

BAKERSFIELD - We'll begin by wishing our newsletter a happy birthday. This issue begins our sixth year of publication, and we haven't missed an issue.

Sorry we had to raise the rate for subscription donations, but costs keep going up. Rate is now \$5. per yr. in the U.S. and \$8. foreign. Sorry that the foreign must go by slow surface mail. We checked with the P.O. on air mail costs and found that postage alone would cost about \$18. per year for air mail.

This is the issue to announce the "Georgie" winners. Voting was pretty close, and since it seems unfair to have a single article compete with a series, we've added another category so now there will be three.

Rik for best article...Letter From O.S.H.A.

Shadowhawk for best series... High Priestess Column.

Catherine & Kent of the Australian Wiccan for service to the Craft/Paganism.

Rus of Arcane Crafts designed and donated the "Georgies" last year, but since he was nominated for one, he thought it best that we not mention it...so we didn't. He offered to do them again this year but we had already ordered a new design, and we'll probably have a different one again for next year. If we can get them back in time, we'll try to include a photo.

Congratulations to the winners, and our thanks to all of you who have sent in so many excellent things this past year. You make it difficult for the voters to make a decision.

We got a new typewriter, and it seems to be an improvement. Then the mimeo broke down, and since I know nothing about them except how to operate them, it took several hours to figure it out and repair it. Happened at page 18 so that one isn't as neat as we would have liked.

Our thanks to Lady Selene for helping with the stencils typing again this month.

Lady Selena & Vulcan conducted the Full Moon with Cinda as Maiden. Gail & Vulcan conducted the Sabbat ritual with Dandelion as Maiden. We are happy to welcome Dandelion and Pan into the new coven. Both had earlier been members of the old coven.

MODESTO - COVEN OF CERES - Full Moon was great. Persephone & Titas conducted the ritual. Manon & Adonis conducted the Candlemas ritual. Everyone had a fantastic time. We're planning two second degree initiations in March...more on that next month. Order of the Silver Crescent now has the newly-formed Golden Realm Coven. Nanett & Nimrod are the HPs and HP. They have branched off from Coven of Trothland. Everyone at Coven of Ceres wishes them luck and prosperity.

WORDS OF WISDOM...

...if you keep your mouth shut, no one will know you are stupid.

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GOODIES FROM ARMETA

STRENGTH OF LOVING KINDNESS

There are ten strong things.
 Iron is strong, but fire melts it.
 Fire is strong, but water quenches it.
 Water is strong, but the clouds evaporate it.
 Clouds are strong, but wind drives them away.
 Man is strong, but fears cast him down.
 Fear is strong, but sleep overcomes it.
 Sleep is strong, yet death is stronger.
 But loving kindness survives death.

...Talmud

O Lord, reform the world - beginning with me.
 A Chinese prayer.

O God, help us not to despise or oppose what we do not understand.
 William Penn

Let us have faith that right makes might.
 Abraham Lincoln

O God, help us be masters of ourselves that we may be servants of
 others.
 Sir Alec Patterson

Let not that happen which I wish, but that which is right.
 Menander

Socrates said:...Before a man can move the world, he must move
 himself.

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For anyone who has diarrhea, and most people have it sometime
 in their lives, a quick way to alleviate it is to eat cheese, as
 cheese is binding. If you can't correct it with basil, queen of
 the meadow or raspberry rock rose strawberry or walnut tea
 leaves, seek professional help...as it could be something far more
 serious than nature trying to expel a toxin or some strange irri-
 tant.

When our people visit Mexico, they get what is called "Montezuma's
 Revenge", and they blame it on the unsanitary water. But the Mex-
 icans drink the water and it doesn't affect them. Did you know
 that it really was Montezuma's Revenge, A CURSE put on the people
 north of the border because our government had conquered their
 lands and territories in our early history; the land in the south-
 western part of our country, including a major part of California.

ED. NOTE: Although Pooka & Sirius both had their Parvo shots, one
 day Sirius had diarrhea and vomiting, signs of Parvo Virus. I gave
 him cheese, chocolate, and all the milk he would drink (he loves
 all of them) and a couple of doses of Kaopectate. I called the vet
 and was told that was good. Next day he was back to normal.

STUFF & THINGS

Just recieved a nice, long letter (more like a book) from Kitty in Florida. Can't copy the entire letter because it would take a large part of the newsletter...but will give you some of the highlights.

We knew Kitty was having trouble with the post office a few years ago. Things have only got much worse instead of better. She rarely recieved any mail..most of it returned and marked address unknown. Changing addresses and post office boxes did no good. Complaints did no good. Anyway, we did get one letter through to her and hope others will make it before she moves away.

Kitty says the coven there is doing fine but some changes have been made. Members are required to stay much longer before going off to form their own coven, and new members for the study group must have had some previous training. After the Jones mess, the local Bible-beaters became very active trying to crack down on anything not Xian..and so the coven has been underground since then.

Kitty continued, "not only that, but this area is the pits now. You wouldn't believe how bad it has become. Crime is overwhelming the police and runs wild everywhere. Last evening, just a few streets from here, a pipe bomb blew up a car. There have been 3 kidnappings from the bus stop on the corner where we get the bus. There are always muggings, stabbings, and there have been 12 murders within 12 blocks of here last year, and 2 this year. There have been many break-ins in this area and 2 rapes. It's like an armed camp. Everyone has a gun, and only half or less know how to use them. Kids have been killed when they found loaded guns in their homes.

Last week 2 people were shot to death when the driver of car A yelled at the driver of car B for tailgating too close and hitting him in the rear. The driver of car B took a gun from his glove compartment, walked over to car A and shot both people dead. The damage to both cars was less than \$100.

The murderer was a Cuban who said he didn't care that he had just killed two people. He said he had no job, no home, no money. He said that jail or prison here was like a hotel with fresh food, and clean sheets compared to the prison he'd been in in Cuba.

That's the way most of the ex-Cuban prisoners feel. It is so bad that the governor called the Florida Hiway Patrol to come from north Florida to help fight crime and for traffic detail to let the local cops have more time. Before they would do it, the Hiway Patrol demanded and got: free housing in the better hotels, free food provided by the better restaurants, \$40. a day extra allowance for food and shelter (which they don't need because they get fed and housed free), an increase in wage and an increase in overtime pay as well.

The taxpayer pays the bill..people here are upset. Our annual taxes pay 75 percent of ALL H.P. salaries...and they refused to come without all the extras.

KITTY continued

Then there are the drugs: coke, hash, heroin everywhere. You can buy it on the corner like milk or soda. Pot you don't even have to look for. Alcoholism is now in the lower grades of the public schools...kids 6 or 7 years old. Most have been smoking tobacco or pot since they were seven.

Crime in the schools would take another 2 pages to tell about: teacher shootings, stabbings, and rape. Older kids bullying younger kids for lunch money or sex. It's worse than N.Y. or Chicago. Everything is filthy now. No one takes care of their property. Downtown Miami and Lauderdale are depressing slums, now hidden from the overseas tourists who are only shown the clean malls or glittering hotels.

The sad part is that the most popular tourist hotel, a glass and cement beauty, is only a few blocks from the worst section on Miami Beach...South Beach, where the elderly poor live in slums behind locked doors for fear of being robbed and murdered...where junkies sit openly in doorways giving themselves shots, or lie dummed out on the sidewalk benches. The tourist never sees this.

Here, in this neighborhood, we have had our living room window smashed once, our car windshield twice, and 2 attempted break-ins which failed. All by vandals or kids who need money, and all this just in the past two years.

It wasn't an easy decision to make, but after giving it much thought, we've decided to get out. We want a paid off place of our own where our destiny is in the hands of the Gods and ourselves, not the state or economic whims of government. Sooo...we are moving to the country, way out in the boonies...of Missouri."

Kitty gave a nice description of the place and plans...but until that deal is final, no use going into it. Kitty says if anyone brave enough to want to live in crime-ridden south Florida is interested...her house is very nice, for sale, and low interest to a vet.

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LE. ANN (Columbia, Mo. sez she is lonely for other Pagans or Crafters. Maybe Kitty can help when she gets moved.

* * *

MARILEE in San Diego sez: Ed & I were able to make it to Greece in October, and in spite of the tour mismanagement, had a pretty good time. Please warn your people about ITA, even though their ad sounds great...it isn't as it seems! Nevertheless, we did make it to Eleusis and Delos on our own, and had a great time doing rituals there...fantastic! I'm teaching herbal courses at Ye Olde Enchantment Shoppe, and writing an herbal column for the Shadow's Edge down here in S.D. I'm also taking the Calif. School of Herbal Studies course to get my degree in Herbology.

