large long claw scratches are a sign of a cougar
- Bark being tore off in an upward motion is the sign of a deer.

## Trunk Secrets

The trunk of a tree has many different uses and purposes.

If the tree has been cut down you can tell it's age as well as how the weather was each year of it's life.

The layers of the trunk have their own purpose. It is good to know them as well as their purpose:

*From center to the outer layer*

- Heartwood – not alive but supports the tree
- Sapwood – carries the water and as the tree ages it becomes heartwood
- Cambium – A layer that is only 1 cell thick and covers all tree parts and is the growing layer.
- Phloem – carries sugar throughout the tree, as the tree ages it becomes the outer bark layer
- Bark – insulates as well as keeping out bugs and water.

## The Rule Exception:

The two types of trees that don't fall in categories are the:

**PALM  
BAMBOO**

Try to memorize them.







# The Bard's Story Tyme

1

## Vegetable Experiment

1

Find a vegetable that you aren't that familiar with that can be eaten both raw and cooked.

Examine the vegetable and make a decision on whether you will like it.

*\*this is what it is like when you first hear the name of a religion without knowing anything about it and make your decision if you like it.*

Taste it and see if you like it raw.

*\*this is what it is like if you only see people practicing that same religion.*

Prepare your vegetable a popular way and see if you like it any better.

*\*this is what it is like if you only learn a little about that same religion from one place.*

Try making it a few more ways (steamed, baked, etc...) and see if you like it any of those ways.

*\*this is what it is like when you learn about it from many different places.*

Make an overall view if you like the vegetable. If you do which way do you like it best?

*\*this is what it is like to make a decision about something when you know about it.*

Now – If other's don't agree with you about liking it or not liking it, will that change your mind about it? - It shouldn't!

Once you learn about another person's religion remember not to judge them or what they believe. It is better to learn about it and be more tolerant to their ways.

3

## Brotherhood Song

The words to a simple song are below. Don't only sing it with your child but also encourage them to play an instrument and come up with their own tune to it. The song is made more for 'from the heart' type of singing so no notes or melody are provided.

Fly, fly, fly 'round the universe  
Fly, fly, fly 'round the earth  
Fly, fly, fly 'round the universe  
Fly, fly, fly 'round the earth.

My feathers touch my brother.  
My feathers touch my brother.  
Circle, circle, circle, circle,  
Circle to my brother.

Fly, fly, fly 'round the universe  
Fly, fly, fly 'round the earth.

4

## Make a Better World Wreath

Purchase a grapevine wreath from your local store or make one from vines or sticks that have fallen to the ground. Decorate it with silk, fall or holiday foliage. Make clay circles with symbols on each to represent the different religions of the world. Place a large purple ribbon at the top or bottom of the wreath.

The circles represent the religions of the world and the purple ribbon is the color of religious tolerance. Together they represent the religions of the world living together in peace; the way it should be!

*\* Craft idea donated by Rev. Crystle Melton – thank you!*

2

## Read: Seto the Squirrel's Lesson

Print or read a story about a squirrels lesson on Religious Tolerance. Learn about how understanding different religions can help make the world better for everyone. Then talk about it with an adult.

<http://paganmoonbeams.com/pdfs/SetoSquirrel.pdf>

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# The Magick of Fall

## The Frisky Little Squirrel

(tune-The grand Old Duke of York)

Oh, the frisky little squirrel,  
He gathers nuts and seeds,  
He hides them for the winter months,  
so he'll have all he needs!



Oh, up, up, up he goes,  
(raise hand with pointed finger up as if going up tree)  
And down, down, down he comes,  
(finger down and bring hand down)  
He runs around, goes up and down,  
(point finger down and make a circle, then up & down)  
His work is never done!

Oh, up, up, up he goes,  
(raise hand with pointed finger up as if going up tree)  
And down, down, down he comes,  
(finger down and bring hand down)  
He runs around, goes up and down,  
(point finger down and make a circle, then up & down)  
His work is never done!

