

GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER

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HELLO, ALL YOU BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE!

BAKERSFIELD - This has been a busy month...and all has gone well. Gail & Vulcan conducted the Candlemas ritual. Lady Selena & Pan conducted the Lupercalia Ritual...and Pan did an excellent reading of the Ode To Pan. Judith & Terry conducted the Full Moon ritual...and Puck led us in the Circle Song.. FOLLOW THE MOON. A most pleasant month.

We hope some of you don't get discouraged because you don't see your material always in the next issue. Sometimes, for various reasons, it make take several months before we use it.

PAN SEZ: for those of you who might be wondering why I haven't been writing for the past 7 months...I've been busy moving back & forth from California to New Mexico & back. My new address is: POB 285, Bakersfield, Cal. 93302.

I'll be writing more now that I'm working again.

Blessed Be,
Pan

From now on, we should be publishing a calendar of coming events ...thatis, what dates we'll be holding meetings for Sabbats, etc. We know it has been a bit confusing for the out-of-town people especially since we usually celebrate most things on the nearest Saturday...but sometimes it's hard to figure out which one that may be. Hopefully, we'll have a list elsewhere in the newsletter since it isn't complete yet.

MODESTO - Again the errant children of the North sending best wishes and news of some of the mischief we've been up to. As you can see, we've got a new group started -- somebody told us it might be work--but wow!

On our first Full Moon ceremony, 20 January 1981, we initiated Alister as our first budding H. Priest.

We held Candlemas on February 3, and initiated Eve and Ondine. Queen Iris of Trothland Coven graciously consented to act as our Elder for the benefit of all, since Nimrod and I have not made third degree.

I'm hoping the learning situation will benefit both our new initiates and us. It is certainly true that when you teach, you have to practice constantly yourself in order to retain your credibility.

Full moon was last night, and Nimrod cast the Circle, and I acted as High Priestess. The moon had a beautiful halo, and the weather was not so chilly--it was great. A couple of our members had worked twelve hour shifts before coming and looked dog tired, but left full of energy and ready to go!

Right now, we're just beginning to wade through the bare essentials, but hopefully, we will be back in full poetic swing soon.

Love and Blessed Be,
Naunette

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STUFF & THINGS

PAM in England...sent a nice tape letter. Apparently an earlier one got lost in the mail. Pam also sent a check to renew her sub. That reminds us...overseas is \$8....but if mail goes to the military with a New York P.O.Box address, then it is the same as in the U.S... \$5.

We do enjoy listening to Pam's very British accent. Pam says she is enjoying being home in England but is looking forward to returning to the states,; she says she might get to visit us then but it is quite some time off.

Pam recently enjoyed a visit from some old friends from Dover & Kent. But she doesn't enjoy the weather. She says it only stops raining when it is snowing.

Pam's daughter, Autumn, is getting interested in Craft things, and Pam says she is really developing ESP. She also enjoys watching children's shows on TV every afternoon about nature, mythology, etc. Pam included on her tape recordings of two TV programs..one about Stonehenge and other circles, and one about the prophecies of Nostradamus. Very interesting.

Pam said she was recording the tape letter on Jan. 9..we recieved it Feb. 12. Just about as long as it takes her to get her newsletters. Guess they are sending the mail overseas by rowboat.

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SHADOWHAWK in Washington sez: I was completely overwhelmed by the Georgie I recieved this week. The Post Awful has eaten my mail and I did not know about this at ALL until the package came. The plaque is beautiful and will hang above my altar.

Personally, I would like to say a word of encouragement and praise to Russ & Ruthie of Arcane Crafts - I really enjoy your stuff, and think you have a marvelous sense of humor. Keep up the Graet Work - and Blessed Be.

FOR PUBLICATION: our address is: Elvenhearth, PO Box 4751, Federal Way, Wash. 98003. And we love to get letters, however, if you have a phone #, include it in correspondence. I am notorious at forgetting to buy stamps and mail letters.

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VALERIE in San Jose sez: Very busy getting ready to go to Australia (March 9 thru May 16) - will see Catherine & Kent, and show 'em which dog is the Australian Shepherd.

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BEING A WITCH IS....

....lots of fun.

A TEACHER TO HER STUDENTS

By ELLEN CANNON

Listen, brothers and sisters. I will tell you many things during the time we are together. None is more important for you to remember than this.

I am human.

I have studied a long time. I've learned a great deal. I will share as much of it with you as I can.

But I am human.

I will always try to live up to the faith and trust you have in me.

But I am human.

I will guide and help you as much as I can.

But I am human.

What does that mean? It means that I am not perfect...if I were; I wouldn't be here. None of us is perfect. I have faults... and I am probably more aware of them than you are.