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STUFF & THINGS

PENNY in Bradenton, Florida sez....very little. She did phone recently to say all was going well down thataway, but I think she is annoyed with me for not answering her last tape letter. Sirius is a very good dog, and once I scold him for something he doesn't repeat it. BUT... he discovered that cassettes are nice and crunchy to chew on.. so he destroyed several of them one day. Fortunately most were blanks, but he apparently did get Penny's letter tape. Sorry about that, Penny. He can't reach them where I keep them now.

KALINDA in Seattle sez: Had a Blessed Yule with a lot of love and joy at the Greenwood Grove..under the misty moonlight and the dripping stars.

Met with Shadowhawk & Blacksun. Most interesting visit as I had not been exposed to the different aspects of the Craft. Shadowhawk had a lot of pieces of information I enjoyed learning. I must say, I didn't realize how creative Craft people have to be.

I'll be getting a discussion/study group together here soon - also a feminist Goddess group is being organized. There is also a Pagan rock band being formed. It sure is joyful to feast to a good Pagan rock band!

JIM in Winchester, Cal. sez: Well, back to normal after all the company from out of state during Yule. Had a nice visit with my daughter and my new grandson. Not used to having a little baby around the house. Baron, the dog, really had his nose out of joint since he wasn't getting all the attention.

ED. NOTE: Yeah, Jim, dogs can be very jealous. I recall a little female Chihuahua that liked to sleep on the pillow next to me. Even though I'd only had her for about a week, she tried to push my sexatary out of bed next time she came down.

LADY TARUN in Augusta, Maine sez: I would like to establish a Wiccan church in this area. I attained my 3rd degree at Hallows 1974 but since 1976 have lived in Maine as a solitaire. I would like to get a group going.

ED. NOTE: Okay, if we hear from anyone in your area, we'll forward.

NANCY in Moline, Ill. used to be a member of the Georgian coven in the Seattle area a few years ago, then she was in Europe for several years, and now in Illinois. She is anxious to get going with the Craft again and would probably like to start a study group. Anyone in that area interested, write and we'll forward.

WYNDEL in Dover, N.J. sez: If you'll be kind enough to print this as an open letter, I'd like to say thanks to Rik for the compliment. I consider it high praise from someone who has the gift of being able to express emotion in the written word; an ability I've searched for in myself and found sadly lacking. I'd also like to mention to Ruthi of Arcane Crafts that the "well

STUFF & THINGS continued

meaning Pagan" referred to is now a Torr Wiccan Second, and one of the best ritual writers we have. Joe says he wrote the ritual from truly eclectic sources and with an excess of ignorance, but that he's learned much from it.

I agree that a lot of rituals are given as "bare bones" in coven books, but to submit a ritual in that form for print in a general dissemination Pagan pub is downright irresponsible verging on criminal.

I agree that writing an effective ritual requires extensive knowledge derived from hard work and some very long hours of study, but this is a serious problem for the beginning Paganist seeking Craft, because in order to study effectively, you must have a belief structure or frame of reference with which to direct your studies and upon which to hang the knowledge you gain. This individual belief structure must however be based upon study and knowledge gained from that study! (I think this calls for an article on belief structures.)

I originally wrote that article about ritual in the hope that (among other things) it would be cause and food for thought, and if Demeter of Mastic Beach is correct about one letter carrying the clout of 10,000 people who didn't bother to write, then the responses of Rik and Ruthi represent 20,000 thinking Paganists! Fantastic!

THIS FROM UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

BERKELEY - Spanish Fly - a powder of ground up beetles - was touted by the ancients as an aphrodisiac. Modern scientists say it can't do much for anybody's love life...but it does a great job of destroying warts. None of that's new...but now University of California-Berkeley scientists said they've found a simple way to synthesize the active ingredient in Spanish Fly...something they say has baffled chemists for years.

All that delights Dr. William Epstein, Dermatologist at the University of California, who 30 years ago discovered the powder's effect on warts. On learning that it can now be manufactured fairly easily, Epstein was delighted. He said he hasn't been able to get any Spanish Fly for treatment of warts, possibly because of the myth that it is an aphrodisiac.

Do you know the basis of payment to doctors in ancient China?

Unlike doctors in the western world, Physicians in ancient China were paid when their patients were kept well...not when they were sick. Believing it was the doctor's job to prevent disease, Chinese doctors often went so far as to pay their patients who became ill. And, after each death, a lantern was hung outside the doctor's house. Too many lanterns...and the doctor was sure to lose a lot of business.

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THE HIGH PRIESTESS by Shadowhawk of Elvenhearth

This column was supposed to be about the flowers assigned to the seven planets. Well, actually, it was supposed to be in last month's edition, but I didn't get it written, so it didn't get printed... So.. Pat placed my persona directly in the dog house. So... I'll put my paws to pen, and pen to paper, and here is the promised edict (?)

SATURN - purple pansy- helps you attune yourself to the Earth. White pansy signified "thought" in Victorian Flower Language - (bouquets given by lovers to one another.)

MERCURY - Red Clover - strengthens works performed under Mercurial aspects. Signifies "Industry" in flower language.

SUN - marigold - aids in self "expansion". Signifies "prediction."

VENUS - Poinsetta - attunes to "polarity". Signifies "relieve my anxiety."

MARS - red poppy - raises energies. Signifies "extravagance".

JUPITER - Lavender - attunes operator to success in the Cardinal ("not illusion"). Signifies "distrust."

MOON - Snow Crop - attunes one to friendship, health, and purity. Signifies "hope."

Please note, by "attunes to", I am referring to the visual and properties of the fresh blossoms - their medicinal and incense uses may be quite different from the above _____.

BLESSED BE

SHADOWHAWK

OK, do I get promoted to the cat house now, Pat? Meerrowp!

ED. NOTE: Shadowhawk, I know you enjoy practicing your calligraphy when you write these, and it is beautiful to look at...but..sometimes some things are a bit hard to read...especially if you cross out something and write over it. You'll get out of the dog house when I can read everything, or you get a phone where I can call you to check. They have no listing at information for Shadowhawk.

* * *

PENNY in Bradenton, Florida sez: We are hoping to make a trip to Jodi & John in Georgia by April. Hopefully, and we're planning on it, Jennie will be here for Candlemas, and she & Jeff want to be handfasted. We have people coming from the Keys & Tampa, so we're expecting a good Sabbat. Chris & I are getting along fine...studying, practicing & worshipping together.

(continued)

PENNY continued

Jennifer is fine. She has been moved up a level in math. For Yule, Chris gave me the entire set of FOXFIRE books. It's been down in the 20's here, so we are cold. Chris & I are going to a reflexology class. It sure is interesting. I made a handle for my athame from pressed rosewood. It came out well. We had 7 for the Festival Of Lights, and we gave a group healing which was very effective.

Blessed Be.
Penny

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WORDS OF WISDOM from Vulcan

The loud-mouth was popping off about his great knowledge of the occult. I asked him, "Could you please tell me what you know about akasha?" He replied, "What has a Japanese motorcycle got to do with the occult?"

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ENVIRONMENTALISTS WILL LOVE THIS FROM UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

The farms in the agriculturally rich San Joaquin Valley may be the most mechanized anywhere. Ironically, it is in the San Joaquin Valley that the once-mighty horse is making a modest comeback. Farmers in the Fresno area have formed a draft horse and mule association that isn't just a show piece for the big Clydesdales and Percherons. The organization is designed to bring horsepower back to its basic denominator.

Allan Grant, former president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, is a founder of the association.

Grant says a big draft horse can actually develop around 27 horsepower at peak pull. He says it makes much more sense to have a horse or two to do the smaller farm jobs than a 300-horsepower tractor guzzling precious diesel fuel.

And it's not uncommon to see teams of horses hauling hay and discing fields and vineyards.

The comeback of the horse isn't a gesture to environmental groups who want to get back to nature. It's a matter of farm economy.

Grant points out that a couple of horses can do the job of a 50-thousand-dollar tractor. He says horses will cost maybe three to four thousand dollars apiece, and they can do something that a tractor can't -- reproduce.