### The wood faeries

have sent you a message; they want you to go on a great nature adventure and make your own wand. Follow the book with a parent or adult and create your own magickal

Wand at:

<http://paganmoonbeams.com/pdfs/WandBook.pdf>

## Acorn Doll

1 Acorn  
2 Flat Stones  
Paint  
Clear Nail Polish  
Yarn for Braids  
Yarn for Bow  
paintbrush  
clay



With a paintbrush paint the eyes, nose and mouth on an acorn. Make two braids with colored yarn. Tie them with bows made from yarn of a different color. Glue the Braids to the sides of the acorn. Shape body from clay. Set the acorn atop the body. Press it into place. Use two small flat, oval stones for the feet. Press clay body onto the stones. Balance it to make it stand. Let doll dry for two or three days. When dried paint the body. When the paint is dry, brush on a clear coat of nail polish. Polish the acorn, too.

## Berry Sweet Ink

Lets make our on ink. It will be berry sweet! You will need...

1/2 cup of berries (blue berry, raspberry, and black berry work best) Fill free to experiment though. You can even mix the berries to make new colors. If you can not find fresh ones try frozen or canned. Put your berries in a strainer making sure to hold over a bowl. Use the end of a rolling pin to mash the berries up allowing the juice and pulp to drain into the bowl. Once you are through mashing the berries add 1/2 tea-spoon salt and vinegar to the mixture. If it is too thick add a few drops of water. Be careful not to make it to watery. Store your ink in a jar in the fridge. Be sure you label it!

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## *Pagan Touch Of Class: ENGLISH*

English can sometimes be a very dry subject, but it doesn't have to be. There are many ways you can make English assignments work for you and add in some fun as well.

English works well when you use it for another topic or subject. You can use English to learn, memorize and explore your religion. As you are utilizing English as a tool you can also have fun learning it. There are many ways to accomplish this and they vary from person to person.

It doesn't matter if you choose to follow the ideas listed below or come up with your own as long as you are using your English to your advantage while learning. Be sure to have fun with things; without fun there is no glory in learning!

### **Putting the People First**

There are many people that are important within religions. It is not only the founders of the religion that need to be remembered and revered as important. But the many other people who contribute to the religion, bring knowledge to those following that path, work with the government and other large agencies with laws and equal rights and many others. These key people can be remembered by adding them to your English lessons.

Ways to add:

1. Essays
2. Presentations
3. Biographies
4. Homemade picture or scrap books
5. Skits or plays
6. Poems

No one has actually comprised a list of these important people to learn about. You may want to ask your spiritual teacher or other important adult for names to focus on.

*Some places to start*

Mixed Pagans :

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_pagans#Modern](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_pagans#Modern)

Wicca: <http://www.spells-witchcraft.org/modern-wiccan-history.html>

### **Draw With Words**

Write important things into shapes or certain designs. Draw things that relate to your religion (ex. Pentagram, Divination Symbols, God or Goddess Symbols).

You can make a mural or border with them as your collection starts to grow.

### **Religious Facts**

It is a fact that there are many people that are important within your religion. These facts can be learned through English as well.

How to learn or add them in:

1. Use it for a fact-of-the-day by picking out one fact each day to repeat
2. Turn it into a weekly journal assignment where you write the fact each day of the week as you review it, write things pertaining to it or information you obtained while studying it.
3. Use it as a 'daily ringer' by trying to use it as many times in your English lessons for the day.

# Faith Focus: Celtic Reconstructionist

## Overview

Celtic Reconstructionist are people who want to learn from the works of the ancient Celts. Most are usually aware of the various ancient Celtic areas and the races of people but generally choose an area or group to study intensely. It is believed that a person is 'drawn to' or 'called' to the religion and they are not selective of who joins as long as they educate themselves and stay dedicated. Heredity also is not a determining factor in becoming a Celtic Reconstructionist.

There are no ranks or outlines of do's and don'ts; the belief is truly a free one for each person. Celtic Reconstructionist do not consider themselves a religion, per say, but more like a group of people with a common interest. They do show respect to God/Goddess', hold rituals, have altars and display many other pagan actions.

