



# Reclaiming Pages

Information and Events in the Reclaiming Tradition

Reclaiming is a community of women and men working to unify spirit and political action.

Our vision is rooted in the religion and magic of the Goddess — the Immanent Life Force.

We see our work as teaching and making magic — the art of empowering ourselves and each other. In our classes, workshops, and public rituals, we train our voices, bodies, energy, intuition, and minds.

We use the skills we learn to deepen our strength, both as individuals and as community, to voice our concerns about the world in which we live, and to bring to birth a vision of a new culture.

The following pages highlight events sponsored by regional Reclaiming-tradition groups. Many of these groups are anchored by Reclaiming Witchcamp teachers and organizers.

While Reclaiming communities vary widely in their focus, style, and ways of organizing, all Reclaiming groups agree on the Principles of Unity (below).

## Reclaiming's Principles of Unity

“My law is love unto all beings...” — The Charge of the Goddess

The values of the Reclaiming tradition stem from our understanding that the Earth is alive and all of life is sacred and interconnected. We see the Goddess as immanent in the Earth's cycles of birth, growth, death, decay, and regeneration. Our practice arises from a deep, spiritual commitment to the Earth, to healing, and to the linking of magic with political action.

Each of us embodies the divine. Our ultimate spiritual authority is within, and we need no other person to interpret the sacred to us. We foster the questioning attitude, and honor intellectual, spiritual, and creative freedom.

We are an evolving, dynamic tradition and proudly call ourselves Witches. Honoring both Goddess and God, we work with female and male images of divinity, always remembering that their essence is a mystery which goes beyond form. Our community rituals are participatory and ecstatic, celebrating the cycles of the seasons and our lives, and raising energy for personal, collective, and Earth healing.

We know that everyone can do the life-changing, world-renewing work of magic, the art of changing consciousness at will. We strive to teach and practice in ways that foster personal and collective empowerment, to model shared power, and to open leadership roles to all. We make decisions by consensus, and balance individual autonomy with social responsibility.

Our tradition honors the wild, and calls for service to the Earth and the community. We value peace and practice non-violence, in keeping with the Rede, “Harm none, and do what you will.” We work for all forms of justice: environmental, social, political, racial, gender, and economic. Our feminism includes a radical analysis of power, seeing all systems of oppression as interrelated, rooted in structures of domination and control.

We welcome all genders, all races, all ages and sexual orientations, and all those differences of life situation, background, and ability that increase our diversity. We strive to make our public rituals and events accessible and safe. We try to balance the need to be justly compensated for our labor with our commitment to make our work available to people of all economic levels.

All living beings are worthy of respect. All are supported by the sacred elements of Air, Fire, Water, and Earth. We work to create and sustain communities and cultures that embody our values, that can help to heal the wounds of the Earth and Her peoples, and that can sustain us and nurture future generations.

*This statement of core values was developed at the Reclaiming Collective Retreat held the weekend of November 8, 1997.*

# About Reclaiming



## Reclaiming Core Classes

These classes have evolved as the “core curricula” of many, but not all, Reclaiming communities.

Elements of Magic is the basic Reclaiming class, and is taught at most Witchcamps as well as in local communities. The other three core classes, as well as many other workshops and classes, have Elements as a prerequisite.

### Elements of Magic

Deepen your vision and focus your will, empowering yourself to act in the world. Practice magic by working with the Elements: Earth, Air, Water, Fire, and Spirit. Techniques include drumming, singing, sacred dance, breath



work, visualization, sensing, projecting and raising energy, chanting, trance work, creating magical space, spell crafting, and structuring

meaningful ritual. We hope to provide a nurturing environment for all participants. Prerequisite: Read the first six chapters of *The Spiral Dance* by Starhawk.

### Iron Pentacle

The points of the Iron Pentacle name our birthrights as free beings: Sex, Pride, Self, Power, and Passion. In this class, we will explore these aspects of our own authentic energy. Six weeks. Prerequisite: Elements of Magic or equivalent.



### Pentacle of Pearl

We will work with the deep, healing energies of the Pentacle of Pearl, moving through the five points: Love, Law, Wisdom, Liberty, and Knowledge. Six weeks. Prerequisite: Elements of Magic or equivalent.

### Rites of Passage

Journeying into the realm of our own dreams and imaginings, we will each become the main character in our own myth. Through storytelling, trance, and dream work, we will draw forth and weave a rich tapestry of images and symbols between the worlds, to empower us in all the worlds. Six weeks. Prerequisite: Elements of Magic or equivalent.

