



Long Beach Pagan Meetup

hosting and promoting open community events.

Drum circles, Nature walks, Open rituals, Pagan night out,
Workshops, Study groups, Classes, Crafting and more!

Meet local Pagans, Wiccans, Witches, Druids and other practitioners of Paganist spirituality and religion! Come to an LB Pagan Meetup to make friends, share lore and exchange powerful knowledge about spells, witchcraft and magick. We welcome all different kinds of practices, we are eclectic and this is definitely a comfortable environment to explore, learn and grow!

If you represent a pagan (or pagan friendly) organization in the area and would like to promote your events to our 200+ members, let us know. Our goal here is to build a more engaged and interactive pagan community.

We welcome anyone who is interested to host events or make event suggestions to the group through any of the outlets below.

Our Mission is three-fold:

- To help pagans get out and meet other pagans.
- To provide community for solitary practitioners.
- To help students and teachers find one another.

Follow us on Facebook to see all of our events
www.facebook.com/LongBeachPagans

Join us on meetup.com
www.meetup.com/LB-Pagans

Or you can email us at:
LBPagans@gmail.com



Imbolc

Community Ritual

The Long Beach Pagan Meetup
welcomes you to the February 2014
Imbolc Community Ritual.

This afternoon our ritual focus will be community building, sharing knowledge and the celebration of the turning of the wheel. In that spirit, many aspects of a Wiccan ritual that you may be accustomed to will be happening inconspicuously or omitted all together. This program will be your guide for the evening's gathering. If you have any questions, please ask prior to the start of the ritual.



Merry Meet!

PREPARING FOR RITUAL

Our community ritual will include a hands on craft session and be filled with story telling. You will need to gather your crafting supplies and story telling items (book, paper, artwork) before we enter the ritual space. If you need supplies or a bag to carry items, you will find them (including “how to” sheets) in the office.

In addition, you are encouraged to perform any ritual preparation cleansing that suits you. We will not be conducting a ceremonial cleansing today.

CREATING SACRED SPACE

All participants will be included in the creation of sacred space. We will line up with our supplies and then will sing/chant the sacred space into being. In our line we will walk clockwise around the space and when we reach the eastern quarter (marked with a yellow ribbon) we will enter the space and make another clockwise circle until everyone comes to rest in the center around the altar. The forming chant is:

There is no time but now, There is no place but here,

In the sacred we do stand, in the circle hand in hand.

Once at the altar, each person in turn will light their own candle to be placed in a circle around our the planter on the altar. During this work, other components of the circle casting will be conducted by our volunteers but please simply focus on the chant and feel our voices and hearts merging as the sacred is erected.

Once all of the candles are lit, we will call to the Lord and the Lady to join us for celebration. Finally our hearth fire will be kindled and we will make ourselves comfortable in the circle.

REFRESHMENTS

Within the sacred space we will serve bread and beverage as refreshment. You will be served the initial round, but there will be no ritual to refill so simply refill as you wish. Since this is not a sacrament, but a snack, there is also no need to “clean your plate”. The beasties of the back yard will be pleased with your left overs.

CRAFTING AND STORYTELLING

Once we are all settled in the space we will begin with storytelling and crafting! If you did not prepare a bardic offering there are several poems, stories and image inspirations available. We can find one that suits you.

Remember, part of the joy or the bardic craft is the RESPONSES of the audience. Feel free to gasp, clap, boo or swoon as the story moves you.

We will be working with our crafts and enjoying the stories in turn, when it is time to switch storytellers you will say or hear **“Who takes up the Bardic staff”**.

Relax and enjoy this time together. In our modern world we rarely make this time to connect.

THE BOON

Before we leave this sacred space of community and celebration, we will ask a boon of the spirits that join us. You may use words on paper or intent placed in a bundle of herbs or a crafted item that will be given to the fire.

Each person will come forward and silently ask their boon of the gods then toss the request into the flames. While everyone takes turns with their boon, all chant.

**We are an old people, we are a new people
We are the same people, stronger than before.
Stronger than before, stronger than before.
We are the same people, stronger than before.**

CLOSING THE CIRCLE

After all of the boon are asked, the group will gather at the altar. We will thank the gods for their favor and the volunteers will release the quarters. When you hear, “The circle is open, yet unbroken” we extinguish our candles and respond with:

“Merry meet, merry part and merry meet again!”

We will then adjourn to the feast.