

Wheel of the Year

# *Inside the Wheel*

Volume 3, Issue 1

FREE

YULE 2005

## *Special points of interest:*

- Letter from the New Editor
- Bear Tracks
- My Altar
- Facing Your Problems
- My First FPG
- Wand Workshop



*Merry Meet and Blessed Yule  
From Everyone at WOTY!*

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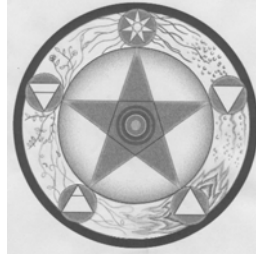
*Future Topics for Readers to Submit Articles About.*

When did you realize that you were pagan and how has being pagan changed your life?  
Deadline January 22nd 2006

Who is your favorite author and what one question would you most like to ask him/her?  
Deadline February 27th 2006

In the broom closet or out? What have your experiences been with public perception?  
Deadline: April 16th 2006

*Wheel of the Year (WOTY) is a nondenominational Pagan church. We are here to provide a forum for Pagans to network, gather information, and build a community. We hold regular discussions and classes on topics related to Paganism and celebrate the eight major Sabbats of the year. We are a family friendly group. WOTY is not a coven, and all our events are open to anyone who comes with an open mind and a positive attitude.*



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## Letter from The Editor

Merry Meet!

Once again our newsletter is growing and changing. I would like to introduce myself as the new editor of the Wheel of the Year newsletter. My name is Jeanette M Hess, also known as “Augur.” I am a third degree Priestess and Elder of Wheel of the Year. I have been leading a Pagan lifestyle for about 18 years, first as a solitary and then later seeking out a tradition with a lineage. I am currently part of the Clinical Support staff in a drug and alcohol therapeutic community for female inmates and I’m pursuing my CAAP with the state of Florida to be an addictions counselor. I am also looking forward to the challenge of editing/publishing the WOTY newsletter and networking with new people.

I recently returned home from FPG (*Florida Pagan Gathering*) having taken two very informative workshops, one of which was about publishing periodicals with Drema “Aranea” Baker, Publisher

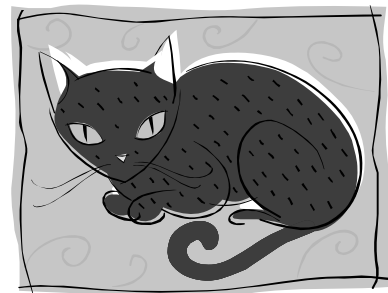
and Senior Editor of *PaganNet News/If... Journal* for the past 11 years.

Drema’s workshop was wonderfully informative and went into detailed explanations of types of paper, fonts, pictures, articles, deadlines and many other small details. She also gave a lot of great advise accompanied by a joyful spirit, a warm smile, and plenty of encouragement.

I am placing an open invitation to all Pagans in our community to participate in making these newsletters a success. All artwork, pictures of altars, familiars, events, articles, advertisements or regular features that you wish to submit, suggest, or volunteer to write on a regular basis are more than welcome and gratefully accepted. It is only through your sharing and participation that this periodical can be a success.

Blessed Be,

*Augur -n- Chaos* 



## *Bear Tracks*

Welcome to the expanded and improved, *Inside the Wheel*. The *Inside the Wheel* publication date has been changed to eight times a year publishing on the Sabbats, starting with Yule 2005. *Inside the Wheel* looks forward to including expanded articles and interviews with major authors and figures in the Pagan world.

Also two of our Elders, Connie and James Montano, have returned from California and have taken residence in Sarasota, FL. With all our elders and board in once place, Wheel of the Year is planning to offer classes in Sarasota in the very new future.



With all the expanded services that Wheel of the Year is offering, we are asking for the following donations of cash, gift cards and materials. If there are any other items that you feel would be useful please give us a call or send an email to: [direwulf@wheeloftheyear.org](mailto:direwulf@wheeloftheyear.org).

- 8 ½ x 11 20 weight paper
- 8 ½ x 11 120 weight paper
- 11 x 17 20 weight paper
- Construction paper
- Ink cartridges for HP office jet K80si (Black & Color)
- Cash donations to buy refill kits for Canon Image Class D661 (We can refill the Toner for \$35 dollars instead of buying a new toner cartridge for \$130 dollars)
- Three Ring Binders
- Folders
- Electric Stapler
- Staples
- Folding Chairs
- Lumber for and other projects (Home depot gift cards would work great for this)
- Tiki torches and Citronella Oil
- Ritual Supplies, candles incense salt etc.
- Book lights
- Craft Supplies for children's activities, Safety scissors, crayons white glue etc...
- Used computer equipment and laptops
- A Spiral Book Binder (to create our own books)
- Electric Three Hole Punch
- Bookshelves
- Books (For the library)

Your support is greatly appreciated  
Blessed Be,

*Bear* ☺

# My Altar

There come times in every person's spiritual practice where you run up against a brick wall and say, "Hey, wait! I need more." And then you remember that to get more all you need to do is ask. Ask the God and Goddess, or whatever name you give Deity, to be present in your life, and they are there. And then if you really want to move deeper and higher in your relationship with Deity, you will hear the message that yes, of course they are there, they are always there, it is *you* that need to be doing more. *You* and only *you* are capable of increasing that closeness and bring divinity into your everyday life. Yes there are teachers and messengers sent to give us nudges, but until you hit that brick wall, most of the time things just don't fall into place.