## Reclaiming Classes ~ General Information

Classes are offered in many regions (see following pages for local groups). To arrange classes in other areas, contact RQ — [quarterly@reclaiming.org](mailto:quarterly@reclaiming.org)

Classes are announced throughout the year. Visit Reclaiming’s website, [www.reclaiming.org](http://www.reclaiming.org), or see contact info for various regions in the following pages.

Although studying and practicing the Reclaiming tradition can be profoundly healing, Reclaiming classes are not a substitute for medical or psychiatric care. Teachers are not responsible for diagnosing illnesses nor for recommending treatments. Students are responsible for seeking professional help if they need it.

## Resources

How does today’s Witch-on-the-go find out more about Reclaiming?

The easiest way is to take a class, attend a ritual, or sign up for a retreat or Witchcamp.

Contacts for local communities and Witchcamps can be found on the next two pages. New groups and updated contact information can be found on the Reclaiming website, or in future issues of RQ.

Here are some more resources.

### RECLAIMING.ORG

Reclaiming’s website (and the sibling site [ReclaimingQuarterly.org](http://ReclaimingQuarterly.org)) is a great source of information — everything from history and background to photo-features of our latest organizing, from classes and rituals to samples from our music CDs.

### BOOKS

Here are some books by Reclaiming teachers that you can find in bookstores and online.

Starhawk, *The Fifth Sacred Thing*, *The Spiral Dance*, *The Earth Path*, and more

T. Thorn Coyle, *Evolutionary Witchcraft*, *Kissing the Limitless*

Starhawk, Anne Hill, & Diane Baker, *Circle Round: Raising Children in Goddess Traditions*

Starhawk & M. Macha NightMare, *The Pagan Book of Living & Dying*

Luke Hauser, *Direct Action: An Historical Novel*

David Miller, *I Didn't Know God Made Honky-Tonk Communists*

### RECORDED MUSIC

Reclaiming offers four CDs of Earth-centered chants and songs — see the back cover of this issue for more information, or visit our website.

Numerous Reclaiming teachers have also recorded CDs — Reclaiming’s CD *Witches' Brew* is a sampler of recent Reclaiming-inspired releases.

### IF ALL ELSE FAILS — CONTACT RQ

If you can't find what you're looking for — contact RQ! Our experts are standing by to answer your queries, or figure out who can.



# Reclaiming Regional Groups & Contacts

Local groups are anchored by Reclaiming teachers. RQ offers this list of kindred communities as a public service, but is not responsible for these groups. If contact info is outdated or you want us to add a group, or if you have other questions, please contact [quarterly@reclaiming.org](mailto:quarterly@reclaiming.org), (415) 255-7623.

## Australia

Reclaimng Australia  
[www.reclaimingau.ravenhawk.net.au](http://www.reclaimingau.ravenhawk.net.au)

Melbourne Reclaiming  
[fimariposa@yahoo.com.au](mailto:fimariposa@yahoo.com.au), (03) 9384 1082

## Continental Europe

Reclaiming Réseau Francophone (France)  
[reclaiming.online.fr](http://reclaiming.online.fr)

Reclaiming Deutschland (Germany)  
[www.reclaiming.de](http://www.reclaiming.de)

Reclaiming Netherlands  
[www.reclaiming.nl](http://www.reclaiming.nl)

Phoenix Witchcamp (Germany)  
Deutsch: [www.phoenix-camp.eu](http://www.phoenix-camp.eu)  
English: [www.phoenix-camp.eu/englishhome.html](http://www.phoenix-camp.eu/englishhome.html)

European Wintercamp (Spain)  
[www.reclaimingspain.org](http://www.reclaimingspain.org)  
[m.morgaine@sie.es](mailto:m.morgaine@sie.es), (0034) 920 37 25 73  
English: [www.reclaimingspain.org/CamptextEnglish2009.htm](http://www.reclaimingspain.org/CamptextEnglish2009.htm)

## Britain

British Reclaiming  
[www.britishreclaiming.org.uk](http://www.britishreclaiming.org.uk)

West Wales  
[moonroot@uko2.co.uk](mailto:moonroot@uko2.co.uk), (+44) 01267 281414

Cambridge  
[cradle@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:cradle@globalnet.co.uk)