* * *

The Georgian Church
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FEBRUARY 1981

This new book by the authors of the Witches' Almanac is a fascinating tour of some of the great enchanted places of the Western world — Delphi, Malta, Granada, Stonehenge, Chartres and many more. Here are the places where oracles have spoken and druid priests chanted; the places of magic wells and sacred oaks, of great megaliths and mysterious monuments; sites where witches have met and dragons stalked. Rich with references to the occult, mythology and literature,

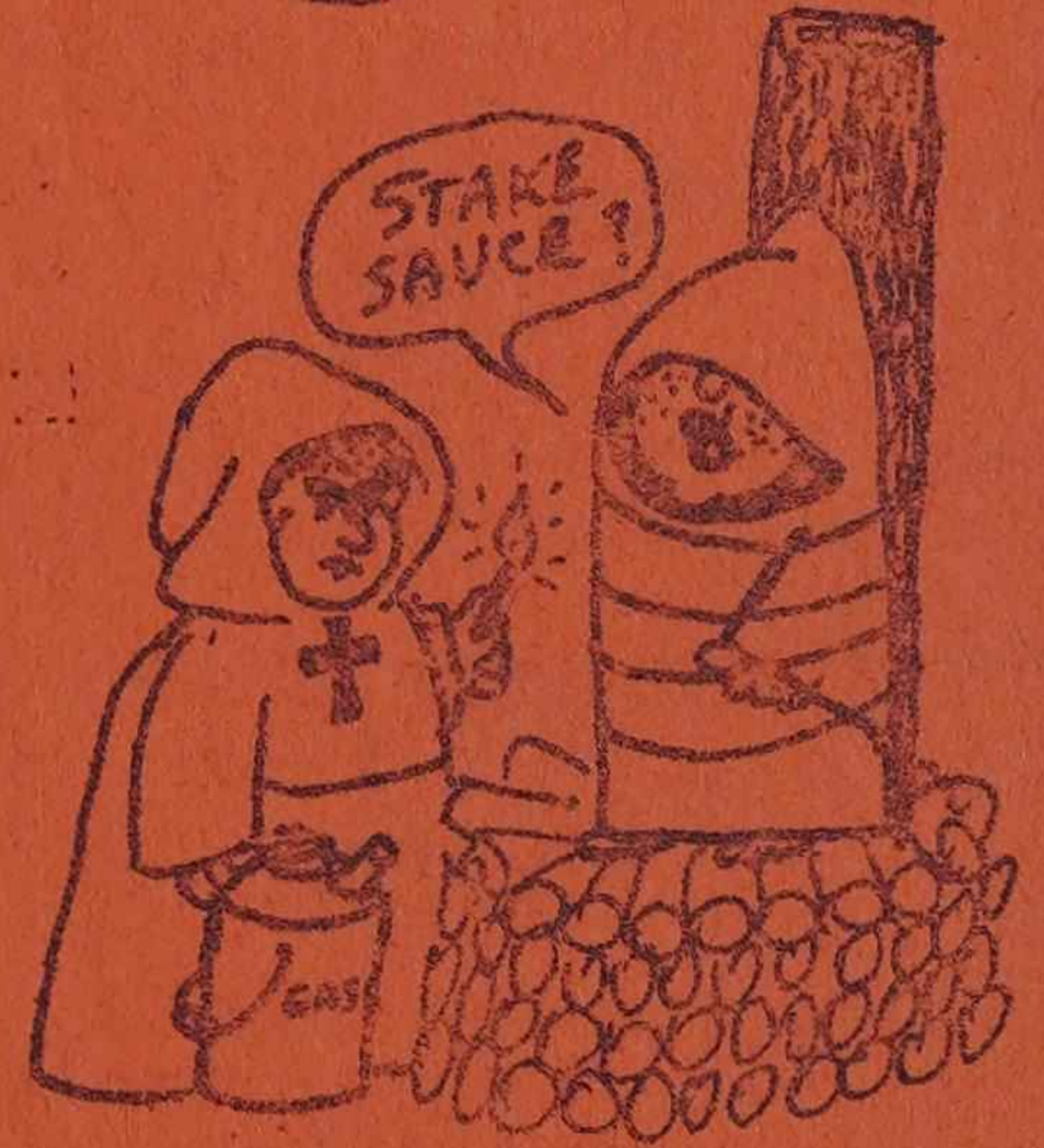
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STUFF & THINGS

VALERIE in San Jose sez: The next issue of PAGANA is almost ready; the cost of subscription will be \$4./ 4 issues, and the thing will be roughly quarterly (slightly more than quarterly if I can manage).

About Persephone having trouble getting pregnant: There are several hints I can give (I used to do counseling in this area): I assume she is following a regular schedule of sleeping and waking and is also feeding herself properly 'n' making sure she is getting plenty of folic acid. If not, she should try to do these things.

In addition, she should keep track of her menstrual cycles, and time the attempt to conceive with her ovulation. For most women this is 14 days BEFORE the period begins. This is not necessarily 14 days AFTER the last period, as most women do not have exact 28 day cycles. Her own biological calendar is the one to follow.

Another method to determining when she is ovulating (in addition to the above is best) is to check her cervical mucus: when she ovulates, her cervical mucus will be very slick and probably clear and profuse. (When she is NOT, it will be whiter, thicker, and not so slick).

Lastly, if she pays attention, she may be able to FEEL the ovulation by a twinge of pain --quite momentary, by the way -- or pressure in the ovary which is providing this month's ovum. (The doctors call this "Mittelschmerz" and only some women feel it.

This is, of course, very brief; the best book on the subject is A Co-operative Method of Natural Birth Control by Margaret Nofziger, from the Book Publishing Company, Summertown, Tennessee. That's the entire address, in case anyone wishes to order it (it's not in "Books in Print" at the library, but it IS in print. It's just that somehow they managed to leave out this from their listings). Don't know the cost of the latest edition, but should be cheap (I think I paid \$2.95 or something for mine).

In the meantime, I've lit a candle for Persephone. May the child be the healthiest, happiest Witchling possible!

Blessed Be,

Valerie

Valerie Voight/ PAGANA
4130 Piper Dr. #5
San Jose, Ca. 95117

BEING A WITCHLING IS....

...trying to understand what a Witchling is.

...only crawling deasil in the play pen.

...wearing only diapers shaped like a triangle.

GOLLUM'S COLLUM

Well, here I am back to writing again, I hope. We all hope you had nice & happy holidays, I did..all that ham and turkey, boy, do I have to go on a diet!

We now have a new little cat in the house, her name is Lovie. She looks like her mother, Tia, and acts like me...all over the place...into everything just like me...isn't it great!

Obesity in cats is from too many calories and not enough exercise. (please don't get mad at me for what I am about to say next). Overweight people seem to have fat pets. This is caused by the eating pattern ("just a little more won't hurt") shared between you and your pet.

If fat people don't exercise enough, why should their pet have a different life-style?

As your pet matures or gets older, its metabolism and activity change. The calorie intake should be reduced accordingly. After the middle years arrive in you, the human, you seem to put on weight. Well, so do your pets.

The following chart explains a cat's age in human terms.

Cat age	Human	Cat age	Human
6 months	10 years	8 years	48 years
1 year	15 years	10 "	55 "
2 years	24 "	12 "	65 "
4 "	32 "	14 "	70 "
6 "	40 "	16 "	80 "
		20 "	100 "

If there is an increase in calorie intake, a slow down in metabolism (due to body age changes), or a decrease in exercise, a weight gain will be seen.

Sometimes owners misinterpret a weight gain as a fat problem when in reality a heart, liver, kidney problem or a hormone imbalance is the cause. Overweight cats have more pancreatic, heart, lung and joint problems because these parts are overstressed by the excess fat & weight. Surgery & healing can also be difficult in overweight cats.

Talk to your Vet, and he can tell you how to help your pet get back into shape.

More next month on overweight and underweight.

MAY THE LADY WALK WITH YOU ALWAYS
 BLESSED BE
 GOLLUM

STUFF & THINGS

CATHERINE & KENT in Australia sez: We have had rave notices from all over the world on our new format, and it is pleasing that folk will take time to write about it. There is bad news coming however, as due to two paper costs rising in 1980 and another due any day, the printer has almost doubled the cost...so...hold your breath! From Feb. birthday issue, it will be \$2. for overseas readers, and if air mail is required, a further \$1. Surface postage will keep it at the same price.

There will be three more pages, so maybe that will ease the hurt. We hate to do this, but there is no way out. It's either increase the price, or cease publication. We have put our hearts into this publication, and to cease would hurt. So it will be up to our readers, pay up or forget it!

We have now recieved the issue from you with the photo in it, did not look too bad, but we take awful pics.

We were quite confused about Jeraldine from Florida, November issue, who wrote to say she has an Australian Shepherd dog. There is no such breed in the Land of Oz. We have only German Shepherds, Australian Silkies, Sydney Silkies, the Australian kelpie sheep dog and the Australian blue cattle dog. We would love to know more about this breed. Maybe Jeraldine would advise us on what it is like. We even phoned our breeder's clubs, but they know naught of such!