Celtic Reconstructionist's do not reenact anything or try to live their life as it was in the ancient times; but do use lessons from that time to intertwine with the present and make it a better place. A lot of study and dedication goes into being a Celtic Reconstructionist, which results in only the most dedicated being able to truly call themselves a Celtic Reconstructionist.

### The Path's of a CR

The ancient Celts had many caste's and careers within their world. Today's CR do a similar task by picking their path, some even pick more than one. They will pursue during their daily life and in their religious activities as well.

A CR warrior, for example, could practice martial arts to get more in touch with their inner-selves and to obtain better control of themselves. This same person might pursue a job such as a police officer or join the military. Basically they would be a warrior in all aspects of life from personal, spiritual, and family to professional.

### Vocabulary Shorts

Draw a line from the word to it's Celtic Reconstructionist meaning.

**AOS sí (people of peace)**

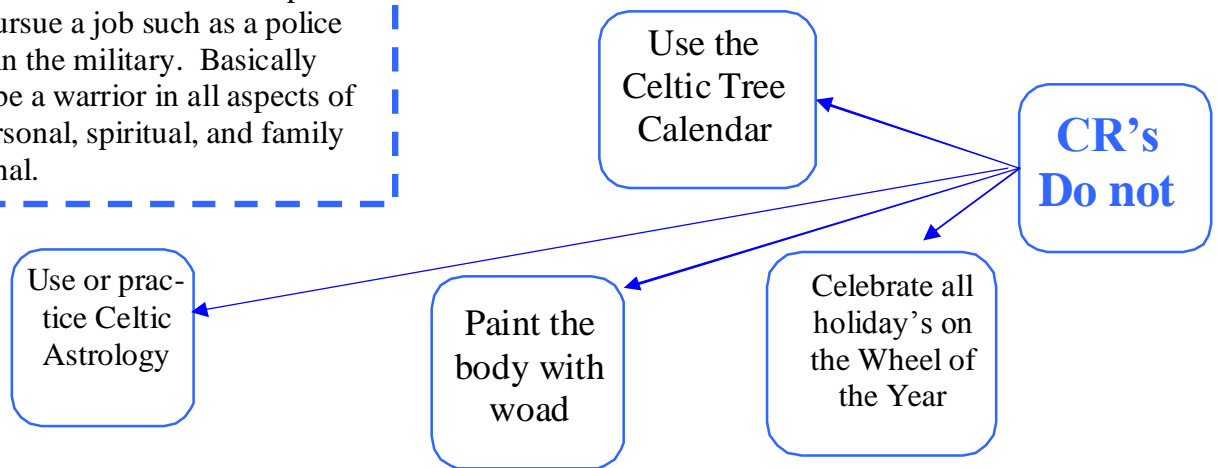
Sprites and Deities that aren't worshipped or invited to share our space

**Outsiders**

All beloved dead whether related or not

**Ancestors**

Otherworldly beings who over the years have been called Fairies



# Divination: Ogham or Ogam

**Ogham or Ogam** (which is the old Irish name) are thought to have been named after the god Ogma in ancient European times. The inscriptions used (some call the alphabet) can be found scattered all over Europe; around 500 have been found. The idea of using them for Divination stem way back in history. It is believed that in the past Celts drew a line on the ground and threw unlabeled staves up in the air to land on the line for divination. In today's world you can find Oghams in many forms (staves, tiles, stones, and even on tarot cards) and used by many different religions, especially Celtic origin religions.



**Ogham Discriptions**

**Ogham Inscription Meanings**

Some believe the ogham represents different trees, others think some might but that others do not relate to trees at all.