Devon  
[flamingirondragon@googlemail.com](mailto:flamingirondragon@googlemail.com)

Hertfordshire  
[suparnovajuce@gmail.com](mailto:suparnovajuce@gmail.com)

Nottingham  
[jeanniejonathan@aol.com](mailto:jeanniejonathan@aol.com)

Derby  
[mazmc@macunlimited.net](mailto:mazmc@macunlimited.net)

West Sussex  
[georgia.conway@btopenworld.com](mailto:georgia.conway@btopenworld.com)

Scotland  
[epredota@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:epredota@yahoo.co.uk)

Buckinghamshire  
[amhranai.annemarie@gmail.com](mailto:amhranai.annemarie@gmail.com)

Avalon Spring Witchcamp  
[www.avaloncamp.org.uk](http://www.avaloncamp.org.uk)  
[avaloncamp@gmail.com](mailto:avaloncamp@gmail.com)

## Canada

British Columbia Witchcamp Community  
[www.bcwitchcamp.ca](http://www.bcwitchcamp.ca)  
[witchcampbcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:witchcampbcinfo@gmail.com)  
(250) 598-9229

Wild Ginger (Ontario)  
[www.wildgingerwitches.org](http://www.wildgingerwitches.org)  
[margaretrossiter@rogers.com](mailto:margaretrossiter@rogers.com)  
(519) 439-6252

Fredericton (New Brunswick)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/paganrituals/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/paganrituals/)

Vancouver Reclaiming Community  
[www.vancouverreclaiming.org](http://www.vancouverreclaiming.org)

Montreal Reclaiming  
[www.cosmic-muse.com/reclaiming](http://www.cosmic-muse.com/reclaiming)

## United States

### California

San Francisco Bay Area and North Bay  
[www.reclaiming.org/rituals](http://www.reclaiming.org/rituals)  
[www.reclaiming.org/classevents](http://www.reclaiming.org/classevents)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/BAREclaiming](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BAREclaiming)  
(415) 255-7623

North Bay Reclaiming  
[NorthBayReclaiming@yahoo.com](mailto:NorthBayReclaiming@yahoo.com)

California Witchcamp  
[www.californiawitchcamp.org](http://www.californiawitchcamp.org)  
[info@californiawitchcamp.org](mailto:info@californiawitchcamp.org)  
(510) 534-9600

Witchlets in the Woods Family Camp  
[www.witchletsinthewoods.org](http://www.witchletsinthewoods.org)  
[info@witchletsinthewoods.org](mailto:info@witchletsinthewoods.org)  
(415) 946-7798 or (415) 255-7623

Indigo Artichoke Heart (Southern California: Valley/West Los Angeles/Laguna Nigel)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/IAH-Discussion](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IAH-Discussion)

Mountain Circle (Truckee/Incline/Reno/Nevada)  
[sismhall1@aol.com](mailto:sismhall1@aol.com), (530) 546-4226

### Oregon

Portland Reclaiming  
[www.portlandreclaiming.org](http://www.portlandreclaiming.org)  
[webgeek@portlandreclaiming.org](mailto:webgeek@portlandreclaiming.org)

Free Activist Camp (Oregon/Washington)  
[www.freewitchcamp.org](http://www.freewitchcamp.org)  
[freeactivistwitchcamp@gmail.com](mailto:freeactivistwitchcamp@gmail.com)

### Washington

Turning Tide (Seattle) [www.seattlereclaiming.spiderweb.net](http://www.seattlereclaiming.spiderweb.net)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/SeattleReclaiming/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SeattleReclaiming/)

Cascadia Village Camp  
[home.comcast.net/~cascadiavillagecamp](http://home.comcast.net/~cascadiavillagecamp)  
[cascadiavillagecamp@comcast.net](mailto:cascadiavillagecamp@comcast.net)  
(206) 517-7876



# Reclaiming Regional Groups & Contacts

Local groups are anchored by Reclaiming teachers. RQ offers this list of kindred communities as a public service, but is not responsible for these groups. If contact info is outdated or you want us to add a group, or if you have other questions, please contact [quarterly@reclaiming.org](mailto:quarterly@reclaiming.org), (415) 255-7623.