Also, we note she has named it "Dingo". In Oz, a dingo is a feral dog, renowned for scavenging, and cowardice. A person with a treacherous or cowardly nature is referred to as a "Dingo" over here (not by us, we do not indulge in such), but you may recall the editorial of a recent TW., in which we supported a Seventh Day Adventist Pastor and his wife, whose baby has supposedly been taken and killed by dingoes at Ayres Rock in the Northern Territory.

The inquest still proceeds, and now there are suggestions that the baby was killed by the parents, although the black trackers agree that dingo marks were all over the camp site. It is a horrifying story as the babe has not been found, but its clothing was located at the foot of the rock.

Dingoes are regarded as vermin over here, yet they are so pretty-- a yellowish color, with what I think is a most intelligent face. However, the law does not permit them to be kept as pets, and there has, at times, been a bounty on them.

The babe who was taken was only a few months old. It came out in court that her name, Azaria, meant "sacrifice in the wilderness", though the parents say it means "blessed of God". We will not know the truth until the inquest finishes, but it is obviously either murder, or a dingo really did kill the mite. We shall let you know the outcome in due course.

(continued next page)

CATHERINE & KENT continued

We wondered if Jeraldine might like to choose another name for her pet, as she may not realize what the word Dingo means over here.

Well, must away, always busy. May 1981 be bright, shining, and peaceful for all at The Georgian News.

Blessed Be.

Catherine & Kent

ED. NOTE: We're happy to hear that so many readers like your new format. We can certainly understand about the price increase since we've had the same problem here. Costs just keep going up.

About Dingoes: I'd guess it is much the same problem as with the coyote and wolf in this country. They got a terrible reputation but much said about them was not true. Ranchers hate them because they kill some sheep and cattle for food, which means lost dollars to the rancher. They would like to see them wiped out. But the truth is that it is largely the fault of man. Man has destroyed so much of the wilderness country and the wildlife (their natural food supply) that the animals turn to what is available.

These are not stupid monsters. They are beautiful and intelligent or they could not have survived as much as they have. They follow their nature and do what they must to survive. It is truly amazing that they have survived at all. They have had to contend with the usual steel traps, explosive traps, poisoned bait, and even hunted and shot from planes and helicopters. Not so "dumb animals".

I would be surprised if Jeraldine changes the name of her dog. Dingo relates to Australia, and the name "Dingo" would have no more bad meaning in this country than calling a dog "Wolf". In fact, a lot of dogs have some wolf blood, and there have been some wolves raised as pets. Your law against dingoes as pets is probably for the same reason that most places in this country have some laws regarding "wild animals" as pets. Mostly it is fear that they will revert to wild.

About the Australian Shepherd: it is not an unusual term in this country. They are even listed in the classified section of "Dog World", a popular breeder's magazine. They list: Australian Cattle Dog, Australian Shepherd, and Australian Terrier. My guess would be that the Australian Shepherd is the one you call the Australian Kelpie Sheep Dog.

I'll try to find out more about this but there is no way to check right now since it is late at night.

Of course, it would be very sad if the dingoes did kill the baby, but is that the fault of the dingo or the carelessness of the parents in not giving the baby proper protection where dingoes live? To the dingo the baby was just another source of food.

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GOODIES FROM ARMEETA

HYPERSENTIENCE by Marcia Moore...Bantam Books...\$1.95.

Marcia Moore writes in a free-flowing, interesting manner on much of mysticism, esotericism, and the occult, and particularly on astrology and yoga. In this particular book, she teaches in a simple manner, but it will require practice and patience, the method of going back and seeing or re-living some glimpses of our former lifetimes.

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The next time one of your electrical appliances gets stubborn and refuses to work, talk to it, or strongly think to it in a firm but loving tone, to work...that it is loved and needed and appreciated and that it works perfectly. (present tense).

If a jar lid is a little difficult to open, strongly say or think to it, but firmly, and don't get mad or panic: "Open, open, open, Sesame, Open." Usually, if you run cold water on the glass part and hot water on the lid, it helps. Cold water for contraction and hot water for expansion. It will open easily, but still talk to it.

You can do the same with a car if it will not start. Don't get Flustered and cuss at it or it might give you more trouble. Do and say the same as above for appliances. Talk to it firmly but positively and with love.

I once knew a man who was so negative about his car; he used to say, "Oh, this darn thing is no good, it's always breaking down." So the circumstances and his attitude manifested, and he had to have the car repaired often, and eventually had to buy a new one.

Does anyone know of the old custom and the reason for placing a current coin under the eyelids or on top of the eyelids then a person graduates to Heaven?

In which position is it better to sleep? Head at north and feet at south or head at east and feet at west. Can anyone explain the difference esoterically?

Dandruff is a sign of nervousness, or bad nerves, irritated nerves. Of course, it calls for calcium which is good for bones, teeth, skin (helps eliminate wrinkles), and also helps as a blood builder and is a pain killer par excellence.

For a headache: saturate a white kerchief or even a white paper towel with vinegar (not dripping wet) and place on the forehead in the center. But try not to touch the hair or eyebrows with the vinegar. Use an oblong, about 1" x 4" or so.

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FROM UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

An energy department official says by burning wood, Americans already may be saving one-million barrels of imported oil a day. And they could easily double those savings without exhausting U.S. wood resources.

Assistant Energy Secretary Thomas Stelson said, "(Wood) is, frankly, the biggest, most important element in the renewable resource program. It's a big and lively energy industry."

Stelson said, "in terms of energy production" wood has become the country's fastest growing energy source.

Stelson said wood burned for fuel last year in homes and industry replaced at least 279 million barrels of oil, saving the country an estimated seven-point-seven billion dollars.

He said, "Clearly wood is growing very much faster than nuclear."

Stelson noted the average wood stove is 65 percent efficient -- the same as oil and gas equipment--while the efficiency of a large nuclear plant is a meager 35 percent.

Stelson said wood is becoming a key fuel in the northeast, southeast, Great Lakes states and northwest. The wood stove industry reports it is now selling one-million units a year.

* * *

Atheist leader Madalyn Murray O'Hair says evangelist Oral Roberts should be charged with mail fraud. Mrs. O'Hair wants Postal authorities to bring charges against Roberts for sending his followers a fund-raising letter saying he personally saw a 900-foot-tall image of Jesus Christ.

* * *

If you watch television, you're familiar with Virginia Christine, Jan Miner and Dick Wilson. Who are they?

Virginia Christine is Mrs. Olson the coffee lady. Jan Miner is Madge, the wisecracking manicurist who sells dishwashing detergent. And Dick Wilson is Mr. Whipple--who tries to stop shoppers from squeezing toilet paper.

* * *

BEING A LONELY LITTLE OLD FEMALE WITCH IS....

...squeezing Mr. Whipple instead of the toilet paper.

BEING A WITCH IS... ..

...having your pet pigeon fly over your Xian neighbor's new hat.

...sending a truckload of Charmin to Jerry Falwell.

STUFF & THINGS

CHILDREN OF THE EARTH is a new newsletter for PAGAN FAMILIES, to provide a forum for sharing the joys and hassles of raising Pagan children. They invite your letters sharing questions, problems, ideas, experiences, etc. They welcome articles on Pagan Parenthood, and also articles by and/or for Pagan kids. They say they will publish whenever they have sufficient material, so their schedule may be somewhat erratic, but (they hope) frequent. Charter subscriptions are \$5. for 4 issues. They expect # 1 to be ready by the end of January.

Children of the Earth, Rt. 2, Box 305, Philippi, W. V. 26416.

* * *

WITCHES' BROOM CLOSET by Mariah, L.A. area

Our belief in the Craft is to improve our lives by the way we conduct our actions, and to get closer to nature.

Secrecy is the main source of success in peace, that is why we keep it secret.

By coming out, what are we trying to achieve? Is fame and fortune influencing your answer? Instant fame, we know, is waiting for the ones going public. But what kind of fame will they have?

Are the people going public the ones who should represent the Craft?

By going public we will be filling our lives with problems. Then you'd better forget any magical doings 'cause you will not be able to get yourself calm. All the problems will cause negative feelings.

We are public. The world is slowly becoming used to us. There are Craft things around: tarot reading, astrology, herb shops, etc., and we do not say to everyone that we are Witches. By doing it slowly, they get used to us and our ways, and our ways are what we want, not a name.

If we all start coming out of the broom closet, we will scare everyone, and they will feel that we are up to no good. The preachers will love it. They will be preaching in their churches, and of course on TV, that the anti-christ or the devil worshippers are joining together for whatever reason they choose. People will go crazy thinking the worst about us. It will be more difficult to talk to people 'cause the newspapers and magazines will change our story to make a better story.