---

*"You and only you are capable of increasing that closeness and bring Divinity into your everyday life."*

---

Recently I reached such a point. I couldn't even tell you exactly which thing led me to that place or slapped me in the back of the head. I suppose it was a culmination several different experiences. There are two things that I can think of that particularly encouraged me to take the next step in my own spiritual development.

One was a labyrinth walk that I took in which the Lord and Lady were walking beside me, and I experienced their presence in a way I never have before, at least in that form.

The other was a conversation I had with my teacher in which she made a general statement about making more of a daily commitment to God and Goddess. While she was not singling me out in her comments, I took her words to heart.

I knew what I had to do. It was time to build a personal altar. We have a family altar in our home. I am usually the one to clean it and change the items with the seasons with the help of my five-year-old daughter. But I realized that I needed a space set aside for my personal practice. I cleaned off a three-tiered shelf in bedroom, cleansed and blessed it, and put my Goddess statues, my tools, and representations of my totems upon it. I said a prayer of thanksgiving.

Now that my altar is in place, the best part is, after putting the work and energy into creating my altar space. I am drawn there every day. I have a place specifically for my daily devotions. And because I do, I am more faithful in doing them. And because I do, my relationship with the God and Goddess has become so much closer.

Blessed Be,  
Lorax



## *Facing Your Problems*

In today's society the one biggest problem is people not facing up to or admitting that they have a problem. Whether it be drugs, alcohol, sex, lying, stealing, etc. I've learned that not facing these problems and not admitting to them will bring you nothing but trouble and heartache. Just recently I dishonored my wife and family by doing something I should not have done. In return I not only hurt them but lost their trust in me. I kept refusing to believe that I had a problem. It took one dumb move on my part to finally show me that I do have a problem. I am an alcoholic and a sex addict and these feel like pretty big problems.

### **Quote of the Month**

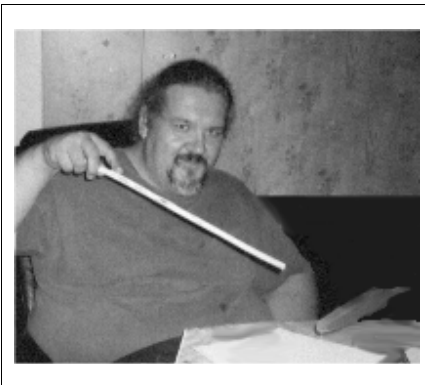
Now it is a big step to admit that you have problems and to seek help, but once you do you will feel better about yourself.

*The best mind-altering drug is truth.*

*-Lily Tomlin*

So my bit of advice is face and conquer your problems and don't lie to yourself. Don't be afraid to turn to your friends and family for help. To be a better person you need to face yourself and face your problems. Then you can change yourself.

David L. Morgan



Reverend Bear with his new wand.

On November 19th WOTY held a wand making workshop. The wand workshop was facilitated by *Augur*.

13 Adults attended the

### *WOTY Wand Workshop*

workshop and 5 children. While the adults were working on their wands, the children attended a kids craft session facilitated by Connie Scholl, also known as Reverend Little Feather. Connie has been voted in by the Board of Officers as our new *Children and Charities organizer* and will be having something to do for the little Pagans at all the WOTY events in the future.

If there is a workshop you would like WOTY to facilitate or you would like to volunteer to present a workshop at Wheel of the Year please email or telephone us. We would love to hear from you.

## *My First FPG*

All I can say is that it was phenomenal. Never before have I seen or been to something that you could feel the love for Goddess and Gods, and unity among fellow pagans like I did at Florida Pagan Gathering. It was an experience of a lifetime for me. There were vendors of all sorts, games for children, classes on all kinds of interesting magical subjects, and awesome rituals.

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## *WOTY Events*

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ritual Certification Class Part II – 6:30 pm

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> Yule Ritual and Potluck Feast – 5:00 pm

Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> Full Moon Ritual– 6:30 pm

Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> Ritual Certification Class Part III– 6:30 pm



## *Community Events*

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday Open House 1 pm to 4 pm at Brooms and Books  
776-1235

Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> Full Moon Friday-7:30 PST -, location TBA  
[www.endorasemporium.com](http://www.endorasemporium.com)

Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> Witches Meetup-7:00 pm, location TBA  
[fldancingspider@aol.com](mailto:fldancingspider@aol.com)

Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> Full Moon Friday-7:30 PST, location TBA  
[www.endorasemporium.com](http://www.endorasemporium.com)

Jan 21<sup>st</sup> Reiki I-5:00 pm , Brooms and Books  
776-1235, \$70 or \$65 with deposit

Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> Witches Meetup-7:00 pm, location TBA  
[fldancingspider@aol.com](mailto:fldancingspider@aol.com)



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