## Texas

Tejas Web (Austin)  
[www.tejasweb.org](http://www.tejasweb.org)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/tejas\\_web/](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/tejas_web/)

Tejas Web Witchcamp  
[www.witchcamp.tejasweb.org](http://www.witchcamp.tejasweb.org)  
[witchcamp@tejasweb.org](mailto:witchcamp@tejasweb.org)  
(512) 496-8034 or (210) 319-2595

## Colorado

Colorado Springs  
[www.reclaimingcoloradosprings.org](http://www.reclaimingcoloradosprings.org)

Reclaiming Spirit (Denver)  
[www.reclaimingspirit.org](http://www.reclaimingspirit.org)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/reclaimingspirit/](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/reclaimingspirit/)

Colorado Witchcamp  
[www.reclaimingspirit.org](http://www.reclaimingspirit.org)  
[morgans\\_insight@yahoo.com](mailto:morgans_insight@yahoo.com), (303) 618-7702

## Midwest

Dreamweaving Witchcamp (Missouri)  
[www.dreamweaving.org](http://www.dreamweaving.org)  
[camp@dreamweaving.org](mailto:camp@dreamweaving.org)  
(504) 899-5350

## Minnesota

Twin Cities Reclaiming  
[TwinCitiesReclaiming@yahoo.com](mailto:TwinCitiesReclaiming@yahoo.com)

Winter Witchcamp  
[www.winterwitchcamp.org](http://www.winterwitchcamp.org)  
[winterwitchcamp@yahoo.com](mailto:winterwitchcamp@yahoo.com)

## Michigan

Trillium Reclaiming (Southeast Michigan)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/trilliumreclaiming](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/trilliumreclaiming)

## Illinois

Chicago Reclaiming  
[www.chicagoreclaiming.com](http://www.chicagoreclaiming.com)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/chireclaim/](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/chireclaim/)

Weaving Women (Champaign-Urbana)  
[slvr\\_moon@ifairtrade.net](mailto:slvr_moon@ifairtrade.net)

## Tri-State

Tri-State Reclaiming (OH, KY, WV)  
[tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Tri-StateReclaiming/](http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Tri-StateReclaiming/)

## Vermont

Vermont Witchcamp  
[www.vermontwitchcamp.net](http://www.vermontwitchcamp.net)  
[information@vermontwitchcamp.net](mailto:information@vermontwitchcamp.net)  
(802) 436-3451, (603) 894-5871 or  
(413) 369-4049

## Massachusetts

Boston Area  
[qb.skraus4828@real-cheap-email.com](mailto:qb.skraus4828@real-cheap-email.com)  
(781) 658-2687

## New York

Ithaca Reclaiming  
[www.ithacareclaiming.org](http://www.ithacareclaiming.org) [soulspirals@soulspirals.net](mailto:soulspirals@soulspirals.net), (607) 227-5852  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/IthacaReclaimingCollective/](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/IthacaReclaimingCollective/)

Long Island Reclaiming (Suffolk County)  
[www.lireclaiming.org](http://www.lireclaiming.org)  
[asherahscauldon@msn.com](mailto:asherahscauldon@msn.com), (631) 751-3477

## New York / New Jersey / Pennsylvania

New York / New Jersey / Pennsylvania  
[NyNjPa-Reclaiming@yahoo.com](mailto:NyNjPa-Reclaiming@yahoo.com)

## Delaware Valley

Delaware Valley Reclaiming  
(PA, NJ, DE, NY - Greater Philadelphia)  
[DelValReclaiming@yahoo.com](mailto:DelValReclaiming@yahoo.com)

## Pennsylvania

Reclaiming3Rivers (Pittsburgh)  
[reclaiming3rivers@yahoo.com](mailto:reclaiming3rivers@yahoo.com)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/Reclaiming3River/](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/Reclaiming3River/)  
(412) 722-9117

## Maryland

Baltimore Reclaiming  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/bmorereclaiming/](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/bmorereclaiming/)

## Mid-Atlantic

SpiralHeart Witchcamp Community  
[www.spiralheart.org](http://www.spiralheart.org)  
[info@spiralheart.org](mailto:info@spiralheart.org), (202) 728-7510  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/group/spiralheart/](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/group/spiralheart/)

Otters of the Fae (Central Virginia)  
[ReclaimingCVA@yahoo.com](mailto:ReclaimingCVA@yahoo.com)

Dragon's Cauldron (Raleigh/Durham)  
[www.dragonscauldron.org](http://www.dragonscauldron.org)  
Elist: [groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/RTPReclaiming](mailto:groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/RTPReclaiming)