Some say the laws are being changed against us! Well, there you are. VOTE for your rights without putting a label on it. We can talk to people, and change opinions without saying "Witches are voting this way!"

Don't get me wrong. I would love to dance in the streets and say, "I am a Witch", and not have people throw stones at me. But we can't as of yet. I feel that the slower process is the best. Look around. We are coming out in the open, but it has been slow, but perfection is, too.

(continued)

MARIAH continued

One thing we can do now is to write to Pat, Tell him if we are willing to go public, then we'll know how many will go public. Also, the ones who do not want to go public should write and say so. Then we can see for ourselves how many will be working together. Then see what happens. We don't have to give our names in the newsletter, just a yes or no answer.

If we can't write one letter with a yes or no answer and mail it to Pat, how are we going to get the "going public" out in the open? Just by saying we are going public is not enough. You will all have to be do'ers. But remember, when the world gets tough with you, and you're tired of problems and want peace and quiet, you can't back down 'cause you started it.

Be ready to face a new job, get by-passed on your job, lose friends be looked at like you are evil, being bothered by people who have never heard of you before. If you have children, be ready to stand by them 'cause they will have no friends, and they will be called names at school, caused by their own parents. Be ready to see your child grow up hating other religions, and be ready to watch your life change.

Pat can say in the NEXT newsletter, not 2 or 3 months later on how we voted. If we can't write a letter in a month's time to answer a yes or no question, we are already not working together. If there is a slow process in voting, we will know. If we are going public and need the others that are public to help, we can't wait 2 or 3 months for them to get around to helping.

Good ideas are nice but we have to show each other some action. Well, it goes without saying, my vote is a big NO.

Blessed Be

Marian

ED. NOTE: I really can't agree with you this time, Mariah, although I think you are partly correct. Certainly not everyone should go public. A little common sense must be used, and the decision must depend upon individual circumstances. A person with a family to support who knew he/she would lose a good job if the employer knew, would be a fool to go public at present. It is illegal to fire someone because of religion (unless the public knowledge harms the business) but they can always find other excuses. The area where a person lives must also be taken into consideration. A person living in an area of fanatic "bible-beaters" or among superstitious illiterates would be taking a gamble.

As you pointed out, many of those who go public are wierdos or phoneys who give the public a bad impression. But that is also a good reason why some of us should go public, to try to counteract the damage these others do. Organizations can be public without the individual members being public. This is often the best way.

(continued)

MARIAH continued

Many Pagans dislike the idea of organization. But organization does not have to mean loss of freedom or a dictatorship. There is strength in numbers, and the only way to have strength is to have formal organization. To grow, perhaps even to survive, we must play the game (at least on the surface) according to the society in which we live.

It is said that in the old days many Witches attended the Zion churches. It was the best cover for survival for times in which they lived. Today, we can do it with organization and by using the law to our own benefit.

Mariah, you and some others seem to believe that secrecy is the answer. But being hidden means that the Craft can never grow, never have strength, never have freedom. Secrecy can also be harmful. People fear what is secret or hidden.

Many people have been amazed that we have been able to operate completely openly here in Bakersfield for so many years. Bakersfield is the "Bible Belt" of the west. It is also known as "Nashville West" because Buck Owens, Merle Haggard and many other country artists live here. Not exactly what one would consider the ideal place to openly operate a Church of Witchcraft. Yet in the past ten years the only problem has been perhaps a dozen or so phone calls from bigots or fanatics.

I feel certain that at least one good reason for so few problems has been openness. I have always been ready to discuss the Craft with anyone who asked about it. Whenever I have been invited, I have spoken to classes at both of the colleges here and have been interviewed on radio and TV here. In each case, I have tried to present the Craft as it really is, and there has always been a good reaction.

So, we'll use "their rules" to get what we want. We hired an attorney to get our church charter, and he'll be available to us if we should ever need him for anything else.

No, I don't suggest that everyone should "dance in the streets and shout, 'look at me, I'm a Witch', but you can join an organization that has at least one or two people who can represent you publicly.

*

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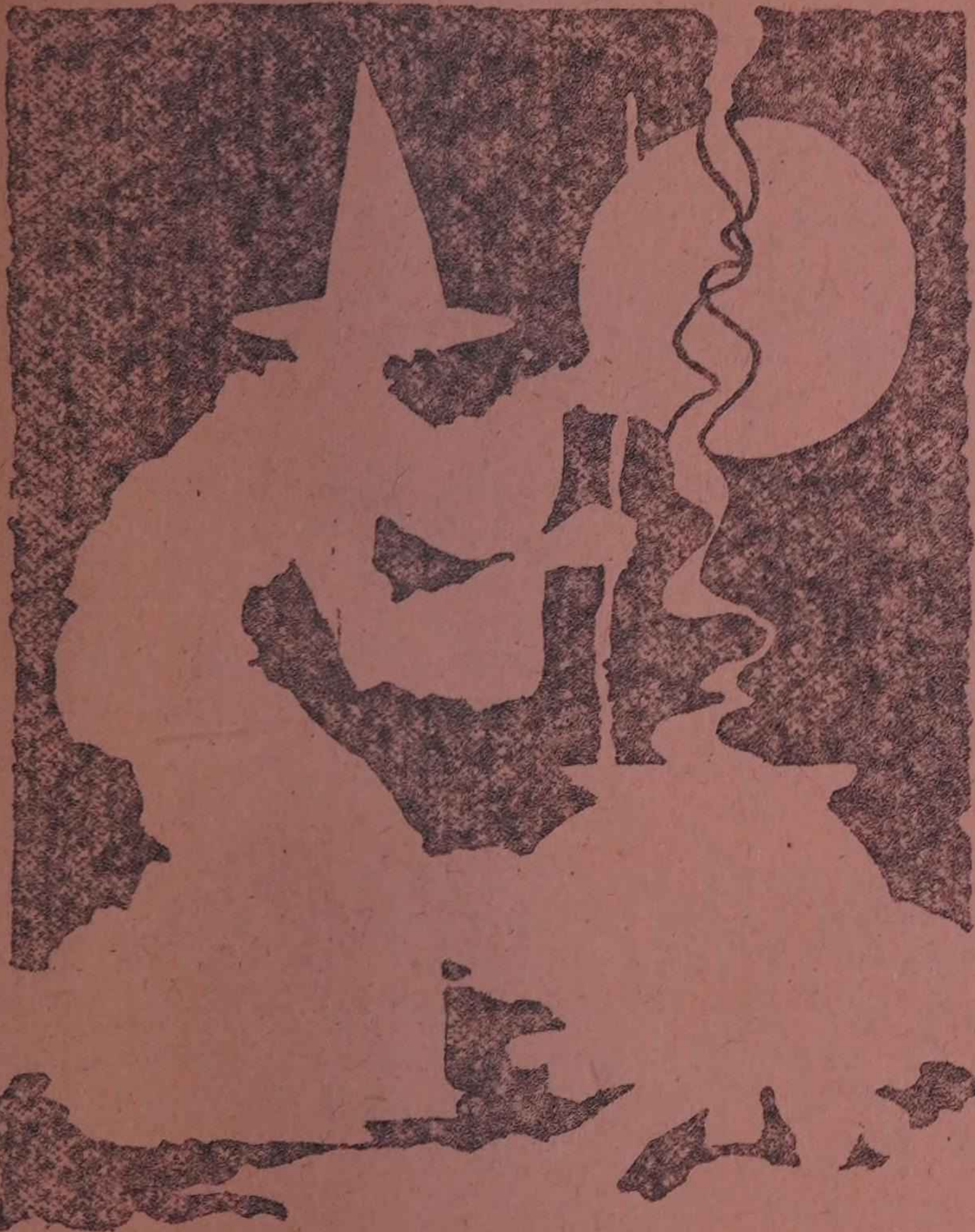
BEING A WITCH IS.... from Haragano & Wotadaver A' Deidrin
in Seattle

...seeing the movie, "The Wickerman" and knowing the true meaning of sacrifice.

ED. NOTE: I really enjoyed that movie until the end when they burned all those animals. That was sick!

