



WCC HAMILTON SWORD & CHALICE

Vol. 3 | Issue 1 | October 31 - December 21 2019

ELDER

At this time of the season, the moon is known as the Elder Tree Moon. The Elder is linked to the eternal turnings of life and death, birth and rebirth, and creativity and renewal. It represents the end and the beginning. The elder tree is a representative of the Crone, the third face of the Goddess and it is considered wise to always be polite and ask permission before taking from her. Every part of the elder is good for something, but never try to burn it. Elder wood spits violently and the sparks travel far.

Herbal usage: The Elder has many medicinal uses, and can be used to treat over 70 conditions. The bark can be used fresh for headaches and to promote labor, or can be dried and powdered and used in small doses as a diuretic. The leaves and flowers can be made into drinks, poultices and salves. Elderberry flower water is useful for soothing sunburns. The berries are safe to eat when ripe, and they can be used to make wines, jams and tea.

WCC HAMILTON SINCE 1979

The Wiccan Church of Canada is an open Wiccan temple offering teaching, rituals, and training to the public. Drawing on resources available in our own community, we are a diverse, accepting, caring, and welcoming group of people united by our love of the Gods.

W.C.C. rituals are open to one and all, regardless of one's level of knowledge in the Craft. We hope our newsletter will reflect the diversity of our membership by offering the pagan community articles, resources, local events, links and libraries and the W.C.C calendar.

<https://hamiltonwcc.ca/>

KEY DATES

Samhain .October
31 - November 1

Hamilton Temple
Yule Feast.
December 14

Annual Yule
Auction, Toronto
Temple.
November 23

Yule / Winter
Solstice.
December 21

HPPM, Krampus
Edition.
December 8



Samhain to Solstice

AS ABOVE, SO BELOW

Oct 28 : New Moon

Nov 5 : First Quarter

* Taurids Meteor Shower

Nov 12 : Full Moon

Nov 19 : Last Quarter

Nov 27 : New Moon

Dec 4 : First Quarter

Dec 12 : Full Moon

* Geminids Meteor Shower

Dec 19 : Last Quarter

* Ursids Meteor Shower.

Dec 26 : New Moon



Find us on Facebook:

**WCC Hamilton Temple
Community Events**

PUMPKIN-CIDER BREAD

BY WOLF HALE

2 cups pureed pumpkin
1 tbsp cinnamon
2 tbsp sugar
1 tbsp nutmeg
2 cups of flour, and then enough to keep the consistency just right
2 tbsp. dry yeast dissolved in 1/2 cup warm water
1 tbsp. salt
2 tbsp. vegetable oil
1/3 to 1/2 cup molasses
2 cups of fresh Apple cider

Combine cinnamon, sugar and nutmeg with the pureed pumpkin.

Combine salt and 2 cups of flour. Add the cider, yeast mix and all other ingredients. Add more flour if necessary.

Pour the dough to a lightly greased bowl, cover it with a cloth or

plastic wrap, and let it rise for about 45 minutes, until it's doubled in size in a warm place.

Punch down the dough and turn it out onto a floured surface. Roll the dough into a long

strip and then roll it up jellyroll style to fit into the bread pan.

Place in a greased pan and let rise until doubled again. Bake at 400 degrees F for 50-60 minutes until brown and done, when a fork comes out clean.

"Notice that autumn is more the season of the soul than of nature."

Friedrich Nietzsche

THE HALLOWS

BY ALLAN TODKILL

I'll start with a brief introduction of the Anglo-Saxons. They are a mixture of Germanic tribes that immigrated to the British Isles in the 4th Century CE. The Angles, Frisians, Jutes and Saxons these tribes came from what is modern southern Denmark, Holland, northern Denmark and northern Germany respectively. Anglo-Saxons practiced a Germanic faith similar to the Norse and all other Germanic Tribes.

The holytide that comes at the end of October is the Anglo-Saxon Winterfinding. This is seen in the old English name for the month of October. It was called Winterfylleth, which translated to "wintertide" in modern English.

The Hallows was the beginning of "Blotmonth", the month of the blood sacrifices. This was the third and final harvest of the year, the harvest of the meat of the livestock. The animals that could not be provided for over the winter would be butchered. This was a time of celebration and feasting. Much of the slaughtering of the animals would have been ritualized to give thanks to the Gods and to give them their share as well. A gift for a gift, is a concept found in the Germanic traditions. Also, the meat that was not consumed would be preserved with salt or by smoking.

The beginning of winter was also the beginning of the "Wild-Hunt". This is the time when Woden(Odin) would ride across the countryside with his hounds and retainers and gather up the lost souls of the dead. The hunt begins at the Hallows and continues all through Yuletide.

Saxon Paganism today marks the Hallows as a time of honouring the spirits of our ancestors. Winter has come and the world is dying and awaiting its rebirth. Many pagans feel the veil between this world and that of the dead becoming thinner allowing for a deeper connect to those who have passed.

Alaric Albertsson's book "Travels through middle earth the path of a saxon pagan" ISBN 978-0-7387-1536-0

SPOTLIGHT: THE ART OF TEA READING

THE MYSTIC TEAROOM

116 Ottawa St N, in east Hamilton. Introducing, Amy Taylor is a local professional Tea Leaf and Card Reader. She offers traditional Teacup Readings or the fascinating Lenormand Tea Cards.

Amy Lou Taylor is the sole owner of The Art of Tea and Tasseomancy and the Mystic Tearoom



<https://www.taotat.ca>