**Divination Forms**

Most use the stave form in the picture above but others prefer the circular tile form below:

**Wood Ogham**

You need: discarded wood, wood engraver or knife to whittle, and sandpaper

*Cut your wood into the desired form. (stave or circle)*

<p><b>TILES</b></p> <p>Burn one Ogham on each side of the tiles, each tile=1 Ogham</p> <p>Mark the tops of all Oghams on each side</p> <p>Sand all area's for safety</p> <p>Spray with shellac or acrylic spray.</p>	<p><b>STAVES</b></p> <p>Trim off a section of bark midway</p> <p>Burn an Ogham in each stave</p> <p>Burn a line on the top end of each</p> <p>Sand all area's for safety</p> <p>Spray with shellac or acrylic spray.</p>
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## Ogham Teachings

Tree Ogham Key: [http://www.geocities.com/moonwillow80/oghamdiv.html#\\_Toc26975243](http://www.geocities.com/moonwillow80/oghamdiv.html#_Toc26975243)

## Ogham Books

Tree Ogham – Ogam; The Celtic Oracle of the Trees by Paul Rhys Mountfort /or/ The Druid's Alphabet; What do we Know About the Oghame? By Robert Lee (Skip) Ellison  
 Ogam – Ogam: Weaving Word Wisdom by Erynn Rowan Laurie

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## Craft – EE

This month you will find that the craft has no Pagan origin. Though I am sure you will find many uses for it in your magickal life. With in this newsletter you will find many assignments, crafts, and project you can use the homemade paper with. See if you can find the a whole set that fits together!

### Supplies

Sponge  
Window Screening (mold)  
Wood Frame (old picture frame can be used too)  
(deckle)  
Plastic Basin/Tub (Large enough to totally immerse frame)

### Homemade Paper

Blender/Food Processor (For making paper pulp)  
White Felt or Flannel Fabric  
Staples or Tacks (For tacking screen on frame)  
Liquid starch (optional)

### Directions

1. Select the pieces of paper to be recycled. You can even mix different types to create your own unique paper.
2. Rip the paper into small bits, and place into the blender. (about half full). Fill the blender with warm water. Run the blender slowly at first then increase the speed until the pulp looks smooth and well blended. ( 30 -40 seconds) Check that no flakes of paper remain. If there are, blend longer.
3. The next step is to make a mold. The mold, in this case, is made simply by stretching fiberglass screen (plain old door and window screen) over a wooden frame and stapling it. It should be as tight as possible.
4. Fill the basin about half way with water. Add 3 blender loads of pulp. (the more pulp you add the thicker the finished paper will be) To add more of a nature touch you can add in grass, leaves, flowers, herbs or any nature item you want. Stir the mixture.
5. Now is the time to add the liquid starch for sizing.(This is not necessary but if the paper is going to be used for writing on, you should add some, the starch helps to prevent inks from soaking into the paper fibers.) Stir 2 teaspoons of liquid starch into the pulp.  
Place the mold into the pulp and then level it out while it is submerged. Gently wiggle it side-to-side until the pulp collecting on top of the screen looks even.
6. Slowly lift the mold up until it is above the level of the water. Wait until most of the water has drained from the new paper sheet. If the paper is very thick, remove some pulp from the tub. If it is too thin, add more pulp and stir the mixture again.
7. When the mold stops dripping, gently place a fabric square on it. (felt or flannel square). Gently ease the mold down flat, with the paper directly on the fabric. Use a sponge to press out as much water as possible. Wring the excess water from the sponge back into the large plastic tub.
8. Now comes the tricky part. Hold the fabric square flat and slowly lift the edge of the mold. The wet sheet of paper should remain on the fabric. If it sticks to the mold, you may have pulled to fast or not pressed out enough water. It takes a little practice. You can gently press out any bubbles and loose edges at this point.
9. Repeat the steps above, and stack the fabric squares on a cookie sheet. Save one fabric square to place on the top of the stack to cover the last piece of paper. Use another cookie sheet to press the remaining water out of the stack. (do this outside or in the bathtub, it can make a mess)
10. After you press the stack, gently separate the sheets. They can be dried by hanging on a clothesline or laying them out on sheets of newspaper. When they have dried peel them off the fabric and voila! you have paper!

# Taghairm's Apothecary

## Dessert Pizza

Makes 8 servings  
~ submitted by Anne S.

10 inch pizza base  
4 medium green apples, peeled and thinly sliced  
1/3 cup brown sugar  
1 tsp cinnamon  
5 dried apricots, diced

*Kids* - Layer the apples over the pizza crust. Toss the apricots over the apples. Sprinkle the blended sugar and cinnamon over the fruit. Cook 30 minutes at 425 F.