It means I don't know everything. I know a great deal about certain subjects but I'm not omniscient. It is entirely possible, indeed probably, that there are areas where you know more than I. I'm always learning, but so should you be. I hope to continue learning all through this life and others.

It means I can't do everything, physically or magically. I have only so much time, only so much energy, magically and physically. It means I need your help and encouragement as much as you need mine.

It means I can (and probably will) be unreasonable, irritable and shorttempered. I'll try not to be, but you might see me that way.

It means I can succumb to any of various temptations. I can lose my perspective. I can be jealous, selfish, and materialistic. I hope I won't be...but these are all things "flesh is heir to" ...human flesh, and I am human.

Don't expect me to be anything else. Don't worship me, or look at me in awe. You'll only be disappointed, and I have seen that disappointment cause someone to leave their rightful path. Work with me, share with me, help me...and in return you can expect all the love and understanding I have. I am human. Whatever

A TEACHER TO HER STUDENTS cont.

Whatever you do, don't forget that.
And in the name of all we both hold sacred, don't let ME!

The Tennessee Pagan Community is moving ahead. The initial settlement will be made by Murray Winters, Betty, George, and Bella (Chicago) and Xenia (Atlanta). I plan to join the group later after affairs are settled here. Some of the group will be on the site in Jackson County early in February to begin felling trees to season for cabin construction and the first permanent move to the site is April 1st. And, Pat, if any of the good Georgians are interested in this project and have any surplus tools they could donate, believe me, those tools would be most welcome. WE DON'T WANT YOUR MONEY! But we do need tools to help build the TPC project. Especially needed are the old-style hand tools used in cabin construction, froes, draw knives, the various styles of hatchets and axes used in shaping and fitting logs, saws, brace & bit, and just about any and all of the hand powered stuff. Again, NO MONEY, please, but any tools will be sincerely appreciated and put to good use. If you can help or if you are just interested and want to know more about the project, drop me a card.

Houston Roberts (Cyprian)
2708 Old Lebanon Rd.
Nashville, TN 37214

The Nashville PM Magazine TV crew did a feature on Wicca which turned out to be very good and very positive. The TV station was able to get the Parthenon for our use. Can you imagine the thrill of celebrating a Sabbat in an exact full-scale replica of the original Pagan temple in Athens!!! The sound effects alone as our voices echoed from the walls and pillars were simply mind-consuming; chants seemed to go on and on as if a Greek chorus were hidden somewhere behind the TV lights. Some of the bunch from Chicago and Atlanta just us here in Nashville for the event and they all agreed it was more than worth the trip. Because of scheduling problems, the program had to be released locally several weeks ahead of schedule but all you folks out there in Tv-land might want to check with your local station to see if it will be carried in your area. For once, we got a sympathetic presentation and it was done with commendable technical expertise. In fact, the TV cameraman is joining our study group!

And, speaking of that book ms. as I did earlier, does anyone out there want to help me with this one? These are proposed definitions of terms we use, terms usually fuddled and sort of fused together in non-Pagan minds:

MORE BY HUSTON ROBERTS cont.

Neo-Paganism is a body of religious thought. Wicca or Witchcraft is a method or system of applying that thought to our way of thinking, our way of acting, our way of living, including our relations with other people. Sorcery is the attempt to twist or pervert the natural order and flow of Creation. Magick is the attempt to employ the natural order and flow of Creation. Magic is stage illusion. Comments, anyone?

WHEN PAGANS MEET THE PRESS
By Chas S. Clifton

As Paganism grows it increasingly attracts the attention of the news media, whose job is to explain to the public whatever is going on around it.

At least in theory. You may debate that as you like; my purpose is to give some background on how the media operate and show how someone who needs to speak for Paganism can use the media most effectively. I will concentrate on newspapers and local television and radio, since those are the people and media you are most likely to encounter.

Keep in mind always that to the journalist, the story may be more important than the subject, just as to many doctors the disease is more important than the patient.

You, the subject, want a story that treats you "fairly"-- and let's be frank, to most people "fairly" means showing them in a good light whether they deserve it or not.

The reporter wants a story that treats the subject "fairly" too. That means including both unfavorable and favorable material, so as to avoid the appearance of bias. Quotes should be attributed where possible and hard facts checked out to the editor's satisfaction. Theology, remember, is not a hard fact!

Everyone likes to complain about media "sensationalism," but consider it from their angle. The newspaper reporter knows his or her article must compete for reader attention with "Dear Abbey" and the sports page. The TV journalist is up against "Charlie's Angels" and a hundred commercials with their razzle-dazzle, while on radio news programs and talk shows are definitely a minority report.

So to compete for attention, the most grabbing, weird, or sensational stuff will get put up front. Don't be surprised. And remember, that nice reporter who talked to you doesn't get to write the headline.