The Georgian Church
1908 Verde Street
Bakersfield, Ca. 93304
(805) 529-3309

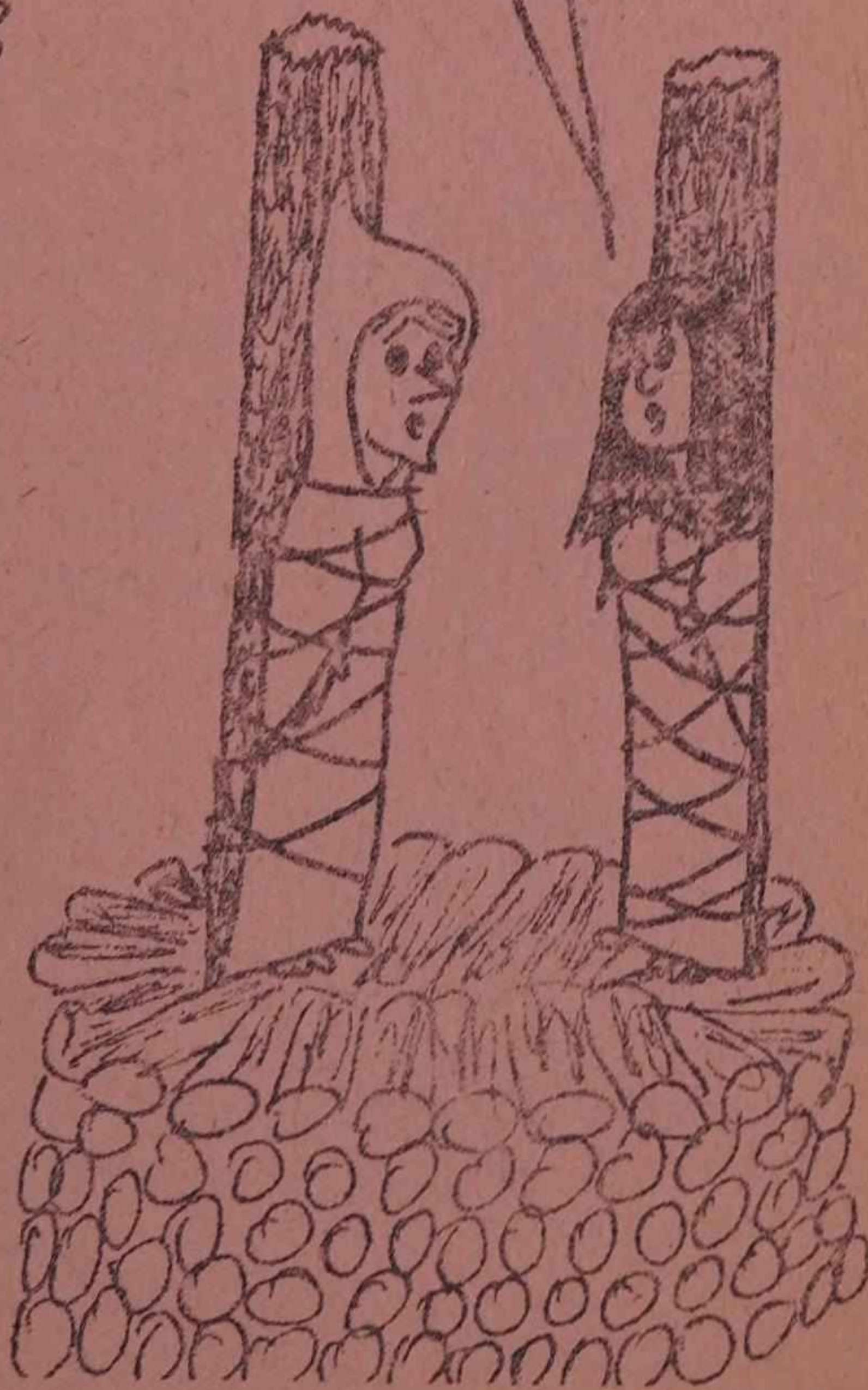
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DOG DAYS

If you have a dog, you will at some time find it necessary to give medicine. Which hand you use to do what depends on whether you are right or left handed. To give a pill or capsule, put your hand over the top of the dog's face (between eyes and nose) and press, with fingers and thumb, his lips against his teeth so he will open his mouth. Then using your first two fingers (not thumb) of the other hand, gently push the pill or capsule over his tongue into his throat. Dog's head should be tilted up during this time. Now, close his mouth, and gently rub his throat in a downward motion while holding the mouth closed. You will see when he swallows.

To give a liquid medicine: with two fingers pull the lip (lower) gently outward at the side. This will make a small pocket in which you can pour the liquid. Head should be tilted slightly upward so the liquid will flow into the dog's throat. If it is necessary to give liquid to an injured dog or a sick dog while he is lying down, gently lift his head and neck so he can swallow properly and not get the liquid into his lungs.

*

Well, I've called several dog kennels here to ask about the Australian Shepherd. Everyone agrees that there is definitely a dog which we call the Australian Shepherd in this country, though it is not AKC registered. However, no one was certain which Australian dog it is, but agree that it is probably the one that Catherine & Kent say is called the Australian Kelpie Sheep Dog in Australia. I tried to find a photo of one, but no luck.

*

From U.P.I.

The suspect refused to explain his motive for the crime. But then again--the suspect is a male Pit Bulldog about two-years-old. He's in custody at the Watsonville, California, pound after committing assault and battery on a parked car. Police say the victim--a brown Chevrolet Impala--suffered chrome damage, teeth marks and blood stains. Witnesses say the assailant "just went wild." He's being held on 35-dollars "bail"...and his owner says she'll pay reasonable damages.

*

The Thanksgiving Day outbreak of rabies continues in Imperial county of California. Animal Control, Health, and Police officers went door-to-door registering pets and warning owners that rabies vaccinations received prior to last November 1st, are not valid. Owners were given a few days to have pets vaccinated or the pet would face confiscation and destruction, and owners would be subject to a 500-dollar fine. Rabies cases have ranged from across the Mexico border northward and eastward.

As of January 8, rabies had been confirmed in the bodies of 14 dogs, 4 cats, two coyotes, 2 steers, 3 skunks, and 1 bat. One dog apparently had a vaccination that didn't take, and he apparently was infected by a rabid cat.

*

STAR GAZER February 16 - March 15, 1981

by LADY FAUNA

General trends: This is not a good period for making decisions of any type. Spend this time gathering information for later, and avoid impulsive opinion-making. Deception and mistruths run rampant, although the rhetoric sounds extremely good. It may seem like you are doing a lot of hard work with no results, but the pay-off will be later, and you will be pleased that you invested the effort and time when you did.

FEBRUARY

- 16 Let your intuition guide you through the confusion. Yellow and white candles.
- 17 Be on guard today. Avoid situations requiring sound judgment. Red and yellow candles.
- 18 Full Moon. Take care of business and paperwork. Green and white candles.
- 21 Combine an evening of music, poetry, and business with friends. Be prepared for sudden changes of opinion. Green and blue candles.
- 22 Work on a family arts or crafts project. Yellow and multi-colored candles.
- 23 Farm the kiddies out tonight and burn lots of pink and red candles.
- 25 Information you receive about others may be mere gossip. Confirm information before forming an opinion. Yellow and white candles.
- 26 Unconventionality leads to personality conflicts. Take a hike. White candles.
- 27 Guard your health. Red candles.
- 28 Confine activities to your responsibilities. Green and light blue candles.

MARCH

- 1 Not a good day for much of anything. Be careful, but not lazy. Red candles.
- 2 Start new art or business projects. Green and yellow candles.
- 3 Organize for that upcoming business or pleasure trip. Take care of your pets. Green and white candles.

(continued next page)

STAR GAZER continued

- 4 Hard work used at business or projects associated with your imagination will produce astounding results. Red and green candles.
- 5 Work on art projects, avoid decision-making, settle a quarrel. Blue and yellow candles.
- 6 New Moon. Scientists may talk themselves into believing something about Mt. St. Helens that isn't quite true. Avoid risks. Red and white candles.
- 7 Mt. St. Helens may blow some steam today, in a most unexpected form. Be careful--guard against accidents and illness. Red and white candles.
- 8 Use your imagination to carry you beyond the current temporary setbacks. Yellow and white candles.
- 10 Experimentation with drugs of any type could be FATAL today. Red candles.
- 11 Spend the day organizing for that upcoming vacation. Walk, read, or work on a craft project to clear your head. Green and white candles.
- 12 Be honest and use your intuition. It may be best to put off any financial moves or conferences at work. Yellow and white candles.
- 13 Avoid decisions. White candles.
- 15 New phases may start at work, although you feel the new plans may not be reasonable. Be patient and guard your tongue, especially when commenting on someone else's personality. Blue and white candles.

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BEING A WITCH DOG IS.... from Wickian Pooka & Sirius

....trying to persuade that bitch next door to have Witch puppies.

....barking & howling when they won't let us in the Circle.

....trying to explain to the other neighborhood dogs why Witch dogs have more fun.