*Serve with a scoop of vanilla ice-cream*

## Early Apothecary

In early times an apothecary was more than a simple druggist. Their duties included being a midwife or prescribing and making medicines, performing surgeries and providing medical treatments among many other things. Their shop was filled with everything from homemade medicines and remedies to cooking spices, candles, salad oils, tobacco and toothbrushes. Things that are very similar to what you might find in a drug store today. The knowledge of an apothecary was vast and ranged from medical know how to good old advice. During early times an apothecary based their entire practice upon the phases of the moon and the natural magick of nature. Striving to become one with all that was around them in order to best assist the community.

Below you will find a link to a story of Senoir Taghairm. As a young boy Taghairm thirsted for knowledge, but in those days you did not go to school but instead learned from your elders. Taghairms father and grandfather were great apothecaries. As you read the story form your own opinion of Taghairms ability to be a wise apothecary.



## Leaves are float- ing

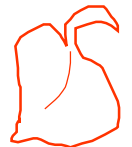
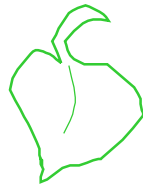
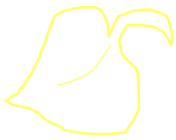
Leaves are floating softly down;  
Some are red and some are brown.  
The wind goes "swish" through the air;  
When you look back, there are no leaves there.

## Maple Oatmeal Soap

1 bar Ivory soap, grated  
Oatmeal, 1/8 to 1/4 cup  
A little maple syrup  
Soap or Jell-O moulds

Mix soap, oatmeal, and maple in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave for 30 seconds.

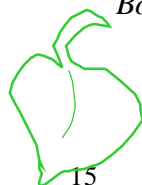
*Pour into soap moulds, let cool.*



## Apple Fruit Roll-Ups

Peel and slice a variety of sweet apples. Place in blender container with 1 tablespoon lemon juice for each 4 cups of fruit. Puree until smooth. Sugar or honey to taste may also be added. Cover a baking sheet with heat resistant plastic wrap. (Saran Wrap is good for high heat.) Tape plastic to baking sheet with masking tape. Pour apple puree over baking sheet in a very thin layer, leaving one inch free of puree around edges. Dry in food dryer or in oven at 140 degrees Fahrenheit, with door open about 2 inches, until leathery and pliable but not sticky. This may take several hours. Roll apple layer up and store in moisture proof, airtight container. For longer storage, refrigerate or freeze.

*Copyright © 2002 - Maryland Apple Promotion Board - All rights reserved.*



## What's a Witches favorite dinner?



### *A Pan Pizza*

#### Make Your Own Altar:

This time of year is a great time to make your own altar, here is one way you can do it yourself.

Decide how large of an altar you need by eyeing (never measure) the area you want to use. Be sure to keep a mental note of the size you desire.

Go for a walk in your area paying special attention to the fallen branches and twigs. Find the ones that catch your eye or the ones that you feel want to be with you. It may take you several times before getting the right amount.

After gathering all the twigs you need lay them on the floor as close together as you can until you have the exact shape and size you want for your altar. The sides will not be exact because each twig was a different size, that is to be expected because in nature there are no rulers.

Use thin jute to wrap around and tie (like the settlers did) the twigs together. Be sure to tie them near the middle so that they stay together well, but at the same time far enough out so that

#### Make Your Own Altar (Continued)

there is room to place the things you want on your altar on it without the sticks coming apart.

You will now need to sand only the area in between the jute ties until it is flat. This will be done outside when the sun or moon is shining upon you. Be sure to only do it either in the day or in the night, whichever one you connect with the most. This will take you a lot of time and effort, but then again you will not only be making your altar you will be connecting with it.

Place your altar in the spot you chose and decorate it accordingly. If you would like to raise your altar up, simply add river stones, wide branches or other nature item of your choice.

#### Share Your Resources

If you know of some cool Pagan internet stuff that could be useful to other kids out there send Moonbeams the information on it. After it has been reviewed you may see it added to a future issue

#### Symbol Search

See how many of the Pagan symbols you know below. Do some research on the one's you don't.