With TV, "good visuals" are important above all-- something like hooded figures dancing around a cauldron. Either give them what they want ... or defuse the situation by being 100-percent ordinary, depending on your purpose.

It's an adage in the business that "print defines; electronic (media) expands." That means in most cases radio and TV follow

WHEN PAGANS MEET THE PRESS

By Chas S. Clifton cont.

the newspapers' lead in deciding what is "news." If the first finds you, the others probably won't be far behind.

Which brings me to two primary rules of successful public relations:

1. Do the reporters' work for them.

2. Control the situation as much as possible without being blatantly manipulative. If you go too far, they will turn resentful and hostile and then you are asking for whatever you get.

I cannot stress rule number one enough. It means "be prepared" too. Remember that the average journalist knows next to nothing about your religion, its beliefs and practices, its famous personalities, its different traditions. He was just told to go interview those witches for a Hallowe'en feature and doesn't know Gerald Gardner from The Wicked Witch of the West.

Nor is he or she likely to be familiar with the whole background of Western non-mainstream- Christianity. At the medium-size daily newspaper where I work, perhaps three out of 30 reporters know the astral plane from a Boeing 747, nor are they interested in finding out unless required to.

So tell them. Write a press release (and a script for yourself if you're likely to get stage fright). Define your terms. Include guides to pronouncing unfamiliar words like "Samhain" (Gaelic: "sow-an") so they won't be mangled on the airwaves.

The point is, if you get backed into a corner or just feel inarticulate, you can always fall back on your prepared statement. If ad-libbing isn't easy, having that text in black and white can save the day. Don't go talking away about "fam-trads" or Gardnerians unless you provide a preferably written glossary of what you are talking about.

When that perpetually-in-a-hurry reporter goes back to write a story or broadcast script your material will be at his elbow-- and it will be drawn on heavily. You might even want to make copies of your favorite passages from reference books or take something like the "Principles of Wiccan Belief" from the 1974 Gnosticon and pass it out like candy.

Study your interviewer if you're going on a talk show on radio or TV. Is he or she the gushy suburban matron type who "just loves" everyone who comes or a Joe Pyne-type who likes to twist them into knots and see guests destroy themselves on camera?

Television news is a special beast and really difficult to deal with. Operating in a realm where two minutes is a long time to spend on one subject it tends to compress and flatten its material to where it's all the same: Tornado-- city bond issue-- local witches--threat of more rain-- Dallas Cowboys beat Steelers--... only a few visual images are retained by the average viewer.

WHEN PAGANS MEET THE PRESS

By Chas S. Clifton cont.

My only advice for dealing with them is; Be simple and positive and smile a lot. Your goal is to convey a good impression, not a bunch of facts. For more instruction watch any capable politician running for office.

This is not to say some stations haven't done credible jobs with alternative religions. Just remember they have short attention spans and that the hungry camera is always looking for that visual image.

Personally I like radio call-in shows, because I do better answering questions than talking on at length. You get instant feedback that way. Plus in a sense you're sort of on the station's side: if someone gets on the air and tries to preach or goad you, you can simply suggest moving on to the next caller. You have more control than in other situations.

A couple of no nos:

1. You may as well assume that for anyone less than the Secretary of State or the local police chief there is no such thing as "off the record." Assume instead that at all times everything you say is being noted down and may appear in print or on the air. Especially the jokes and sarcastic remarks--- they make good copy. Even when this is not true, it's a good idea.

2. With a newspaper or magazine reporter, do not ask to read the story before it's printed. If you ask for it, you will almost certainly be told no and the reporter will be resentful because it smells like censorship.

If you do feel you have been seriously misquoted, there is some recourse, at least with newspapers and magazines. Warning: if you have been interviewed anonymously it's hard to write a letter to the editor and get it published because most publications require a name and address of the writer, to weed out nuts.

It may help to calmly approach the editor or TV news director involved at their convenience and state your case. Bring a written statement or other documentation.

In the long run, the editor, publication or station always has the last word--- literally. So if you consent to be interviewed, get things right the first time. And that means doing the reporters' work for them.

Of course you're not being "pushy" when you present them with your handout or statement, you're being "helpful." Make sure it comes off that way. If you appear helpful and non-threatening you are more likely to be treated respectfully and not as some weirdo.

WHEN PAGANS MEET THE PRESS
By Chas S. Clifton cont.

Don't be conned. Journalism is competitive, but if one paper or station comes to you saying, "We'll do thus-and-so for you if you don't talk to our competition," that to me is a little shoddy. Make up your own mind; don't be manipulated.

After all, what good is psychic development if you don't use it when the chips are down? Get out your pendulum and see if you're being lied to.

