

Phosphorus

“I will not allow my life's light to be determined by the darkness around me.” -Sojourner Truth

Issue 4

by The Sisters of the Treasury of Apollon

Batrachion 2019

Sunweaver, editor

Mission Accomplished

I'd like to congratulate all the sisters on a job well done solving racism so that we can get back to the Gods' business.

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Anti-racism work, as you may have already guessed *is* the Gods' business. For those of us who have white privilege and worship Apollon, I would like to draw your attention to the affect of racism on the health of our BIPOC* neighbors. Not only do the stresses of discrimination ultimately lead to an increased likelihood of heart disease ([source](#)), but women of color tend to have babies with a lower birth weight and more complications during pregnancy ([source](#)). As if that weren't bad enough, there are significant differences in quality of care between white and BIPOC patients at the doctor's office.

The Fates haven't led all of us to a career in medicine, but we have been given the capacity (*continued on next page*)

Batrachia

The Festival of Frogs, for which this month is named is coming up on the 10th of June. I highly recommend reading Lykeia's article "[Of Fish, Dolphins, and Frogs.](#)"

Mostly, I just think frogs are great, so here are a few cool [frog facts](#):

- Pumpkin Toadlets have fluorescent skeletons.
- The frog species *Mini mum* and *Mini scule* are 8-11 mm long
- Goliath frogs can be up to 32cm long
- Blinking helps frogs swallow their prey



What do you get the God who has everything?
Something to put it in.



Important Dates to remember

- 10 June, Batrachia, Festival of Frogs
- 12 June, Anointing of Apollon at Xanthos
- 17 June, Full Moon, Hyakinthia
- 21 June, Pyrophoria (Summer Solstice)
- 24 June, Healing Prayer, sunset local time
- 2 July, Deipnon of Batrachion

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Joyful, Joyful!

Our Muslim neighbors are now celebrating the end of Ramadan, Eid al Fitr. This is the end of a month of fasting and prayer. One blessing goes "May Allah accept all your prayers and forgive all your faults," and what a lovely sentiment that is! (The food is also really good if you get the chance. I have been assured that it's all very healthy.)

Though we differ in the number of gods and the ways in which we worship, I have seen the same generosity, love of our respective communities, and devotion in them as I have in us. Eid Mubarak to our Muslim neighbors and a Blessed Batrachion to all.



Congratulations!

To all those who have graduated this year and are entering a new phase of life, may the Gods favor you!

Congratulations in particular to Sunweaver's eldest, Iris, who has graduated high school, and her littlest, Phoebe, who will be going into first grade. Sunweaver herself will begin a new job teaching as an adjunct professor at a local community college.

If you feel comfortable sharing the major events in your life, feel free to drop us a line at our email address on page 1. Nothing is ever posted without expressed permission, so to those of you I haven't mentioned, I'm proud of you and I support you in whatever your next steps may be.

Summer Solstice

I have always loved high summer. Here in the South (that's the Southeastern region of the United States for our international friends), that means going between too much air conditioning and outside air that either resembles soup or hot and very dry toast. It's also the season for family trips, fresh fruit, ice cream, those freezie pops that are basically frozen Kool-aid, and baseball.

It's easy to get very serious about our worship and to dive deep into things like shadow work and other heavy stuff. This is needful, to be sure, but there is also the pure pleasure of the ripest I've ever had and the ecstatic joy of watching my favorite team score a run as I cheer and sing with more than thirty thousand fellow fans. These remind me why I worship Apollon. These are manifestations of His love to me. Each of us finds ourselves closer to our Bright Lord in our own unique ways and I am blessed to be able to share these small moments of devotion with you.

The Solstice is a good excuse for ice cream or other small indulgences that bring you and others joy. You cannot pour from an empty pitcher and I like mine full of sweet tea. I may be blending my metaphors into a delicious fruit smoothie, but I can smell the peaches ripening in my fruit basket and it's driving me the best kind of crazy.

Mission Accomplished

(continued from p.1)

for compassion and the ability to use our brains to practice equity and kindness.

Those of us living in the United States have an election soon and while it is the opinion of the editor that universal health care is a racial and economic justice issue, any who follow Apollon Physician has the capacity to consider carefully how they practice justice and compassion by way of the ballot box, particularly in regards to issues on health. Armed with the golden sword of knowledge, we do the Physician's work with truth on our lips and sass in our hips.

Because these are complex and difficult issues, no one policy is going to solve everything. No one candidate or government position is going to automatically result in equity. The miasma of racism is a systemic, generational stain and can only be solved in a systemic, generational way.

Speak truth to power, but beware the hubris that can come with self-righteousness. We do the Gods' work, but we are not gods ourselves. Those who experience racism know their wants and needs better than those of us who have white privilege and so we must listen with humility and act with ferocity. Yes, this is hard. It is also necessary.

**BIPOC = Black, Indigenous, People of Color*