UNHELPFUL HINT

When it's your turn to supply the wine for the ritual, picking something that tastes like vinegar.

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STUFF & THINGS

BOBBI in Pittsburgh sez: Sorry to hear you had the flu. I hope this letter finds you in better health. The flu has reached epidemic stages here. The hospital where I work is packed. They have notices up everywhere asking people to work overtime. Our emergency room is always so busy. I work in the laboratory, and our work load has tripled since Yule. Lots of people are getting it the second time around, so take it easy. Once is enough. We'll be sending you extra energy.

I'm fine. Just waiting for the baby to make his appearance. 2½ months to go! Sometimes it seems like I've been pregnant for a long long time!

After reading your newsletters these past few months, I'm appalled at all the things that have been happening to the animals around the U.S. I also came up with an idea. Maybe you could suggest it to everyone.

How about it if we could get everyone to choose one full moon night at approximately the same time, and do a protection ritual for the animals? Maybe someone could come up with some ideas. You could print my address, and I'd be more than happy to hear comments from everyone on this.

Perhaps I could write the ritual with everyone's ideas and suggestions included in it. What do you think?

Well, your wish for more snow for the dogs came true. It keeps snowing here. Looks beautiful, though kinda cold.

Take care &
Blessed Be.
Bobbi

ED. NOTE: I think your idea is a good one. You'd really be amazed if you knew the true extent of cruelty. I give you very little info. The S.P.C.A. and the Humane Society do some good but unfortunately are limited by lack of funds and personnel. For a membership donation to the Humane Society, you get a newsletter with articles and photos that would really make you sick. If readers wish to contact you about your idea...Bobbi Egarter, 1936 Biggs, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15214.

JEANNE of Blue Moon, Lancaster, Pa. sez: We were sorry to hear you were down with the flu - it must really have taken its toll during the holidays. Now that life is back to normal, here's hoping your health is, too.

I'm glad you liked the Wildlife Association Card I sent you. Animal welfare is one of my chief interests, and I try to make small contributions when I can to those organizations that promote the welfare of both our domestic pets and wildlife. Since most Pagans share that interest, I thought you might like to pass along the enclosed information to your readers regarding the cosmetics that are manufactured by BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY. This com-

JEANNE of Blue Moon continued

pany does not use animals for testing or manufacturing its products, and deserves our support. Also, a boycott of companies that do use animal testing procedures might be in order. A list of those companies can be obtained by writing THE HUMANE SOCIETY of the U.S., 2100 L St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

ED. NOTE: Jeanne enclosed an article and here are some quotes from it:

It is alleged that stomach tubes force hair dye, lipstick, powders, perfumes and other products into animals' systems. These Lethal Dose/50 tests don't end until half the animals die, and the rest are often left miserably sick. Animals are immobilized while cuts are made in their skin and chemicals applied to their open wounds. Other testing (Draize Eye Irritancy) restrains the animals while burning chemicals are placed in their eyes. The lids are forced and held open to avoid blinking. Concentrated and repeated doses cause ulceration, hemorrhaging and blindness. Cosmetic firms maintain that alleviating the pain which accompanies these experiments MIGHT interfere with test results; in most cases the Animal Welfare Code suggesting use of tranquilizers and pain killers is completely ignored.

BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY sells cosmetics and toiletries which in no way use animals for testing or as ingredients in their products. Products are obtainable by mail order: P.O. Box 07437, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53207. They are also becoming available through Humane organizations and health food stores.

JEANNE continued: To a lighter subject - looks like you've stirred up another hornet's nest with your stated preference for younger gals. Well, Pat, it's a known fact that women don't reach their sexual peak until into their thirties. Could it be that the more mature female is just a little too hot for you to handle? (Even if you are a Scorpio).

ED. NOTE: No, Jeanne, that's not the answer. If I really gave a full explanation, that would really stir up a super-size hornet's nest...so I have no more to say on that. Further comment would serve no useful purpose.

Write for your T-shirt flyer to BLUE MOON, 561 W. Orange St., Lancaster, Pa. 17603.

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FAIRY TALE FOR CHILDREN

The Witch got a job as an airline stewardess. That's why she is known as "The Flying Sorceress".

FAIRY TALE FOR ADULTS

He says that the only time a girl ever made a pass at him was on Hollywood Boulevard...and he wasn't sure that was a girl.

PRACTICAL TAROT CARD READING
By Demeter, Ye Full Moon Wicca

THE SPREADS

Many people use the Celtic cross and are quite happy with it. I use it every once in a while myself. Others who study the Kaballa enjoy the Tree of Life Spread. You can practice a few different spreads or even make up one of your own. Since I like to cover a variety of circumstances in a person's life I use the Astrological spread the most. This is a matter of only three cards more than the Celtic Cross which is somewhat limiting.

You can make a spread sheet from oaktag or any heavy paper for any of the spreads that you might want to study more and work with. A cloth spread sheet is beautiful and I have seen them paint - , or sewed, and liquid embroidered. Here is a simple placement of the Horoscope spread. It is read counter-clockwise

11 10 9 8 7

12 6

ind*

*indicator card!

1 2 3 4 5

As a beginner it will be hard for you to weave a story. If you start with this spread you do not have to do that. Rather you can read the card just for the house that it falls in. Later, you can cross reference houses and elements if you study astrology. This can be a simple 13 card spread, I use it most often as a 26 card spread and for Past, Present and Future Readings it can be expanded to a 39 card spread.

I start off my readings by saying to the Q. something like this: "This is an Astrological Reading. There are 12 houses in the Zodiac and each house covers areas in the life of Man. The card that falls into the house gives us an idea of the occurrences there". This is how I see the house...."

"FIRST HOUSE- ARIES- Outward appearances, personality, constitution!"
Read the first card by putting it into that perspective.

Many good books will give you the breakdown of the houses as will Eden Grey's book The Complete Guide to the Tarot.

To start the layout, put a drop of oil in the Q. right hand, have her close her eyes, breathe in the aura, think of a question, wish and time period the reading is to cover (limit it to two years). Skip this next step until you are reading reverse cards. Fan the cards out in front of the Q. Twist and turn them in all different directions until they cover about a two foot area. This assures you that the same cards will not remain either upright or reverse reading after reading. It also gives the Q. more contact with the cards as she puts them back together into one pile.

PRACTICAL TAROT READING contd.

With her left hand, have the Q. cut the deck three piles to the left. Ask the Q. to shuffle each pile until satisfied and again using the left hand put the cards back into one pile. This she hands to you with again the left hand into your left hand.

To choose an indicator card you can go by sign, appearance or age. However, since we are not constant human beings, I prefer a general indicator card for where the person stands at that time. Here is how to do that. Just count down keeping the other cards in order (by slipping the 2nd card under the first) until the 20th card. Turn over the 21st card and it goes in the center. Use what you need of the 20 cards, replace the remainder back on the top of the deck. Repeat the process for a 26 card spread etc.

The cards are yours---use them, enjoy them, work with them, care for them, grow with them and read as much as you can with them. As with all things let there be mirth and reverence, honor and humility. May the Lady smile on your endeavors. Blessed Be.

CAPRICORN

By Lilli in Costa Mesa, Calif.

Capricorn, Capricorn, where have you gone?

Capricorn, Capricorn, lovely as a song?

Running high and free,
Gallop on comets' tails.
Always was, will always be
The magic one who sails.

Capricorn, Capricorn, searcher of the stars.

Capricorn, Capricorn, off to Moon or Mars?

With mane of sunlight rays,
A coat of ivory silk,
Eyes like azure novas blaze,
Teeth as white as milk.

Capricorn, Capricorn, goat oh so fine.

Capricorn, Capricorn, blessed winter sign.

C E L E B R A T I O N O F S U M M E R

By Lady Phoenix

NEXUS CENTRAL met Sunday, January 11, 1981 at the covenstead of Thirteen Moons. New officers were elected for the coming year: President-Phoenix Ford of Grand Prairie, Texas; Vice-President-Ann Schiffer of Arlington, Texas; Sec/Treas. David Hollman, Dallas.

Plans were made for the Second Annual Celebration of Summer at the NEXUS Retreat in East Texas. Gathering In will begin in late afternoon, Friday, June 19, 1981, Workshops, etc. on Saturday, with the Tribute to the Goddess Rite on Saturday evening, and Solstice celebrated on Sunday morning. More details later, but we hope you will be able to plan on being there and sharing an enjoyable fellowship and learning experience. If you are interested in presenting a workshop, or making reservations, please write to NEXUS CELEBRATION OF SUMMER, P.O. Box 45061, Dallas, Texas. 75245.