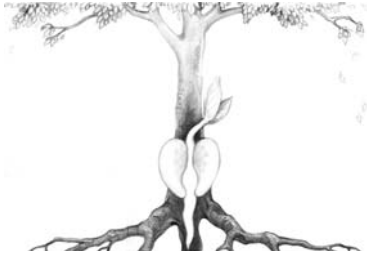
Dreamroads Witchcamp  
[www.dreamroads.com/witchcamp](http://www.dreamroads.com/witchcamp)  
[witchcamp@dreamroads.com](mailto:witchcamp@dreamroads.com). (704) 502.7674

Wild Child Camp (Chesterfield, Virginia)  
[www.spiralheart.org/events/wildchild/](http://www.spiralheart.org/events/wildchild/)

## Florida

Earthwater Glade  
[www.myspace.com/earthwaterglade](http://www.myspace.com/earthwaterglade)  
Elist: [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/earthwaterglade](mailto:www.groups.yahoo.com/group/earthwaterglade)

Magnolia Circle (Tallahassee)  
[www.magnoliacircle.org](http://www.magnoliacircle.org)  
[DragonWing56@aol.com](mailto:DragonWing56@aol.com), (850) 575-5948



# Reclaiming Witchcamps

A week of Earth-based spirituality and magic

## What Is Witchcamp?

Study magic and ritual in a week-long intensive that includes trancework, healing, drumming, dancing, chanting, storytelling, guided visualization, and energy work.

Witchcamp is offered to women and men at all levels of experience. Newcomers can learn the basic skills of magic and ritual, working with the elements, movement, sound, and the mythological and historical framework of the Goddess tradition. Advanced paths offer the chance to apply the tools of ritual to personal healing and empowerment, or to focus on taking the Craft out into the world, creating public ritual, and healing issues surrounding leadership and power.

Witchcamp is an intensive — seven days of ritual and magic designed for people who are dedicated to powerful spiritual learning experiences and personal growth. This intensive is not a festival. It will expand your unconscious awareness, push your edges, and likely change your life. The intensive is sequestered for the entire seven days. Please plan to attend the entire week.

Witchcamps were first organized for adults. Over the years, some camps have experimented with all-ages and adults-plus-teens. Contact the specific camps for more information.

## What Happens at Witchcamp?

As you might expect, a lot of magic takes place at Witchcamp. But what exactly does it look like?

The heart of Witchcamp is a series of evening rituals, often based around a myth or magical story. These rituals carry participants into the magical, emotional, and social layers of the story, and often involve deep personal work.

Morning path offers a choice of weeklong intensive workshops. Paths are a chance for more intimate magical experience, a place to ask questions and learn new skills.

For folks who are new to the Reclaiming tradition, Elements of Magic is a good introduction. For those who have already taken Elements, advanced paths focus on everything from labyrinths to the Iron Pentacle to priestessing skills to Earth activism.

Workshops, talent shows, and even the occasional free moment fill out an amazing magical week between the worlds: Reclaiming Witchcamp.

## Reclaiming Camps for Youth, Kids, & Families

Reclaiming Camps are autonomously organized, and each camp decides its own focus and policies. Some camps are adult-only, some for adults and teens, and some for all ages.

Several of the Witchcamps listed on the next page include teens and/or young folks. These camps offer special youth paths where young campers can learn magical, ecological, and group-process skills. Contact the camp for specifics.

Several Reclaiming camps are specially oriented toward families. Family Camps are all-ages retreats with a special focus on young campers. In recent years, Wild Ginger (Ontario), Cascadia (Washington), and Witchlets (California) have been family camps.

Contact specific camps to find out their focus, age range, and other details. For info on organizing a camp in your area, contact RQ.



*Witchlets in the Woods offers magic for kids, teens, and adults. Photo: Loki Rainman*

# Witchcamps

## in the Reclaiming Tradition

Most camps are annual — some are biennial. Dates are approximate. Some camps include teens and/or children (marked with an asterisk\* below).

For current dates, contact the camp or [www.Witchcamp.org](http://www.Witchcamp.org)

Many of these camps are camper-organized. If you want to see a Witchcamp happen in your area, one way is to attend an established camp and talk with teachers and organizers.



