

On Pagan Solidarity

Full Comment

Rev. Selena Fox
Senior Minister, Circle Sanctuary
January 2013

I celebrate Pagan diversity and Pagan unity - both are important dimensions of Paganism in the world today. When Pagans unite in Solidarity for common cause, a synergy emerges that enhances our work together. The Pagan realm itself and the larger world of which we are part can be better for Pagan convergence, cooperative communication, and collaboration.

Pagan solidarity has helped win a variety of Pagan religious freedom victories over the years. Pagan solidarity has contributed to understanding and respect in academia, in public media, and in interfaith endeavors. Pagan solidarity in the form of charity work, such as disaster relief and charity food drives, has helped many in need as well as brought a public awareness of Paganism as part of the religious pluralism of society. Pagan solidarity in support of a better environment aids not only humankind but the greater Circle of Nature of which we are part.

Like a delicious multi-ingredient salad, when Pagans unite, we can bring our individual flavors and textures as we join together -- and we can maintain this diversity in our collaboration. Our diversity can enrich our solidarity.

With the emergence of social media, festivals, community centers, institutions, projects, and other forms of Pagan community building, Pagans can connect and interact with others while still maintaining their own primary preferred form of Pagan practice and identification, be it individual (solitary), small group, or large group.

Pagans whose primary focus is on individual or solitary practice can also connect with others in a variety of community ways, such as meet-ups and other socials, festivals and conferences, projects and publications, and social networking media. Those whose primary practice and identification takes the form of being part of a small Pagan spiritual group or household also have those options. And, those of us who are part of bigger on-going congregations/communities also can be part of small groups and have a personal individualized practice.