We will also be planning a Public May Rite, with Maypole, etc. on either May Eve, or May Day.

A First Annual Women's Ritual will be held on March 6, 1981, a Friday evening at the Covenstead of Thirteen Moons, co-sponsored by Thirteen Moons and Circle of the Unicorn. Those interested in attending, please contact Cassandra Mikosz, 1106 Ontario, Garland, Texas, 75040. This is open to women of the Craft in this region. Please contact Cassandra if you wish to participate.

Another Co-operative project for these two covens, is a book of Songs. If you have an original song or chant which you have written, and use in circle working or celebrations, please contact Garth Hollman, if you wish to participate and include yours with this work. We are trying to have it proofed and published for Beltane. His address is 4415 Bowser, Apt. 214, Dallas, Texas. 75219.

That is about all for Thirteen Moons and Unicorn Circle, at the moment. NEXUS is now fully international, with paid, active members in Australia, Canada, and Ireland, as well as the continental U. S.

Blessed Be.....

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BEING A WITCH IS.....

...sent to get the cakes and wine at the last minute..and getting the dog biscuits by mistake.

.. and bringing the paint-remover that someone stored in a wine bottle.

Dear Pat: D. L. L. e

This is an open letter to the Church as a whole. It seems as though we have grown in the last few years to quite a good size and we have spread out all over the country & world. We started with a dusty garage with a dirt floor and 4 walls going in different directions and ended up with a Beautiful Temple..

Now I think the time has come for the members of a "church" to act as a group, not a bunch of people who get together now and then. We should have a place out of town where we can go--camp out, live in or whatever and build a lodge & temple away from prying eyes.

If there are 100 people who will pledge 5.00 a month more than the regular dues, we could have \$6,000 per year, and at a cost to each individual of only \$60.00 per year. I'm sure that there are a few of us who would be willing to do more after all, It is all tax deductible. I also would like to see people in the Craft who want to get ahead--many of us are and do-- but a lot of people use the Craft as an excuse for not getting anywhere. This is not true of everyone, but of many. The Craft can have many successful persons in it. I'm sure that many of the people who write to us from other areas of the country are quite successful-- I don't mean that we all have to be Credit Card Witches, but lets not keep using the Craft as an excuse for getting nowhere. It should be a reason for conquering adversity.

So let's start looking into ourselves and start off the new year with a pledge to our Lady to support her and The Work of her People.

A small contribution for land and the Temple on it, "less than two six packs", or what ever you can afford along with donated labor, we could have a secluded temple away from town, but not too far for us to get to.

Now, lets get going, lets start the New year off right by resolving to make our lives more for the Goddess and more successful for ourselves. Lets all make it a better year for ourselves after all anything which hamens ultimately derrines from within ourselves. Don't blame anyone else-- It all comes from within. So program yourself to succeed this year. Success for The Lady//

I realize that some of what I have said might anger some of my sisters and brothers in the Craft and for this, I ask only that before anger, they meditate with me on the way of the Lady and see how it may work for them.

By the way the L. A. Herald Examiner, starting 12/29 or 12/30 has started an 8 part series on cults. It might be good for us

A Letter to Pat Cont.

to read it and perhaps write to the paper for some education on their behalf, to explain what the Craft really is. The key is getting us accepted is education, theirs and ours. We have to tell them what it is all about and we have to know what is going on in our own religion, Many of us don't.

So much for my tirade.

Love to all of you and Blessed Be

Walt. From Long Beach

To: Pat and all the Georgians
From: Shadowhawk and Blacksun,

It is often a problem with priestesses and priests of our religion (and maybe others, too) that the love and good feelings that are raised within a circle seem to be only shared by the members of that circle. How many of us have not wished that some other person or persons could share the energies raised but were not part of that circle because of circle rules, strife between circles, or simply because they were not Wiccan? This is a situation that can lead to actions that will produce problems in the whole of our religion. We have had these urges and feelings on many occasions. We wish to tell you of our Winter Solstice and how we were able to share our entire ritual with many who would never be on circle under ordinary circumstances.

On Dec. 20th and 21st, Shadowhawk and I put on a Yule celebration with 150 people attending. We did this as an event for a medieval anachronist group that we are members of. It was because we could justify all of our doings as being authentically medieval in spirit that we were able to so easily perform our rites in public and not be questioned. Here is how the ritual was performed:

THE SITE was a state park that has a "summer camp" area that is available to any group that can come up with a good enough reason and the money to rent it. It happens that we chose this site because Shadowhawk and I first met there in 1976. It was also there that we held our first full moon together (shyness prevents that tale to be told here) and it was also at that site that we held our second (and public) handfasting. As you can see, the site was well consecrated. We arrived early and cast a circle before the others arrived. The site has many cabins (heated) and a huge feast hall where everyone could meet at one time.

THE INVOCATIONS: were in the form of carefully worded spells written into the tickets sold and the programs passed out to

Shadowhawk and Blacksun cont.

each of the participants. We made no profit on this; all monies were used for the event. The spirits of Peace and Good Will were invoked. Many Xians were in league with us on this, indeed I think they thought it was their religion's idea! So the Goddess blessed many with her spirit for this rite!

THE ENERGY WAS RAISED: all day (Saturn's day, the 20th) by the constant pouring in of people bringing their pot luck dishes to share that night and their visions of good communion and love and trust.

THE CONE WAS FORMED AND THE ENERGY FOCUSSED: when we all sat down for the evening's feast. First, all electrical lights were turned off at the fuse box. Then all but one candle was put out. Then, from the grand hearth (a magnificent kitchen) came 5 huge hams drenched in brandy and flamed just before entering the feast hall. A choral group sang The Boar's Head Carol and there were oohs and ahhs from everyone.

THEN CAME A KNOCK ON THE DOOR! the last candle was snuffed out as the door was opened. Everyone can see a lone candle lantern being carried by two figures, a man and a woman, who enter and say as one: "We bring the return of the light"! They lite the five candles on the head table (in the East) and Shadowhawk and I lite two tapers from these and send them down the tables in each direction from the head table. As the entire hall builds in candle lite, we say, "As this place is illuminated, so may our hearts and lives be so brightened". THUS THE CONE WAS RELEASED.

The rest of the night was filled with the wonderful sound of laughter and joyous spirits. There was a giant Yule log that burned all night in an outside fire pit that gathered songsters, poets, jesters and lovers. There was a beautiful addition to the whole event when the fellow who brought in the candle lantern got up in front of everyone and asked for the hand of his lady (the other person that held the lantern) in marriage - in poem! -, and she rose and most graciously accepted!! What a magical moment!

The feast and revel lasted until 4am and there was not a frown upon anyone's face. The morning brought a bountiful and hearty breakfast and everybody glowed with the return of the light!

At

At one point in the evening, we took our circle out into the woods and held a beautiful moon lit full moon ritual by the shore of a serene lake. We were not the only circle to do so; I know of at least one other group that snuk out for the same reason. All this was totally un-noticed by those who were not aware of the "ritual" that was happening around them. All that they saw appeared to be a natural part of the "show" that they were lending

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energy to and enjoying! For those who could see, it was a true Winter Solstice and a proper ritual.

This was the third year Shadowhawk and I have done this. Each year it grown bigger because everyone can FEEL the ritual! We hope that we can encourage others to be imaginative (and sneaky!) and creative in their rityals so that the Goddess can touch the uninitiated in various times and places. Our next project will be Ladees Day (Betain) on May 3rd. This is Shadwhawk's project, and will be a "nice, old fashion May Day".

From Elvenhearth to all the Georgians: Gōd Yule, and Blessed Be!

Shadowhawk and Blacksun

* * *

STUFF & THINGS

Don't forget that the deadline for articles and ads is the 20 th of each month. When sending articles, we would prefer that you type if possible. If you can't type, please print. Most handwritings are legible enough to make sense of, but if we have to copy it, a word we can't decipher and have to guess at may change the entire meaning of what you wanted to say.

After you write your article, please read it over to check for mistakes. We can correct spelling, grammar and punctuation, but when you leave words out...we do have difficulty trying to figure out what you wanted to say. So don't blame us if it comes out wrong.

REMEMBER: Be sure to send a change of address card or note in your letter when you MOVE. The post office WILL NOT forward the newsletters. They would be happy to forward if we used first-class postage...but we'd have to raise the sub rate to about \$20. a yr. to do that.

Now that the hostages are free, and the public seems to be so more that usual aware of the meaning of freedom, it is sad to realize that Jerry Falwell and other bigots would like to decide which of us should have freedom.

That's All, Folks.

LOVE AND BLESSED BE,

PAT AND ALL THE GEORGIANS.

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