**Winter Witchcamp (Minnesota)** • February  
[www.winterwitchcamp.org](http://www.winterwitchcamp.org), [winterwitchcamp@yahoo.com](mailto:winterwitchcamp@yahoo.com)

**Winter Witchcamp (Spain)** • February-March  
[www.reclaimingspain.org](http://www.reclaimingspain.org), [m.morgaine@sie.es](mailto:m.morgaine@sie.es), (0034) 920 37 25 73

**Avalon Spring (England)** • April  
[www.avaloncamp.org.uk](http://www.avaloncamp.org.uk), [avaloncamp@gmail.com](mailto:avaloncamp@gmail.com)

**MidWest (Missouri)** • June  
[www.dreamweaving.org](http://www.dreamweaving.org), [camp@dreamweaving.org](mailto:camp@dreamweaving.org), (504) 899-5350

**Teen Earth Magic (Northern California)\*** • June  
[www.reclaimingquarterly.org/web/tem/](http://www.reclaimingquarterly.org/web/tem/), [george@directaction.org](mailto:george@directaction.org), (415) 509-0139

**Wild Ginger Family Camp (Ontario)\*** • June  
[www.wildgingerwitches.org](http://www.wildgingerwitches.org), [margaretrossiter@rogers.com](mailto:margaretrossiter@rogers.com), (519) 439-6252

**California (Mendocino Woodlands)** • June-July  
[www.californiawitchcamp.org](http://www.californiawitchcamp.org), [info@californiawitchcamp.org](mailto:info@californiawitchcamp.org), (510) 534-9600

**Cascadia Village Camp (Washington)\*** • July  
[home.comcast.net/~cascadiavillagecamp](http://home.comcast.net/~cascadiavillagecamp), [cascadiavillagecamp@comcast.net](mailto:cascadiavillagecamp@comcast.net), (206) 517-7876

**Free Activist Camp (Oregon/Washington)\*** • July-August  
[freewitchcamp.org](http://freewitchcamp.org), [andrew.paik@verizon.net](mailto:andrew.paik@verizon.net), (310) 570-3662

**Colorado** • July  
[www.reclaimingspirit.org](http://www.reclaimingspirit.org), [morgans\\_insight@yahoo.com](mailto:morgans_insight@yahoo.com), (303) 618-7702

**SpiralHeart (MidAtlantic)** • August  
[www.spiralheart.org](http://www.spiralheart.org), [info@spiralheart.org](mailto:info@spiralheart.org), (202) 728-7510

**Witchlets in the Woods (California)\*** • August  
[www.witchletsinthewoods.org](http://www.witchletsinthewoods.org), [info@witchletsinthewoods.org](mailto:info@witchletsinthewoods.org), (415) 946-7798

**British Columbia** • August  
[bcwitchcamp.ca](http://bcwitchcamp.ca), [witchcampbcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:witchcampbcinfo@gmail.com), (250) 598-9229

**Dreamroads (North Carolina)\*** • August  
[www.dreamroads.com/witchcamp](http://www.dreamroads.com/witchcamp), [witchcamp@dreamroads.com](mailto:witchcamp@dreamroads.com), (704) 502.7674

**Vermont\*** • August-September  
[www.vermontwitchcamp.net](http://www.vermontwitchcamp.net), [information@vermontwitchcamp.net](mailto:information@vermontwitchcamp.net), (802) 436-3451, (603) 894-5871 or (413) 369-4049

**Phoenix (Germany)** • September  
Deutsch: [www.phoenix-camp.eu](http://www.phoenix-camp.eu)  
English: [www.phoenix-camp.eu/englishhome.html](http://www.phoenix-camp.eu/englishhome.html)

**Texas\*** • October  
[www.witchcamp.tejasweb.org](http://www.witchcamp.tejasweb.org), [witchcamp@tejasweb.org](mailto:witchcamp@tejasweb.org), (512) 496-8034 or (210) 319-2595

\* means camp has included children and/or teens some years. Contact camps for more info.



Photos from top: Robin Parrott;  
Randy Ralston; Otter



# The Wheel of the Year

Reclaiming groups celebrate rituals in many locales across North America, Europe, and Australia. Some groups observe the entire Neo-Pagan Wheel of the Year, while others meet less frequently. To find out what's happening in your region (or halfway around the world), visit [www.Reclaiming.org](http://www.Reclaiming.org) — if no internet, call (415) 255-7623.

All Reclaiming events are clean and sober. No alcohol or drugs, please.