## World Religions

There are so many different religions in the world that there is no way to count them all. Try and see if you can list at least 50. A good start is the small list of some of the Pagan religions in the word search game below!



[www.broomstix.com](http://www.broomstix.com)

intelligent info for today's pagan kids...and it's free!

ASATRU  
 CELTIC RECONSTRUCTIONISM  
 CELTIC WICCA  
 DIANIC WICCA  
 DISCORDIANISM  
 DRUIDRY  
 ECLECTIC WICCA  
 EGYPTIAN  
 ETRUSCAN  
 FINNISH PAGANISM

HELLENIC  
 MESOPOTAMIAN  
 MINOAN  
 MITHRAISM  
 NORSE WICCA  
 NUMINISM  
 HEATHENRY  
 ROMAN  
 ROMUVA

SAMI  
 SATANISM  
 SHAMAMISM  
 SPIRA  
 SLAVIC  
 STREGHERIA  
 THELEMA  
 TRADITIONAL WICCA  
 TRADITIONAL WITCHCRAFT  
 VEDIC

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E	G	Y	R	S	A	N	T	A	N	H	S	R	I	N	N	I	F	I	N	P	N	N
L	Y	T	A	M	A	M	S	I	N	A	M	A	H	S	C	I	I	N	I	S	H	I
T	P	N	D	W	M	N	H	E	A	T	H	D	E	N	N	E	N	R	M	M	S	T
I	T	T	I	I	S	W	T	R	A	F	D	I	T	N	N	I	A	V	U	M	O	R
C	I	E	T	C	I	I	A	C	C	I	W	T	I	E	C	L	E	C	T	I	C	U
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I	A	S	O	M	A	C	T	S	I	N	S	O	H	E	L	L	E	N	I	T	C	A
C	N	N	N	A	I	H	R	I	D	I	A	N	I	C	W	I	C	C	A	S	N	N
C	E	T	A	N	D	R	E	A	T	S	H	A	I	C	E	N	N	S	C	A	U	T
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H	M	D	I	S	C	R	E	T	O	A	M	I	V	E	D	I	C	I	W	A	N	L
H	I	I	C	C	S	S	R	I	I	G	I	T	S	I	C	C	I	W	C	N	I	E
E	E	T	C	I	I	E	I	M	M	A	N	C	Y	I	M	T	W	I	I	I	S	M
D	A	L	A	M	D	W	A	I	M	N	O	H	R	M	H	A	E	C	T	C	M	A
N	R	I	L	N	N	T	A	N	W	I	C	C	N	H	E	A	S	C	C	S	C	T
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M	I	N	O	A	N	Y	P	I	V	A	L	S	H	F	I	N	N	I	S	H	P	M

# November 2007 Pagan Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	DR Samhain ET Festival of Het-Hert	2
						3
4 End Day- light sav- ings time Taurid Meteors	5	6	7	8 Moon fur- thest from earth Best view of Ceres A DOR Queen Sigrith	9	10 A Feast of Einherjar
11	RR Ides	12	13 Juno looks close to sun	14 DD Aff- sloth	15 Leonid Meteors	16
17						
18	19	20	21	22 Moon clos- est to Earth A Feast of Ullr	23	
24	25	26	27 DD Lord Omars Day ET Feast of Het- Hert & Sekhmet	28	29	30

**Key**

- DD = Discordian
- A = Asatru
- DR = Druid
- ET = Egyptian
- RR = Religio Romana

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## To The Parent

### PARENTS PRAYER

Morning star, big and bright,  
Help me be there day and night,  
Bluish moon in the daylight dim,  
Help me be there just for him.

Beautiful sky, big and blue,  
Help me always to see him through.  
Fluffy clouds, soft and white,  
Help me know what's wrong and right.

