

The Pellet

Newsletter of the Athens Area Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans

Volume 1 Issue 3

Summer 2000

Welcome!

Hello again! Athens Area CUUPS has been busy the last few months. In addition to the Chapter news inside, we saw the first of our hands-on workshops. We made runes last month, and just last week several of us gathered to make small clay goddesses called matrikas. Both events were wonderful. More such workshops will be offered in the coming months as we make dream catchers and learn the beginnings of the fine art of making incense. We also have two wonderful rituals coming up. You can find more details on the Events Calendar inside.

This issue brings more on different deities. Apollo in under 700 words! Plus information on Demeter and her search for Persephone.

Also in this issue is a call for help collecting research. Several of us have gotten to know Sally the last few months and it would be wonderful and exciting to have a large response to her "Wanted" letter below. She's proposed a unique study of Earth-centered spirituality and this is a great chance for us to help contribute something. Please, think about helping her out.

Blessed Be,
Melinda

Wanted: volunteers to participate in a research project focussing on Pagans. I am looking for Pagans, Goddess Worshipers, Wiccans (solitaire and those in covens), and other Earth-centered individuals to participate in my Master's Thesis in Sociology from Ohio University.

The research will consist of in-depth interviews focusing in part on individual (or group) spiritual histories, the misconceptions other groups have about Pagans, Wiccans, and other Earth-centered religions, and the subsequent problems this can present for the Pagan community.

I am also hoping to participate in and/or observe Wiccan ceremonies or works with either a coven or individuals.

Protecting the identities of my participants is my primary concern, and I promise to use pseudonyms at all times. In addition, all information relating to employment, places of residence, age, or any other identifying characteristics will be carefully disguised so as to be indistinguishable. All interviews and transcripts of my research will be kept in a locked box, and will be destroyed when my thesis is completed. Of course, I can make special accommodations for any participants who have specific concerns.

If you think you would like to be a part of this project, or simply have questions for me, please give me a call or drop me an email!

Thanks!
Sally Lasko

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Summer Storm
by Silverwind

Lightning threads thru' darkening sky:
The thunder thrums
Like throbbing drums;
Magic and mystery are nigh:
The blowing, the bliss
The rain's silver kiss
To the trees, lifting branches on high.

The fire and the fury release:
The power, the might
That flow through the night
Make flee, all thoughts of surcease.
Then – the sense, sight and sound
Coalesce and surround,
The stillness
– and sparkling peace