## Samhain

The holiday popularly known as Halloween is the time of year known to Witches as Samhain, when the veil is thin between the worlds of the living and the dead. We gather to remember and honor our ancestors, our Beloved Dead, and all those who have crossed over. As we mourn for those we love who have died this year, we also mourn the losses and pain suffered by the Earth, our Mother. Yet even as we grieve we also remember and honor the sacred cycle of life, death, rebirth and regeneration, celebrating the births of our children born this year, and our own vital connections to the Earth and each other, in which we ground our hope.

## Winter Solstice

This is the night of Solstice, the longest night of the year. We watch for the coming of dawn, when the Great Mother again gives birth to the Sun, who is bringer of hope and the promise of summer. This is the stillness behind motion, when time itself stops; the center which is also the circumference of all. We are awake in the night. We turn the Wheel to bring the light. We call the sun from the womb of night.

## Brigid/Candlemas/Imbolc

This is the feast of the waxing light. What was born at the Solstice begins to manifest, and we who were midwives to the infant year now see the days grow visibly longer. This is the time of individuation: within the measures of the spiral, we each bring our own light, and become uniquely ourselves. It is the time of initiation, of beginning, when seeds that will later sprout and grow begin to stir from their deep sleep. We meet to share the light of inspiration, which will grow with the growing year.

## Spring Equinox

This is the time of Spring's return; the joyful time, the seed time, when life bursts forth from the earth and the chains of Winter are broken. Light and dark are equal: it is a time of balance, when all the elements within us must be brought into a new harmony. Kore, the Dark Maiden, returns from the Land of the Dead, cloaked in the fresh rain, with the sweet scent of desire on her breath. As She dances, despair turns to hope, want to abundance, and we sing:

She changes everything She touches,  
And everything She touches, changes

In many locales, children are a special part of this ritual, and a hunt for colored eggs follows.

## Beltane/May Day

This is the time when sweet desire weds wild delight. The Maiden of Spring and the Lord of the Waxing Year meet in the greening fields and rejoice together under the warm sun. The shaft of life is twined in a spiral web, and all of nature is renewed. We meet in the time of flowering, to dance the dance of life.

## Summer Solstice

This is the time of the rose: blossom and thorn, fragrance and blood. Now on the longest day of the year, light triumphs, and yet begins to decline into dark. So the Lord of Light dies Himself, and sets sail across the dark seas of time, searching for the isle of light that is rebirth. We turn the Wheel and share his fate, for we have planted the seeds of our own changes, and to grow we must accept even the passing of the sun.

## Lammas

We stand now between hope and fear, in the time of waiting. In the fields, the grain is ripe but not yet harvested. We have worked hard to bring many things to fruition, but the rewards are not yet certain. Now the Mother becomes the Reaper, the Implacable One who feeds on life that new life may grow. Light diminishes, the days shorten, summer passes. We gather to turn the Wheel, knowing that to harvest we must sacrifice, and warmth and light must pass into Winter.

## Fall Equinox

This is the time of harvest, of thanksgiving and joy, of leave-taking and sorrow. Now day and night are equal, in perfect balance, and we give thought to balance and flow within our own lives. The Sun King has become the Lord of Shadows, sailing West: we follow Him into the dark. Life declines; the season of barrenness is on us, yet we give thanks for that which we have reaped and gathered. We meet to turn the Wheel and weave the cord of life that will sustain us through the dark.

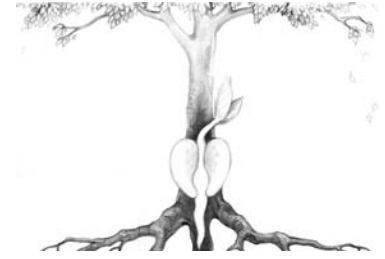
## A Note on Terminology

Local communities use different names for some of the sabbats. RQ uses the neutral terms "Equinox" and "Solstice" to honor the fact that these are holidays of the Earth Herself, not of any one culture. We often call the cross-quarters by Celtic names.

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*Descriptions are adapted from "The Spiral Dance," by Starhawk, ©1989, Harper San Francisco.*

# Reclaiming Regional News



## RQ Archives ~ old RQs on the way

Reclaiming Quarterly celebrates our 100th edition by beginning to re-issue our complete archives, going back to the first Reclaiming Newsletter in Winter 1980-81.

The archives will be re-issued as high-resolution PDF files. You'll be able to see and read every page of the original issues exactly as they appeared — stories, pictures, class and event listings, ads, ink-smudges...