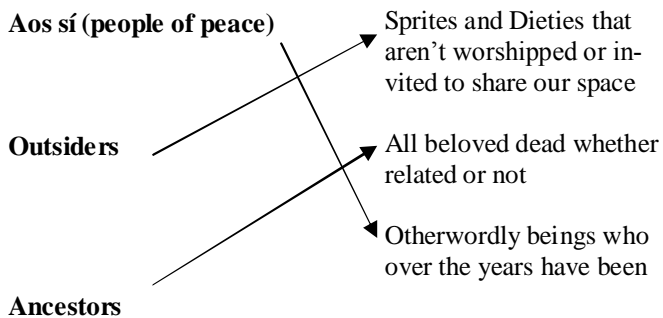
Yellow sun, radiant and hot,  
Let me be understanding, when he is not.  
Big brown owl, wise and sly,  
Help me see things from his eyes.

Might oak, big and strong,  
Help me admit when I am wrong.  
Tiny daisy, bold and white,  
Let me tell him, when he's right.

Every song that is left unsung,  
Help me thank him for all he's done.  
And everything that's old or new,  
Help me love him, deep and true.

©Donna Conrad Nov. 8, 1989

### Religious Focus Answers:



### Taking 10 !

In January you will find a new addition to Moonbeams. We will be introducing an all new kind of page titled Taking 10! This page will be dedicated to all of our adult readers out there and is our way of saying thank you for your support of Moonbeams.

### Meditation Workshop

In today's world it is hard to get kids involved in something like meditation. Society seems to encourage a fast-paced lifestyle which seems to have our young Pagans living in chaos.

Meditation techniques are something that each individual has to find for themselves. The way that works for you may be like torture to your child and introducing other techniques may seem overwhelming.

In an effort to remedy all of these problems Moonbeams has comprised a small meditation workshop for both you and your child, no matter what their age is. Feel free to use this workshop for your family:

Workshop information and preparations for all ages:  
<http://paganmoonbeams.com/pdfs/Meditation.pdf>

Follow-up workbook for older children:  
<http://paganmoonbeams.com/pdfs/MeditationWrkBk.pdf>

### Home School Tip

Using scrapbooks can become a wonderful tool in your home school. Make the whole process simple by buying construction paper that comes bound on one side. Take the last sheet out or use a sheet from another one to hide the front cover. This will make for an instant scrapbook without binding and cutting too much. For an added touch make the scrapbooks different sizes by using different size construction paper or cutting the pad in half or different shapes.

Worldly Wisdom: **Cautious silence is sacred sanctuary.**

*By keeping matters in suspense for a short time it allows for more solid conclusions when closing the matter.*

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## Religious Tolerance; The Parent's Take

This month's issue was focused on religious tolerance. It is important that our children learn and practice religious tolerance. As an adult you are well aware of the lack of religious tolerance that Pagans face today. The children we raise will make the world of tomorrow, so we need to be sure to give them the proper tools to make it a better place.

It is a good thing that the children are taught what religious tolerance is but it is even better if the parents of the children demonstrate religious tolerance themselves. The logic of this task seems easy to understand and because Pagans today feel they are very open they assume that they are practicing good religious tolerance; but are they really?

Take a step back and look into yourself. Think about situations you have come across lately where good religious tolerance was not practiced towards you or your religion. Think about how you handled that situation, more importantly what message did you relay to your children? Then do the same procedure of thinking on a different situation; a situation where you needed to practice proper tolerance.

Beyond situations in public you will also be faced with many different scenarios where you will be required to practice religious tolerance at home or within your own family. These situations can be more important and stressful than any other you will face. The people involved in family situations mean more to you and any action you take will likely stay with you for a long time.

Because most of us live in multi-religious families religious tolerance needs to be addressed on a regular basis. Be sure to talk and guide your child in proper behavior and wording when around those that require it. Teach them how to handle situations where they will feel they are being attacked with negative actions or words. It will be necessary to take into consideration their age and level of understanding. As they grow and are able to understand a more complex situation you will need to readdress things in a different manner.

### Things To Think About . . .

Your child picking  
non-Pagan friends

Homeschool Activities

Your child supporting  
some non-Pagan  
friendly cause or event

Social Events

Your child deciding that  
the Pagan path is not for  
them

Funerals

Your child wanting to  
participate in activities or  
events that aren't Pagan

Family Holidays

Your child supporting relig-  
ions you don't believe in  
while finding their path