You'll also be able to print entire issues or any pages you want for off-screen reading.

In addition, every ten-issue volume will contain bonus features such as photographs, flyers, introductory and reflective essays, audio recordings, humor and satire, and more.

RQ will place selected highlights on our website. But the sheer quantity of material means most of the archives will be available only on disks.

The entire 100-issue archives, along with many special features, are available by subscription — with a discount for current RQ subscribers. Visit our website for details.

*To see highlights and advance features, visit our website — [www.reclaimingquarterly.org/archives/](http://www.reclaimingquarterly.org/archives/)*

## Reclaiming Australia

From the earliest roots of Reclaiming, solitary witches, pagans, and several covens have been practising the Reclaiming Tradition in Australia (*See article, RQ#99*). Our vast land mass and our isolation from one another and the rest of the world has meant a delay in forming a cohesive group.

Individuals from several states worked together to establish Southern Earth Reclaiming, a Facebook site, and the Reclaiming Australia Discussion List (RADL). These sites aided networking and inspired interest in developing an Australian Reclaiming network.

In September 2009, a core group from four different areas met to birth Reclaiming Australia. A strong magical bond, stemming from our common foundation in the Reclaiming Principles of Unity, quickly developed between us.

We are inspired to spread the Reclaiming tradition, adding our unique flavour, mindful of the land we live in. We are excited by the prospect of hosting Witchcamps here. Distance has made it difficult to access international teachers, but we believe that the energy we generate will encourage teachers to visit this ancient land of Australia.

For more information, visit [www.reclaimingau.ravenhawk.net.au](http://www.reclaimingau.ravenhawk.net.au)  
— *Greenlilith, Margi Curtis and Jane Meredith for Reclaiming Australia*

## Ontario's Wild Ginger Magic for All Ages

Wild Ginger, an all-ages camp set in the Honeywood Spring watershed on the Niagara Escarpment of Ontario, worked in 2009 with Robert Munch's story, "The Paper Bag Princess," exploring themes of privilege, our relationship with nature, feminism, and dragons.

For more information, you can join the Wild Ginger Community list serve at Yahoogroups, or contact Airmid McBride about registration at [connieboles@sympatico.ca](mailto:connieboles@sympatico.ca)

Hawthorne Mystery School in southwestern Ontario has been operating for a couple of years. We have recently sponsored a two-year training program with Thorn Coyle. In addition to Reclaiming classes in Elements and Pentacle of Iron, we are crafting offerings for individual study, spiritual mentoring (Hecate's Lantern), and classes to help fill your magical tool kit (ritual creation, tarot, creativity). Contact [www.hawthornemysteryschool.com](http://www.hawthornemysteryschool.com) or (519) 438-8208.

— *Selchie / Wild Ginger*

## San Francisco Rituals 2010

*All dates tentative — please check website below for final plans.*

- |         |                                 |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| Brigid  | Saturday January 30 (Cellspace) |
| Spring  | Saturday March 20 (GG Park)     |
| Beltane | Saturday May 1 (GG Park)        |
| Summer  | Monday June 21 (Ocean Beach)    |
| Others  | TBA                             |

San Francisco ritual dates are posted at [www.reclaiming.org/rituals](http://www.reclaiming.org/rituals). For email reminders, contact [quarterly@reclaiming.org](mailto:quarterly@reclaiming.org)

## Bay Area Class Listings Now Online

Visit [www.reclaiming.org](http://www.reclaiming.org) ~ RQ welcomes feedback on new listings

Reclaiming Bay Area teachers offer core classes (see page 43) plus courses in spellwork, music and drumming, meditation, permaculture, tarot, astrology, dreamwork, and many other topics.

Classes are offered in San Francisco, East Bay, North Bay, and occasionally in the South Bay and Central Valley.

Reclaiming teachers often team up with other teachers to bring a variety of approaches to their classes.

In past issues, RQ carried a roster of upcom-

ing Reclaiming classes. However, our last reader survey strongly supported listing classes online-only. See below for web-link.

If you don't have internet access, and using cafés or libraries is not an option, you can call RQ, (415) 255-7623, and we'll try to help.

For an up-to-date listing of Bay Area classes, rituals, retreats, and other events, visit [www.reclaiming.org/classevents/](http://www.reclaiming.org/classevents/)

Contacts for other regions can be found at [www.reclaiming.org/worldwide](http://www.reclaiming.org/worldwide)