At some point you will have to trust the news media and go ahead. They are what you have to work with and you just have to understand the rules by which they play the game. There is a tremendous curiosity on the public's part about who we are, but it is mixed with tremendous ignorance. As one man said to me after a classroom talk I gave, "I always knew there was a Western Mystery Tradition, but I just sort of thought the door was closed."

Using the news media for publicity can oil the hinges on that door.

A NEW WICCAN CHURCH LETTER
By Llew in Sacramento

Dear Pat,

It's been quite awhile since I wrote you- too long, in fact. I was interested in your article on the "Moral Majority." The mention of a New Testament stand on sorcery and witchcraft aroused my curiosity. Thumbing through my concordance, I found one mention of witchcraft in the New Testament: Galatians 5:20, under which, in the K.J. version of same, the word "witchcraft" appears in a list of "works of the flesh." Paul, of course, regards anything fleshly as bad. I thought Gal. 5:18 was more interesting-"If ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law." It's a handy way to silence a fundamentalist brandishing the Old Testament at you.

An interesting historical point which I think is worth considering these days is this: The constitutional separation of Church and State did not originate in an attempt to protect religious rights. It was instituted to protect the State from interference by religious groups. Such men as Jefferson and Franklin did not kneel at anyones' altar and had no wish to be forced to do so, by laws promulgated by a single religious group. By the way, does anyone know how to get in touch with the Immoral Minority? I've encountered a lot of people anxious to join...

Please pass on to Armeeta that there ain't no such thing as "the ape." Speaking as an anthropologist, the term "ape" comprehends at its broadest any "monkey." Most great apes are vegetarian, but chimps, for instance, in the wild are much more omnivorous than anyone had suspected, gorillas are much more

A NEW WICCAN CHURCH LETTER
By Llew in Sacramento

vegetarian than chimps, but even they have been reported to snack on an occasional gopher. Not trying to talk anyone out of vegetarianism; I just object to semi-accurate information. Jane Goodall has even witnessed cannibalism among chimps.

Just out of curiosity, is there anyone out there who believes in a moon god and a sun goddess? In Northwestern Europe, that happens to have been the actual arrangement. All us "English" Wicca practice what amounts to a Latin or Near Eastern "heresy." The lunar god/solar goddess arrangement is mentioned in the Prose Edda of Snorri Sturtson; the Welsh still refer to the sun as "she," and anyone can have three guesses as to why there's a "man" in the moon...

One last word - Being a Witch is: Getting into a religious discussion, saying, "Frankly, I'm a Witch," and everybody appreciates your humor!

BLESSED BE !

* * *

WE PROMISED TO GIVE YOU A SCHEDULE OF WHAT & WHEN IN BAKERSFIELD...SO HERE IT IS. DON'T LOSE IT.

	SABBATS		FULL MOON
MARCH	SPRING EQUINOX	21 st	SAT. 21 st
APRIL			SUN. 19 th
MAY	BELTANE	SAT. 2 nd	TUE. 19 th
JUNE	Summer Solstice	SAT. 20 th	TUE. 16 th
JULY			THUR 16 th
AUGUST	LAMMAS	SAT. 1 st	SAT. 15 th
SEPTEMBER	AUTUMN EQUINOX	SAT. 19 th	SUN. 13 th
OCTOBER	HALLOWS	SAT. 31 st.	TUE. 13 th
NOVEMBER			WED. 11 th
DECEMBER	FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS	SAT. 12 th	SAT. 12 th
	YULE	SAT. 19 th.	

If you keep this list, those of you coming from other areas will have no more confusion about when we're doing what.

* * * * *

return of the Lady of Karma by Alayna Del Amo

across the dry creekbed of
 summer the little
 owls trill to each other
 hear! hear! hear! hear!
 hear! hear!

waning moonrise

my demon dogs wail
 Coyote man
 holds a silent black pistol
 in the
 hot night

in the area of the oak
 my demon cats shriek
 and leap

the rock snake
 awake inside their dreams
 shakes his ominous gourd

Listen!
 I have returned, o Earth!
 I have returned

Rise up now,
 ashes of my fair-skinned witches
 Rise up now,
 bones of my tortured Maya priests

I have returned to avenge your name
 I have returned to reward your long
 patience
 I have returned to caress my faith-
 ful beasts

Rise up now
 People of courage
 and reclaim Eastlan
 Your lady has come

* * *

From SARHADWEN....DeKalb, Illinois

If you've heard the outland music and danced on the
 table stone,
 Danced in dreams of forest mist to the sweet call of
 the horn,
 No more you'll find contentment in the world of men you've
 known -
 But always seek in dreams and dusk those of the forest
 born.

* * *

EVENING (for M.G.) from Ravenwolf in Modesto

Mountain lady comes riding on swift summer breezes
 The sun's dying rays set her long hair afire
 Soft-footed salamander running beside her
 Her eyes a kaliedescope cup of desire;

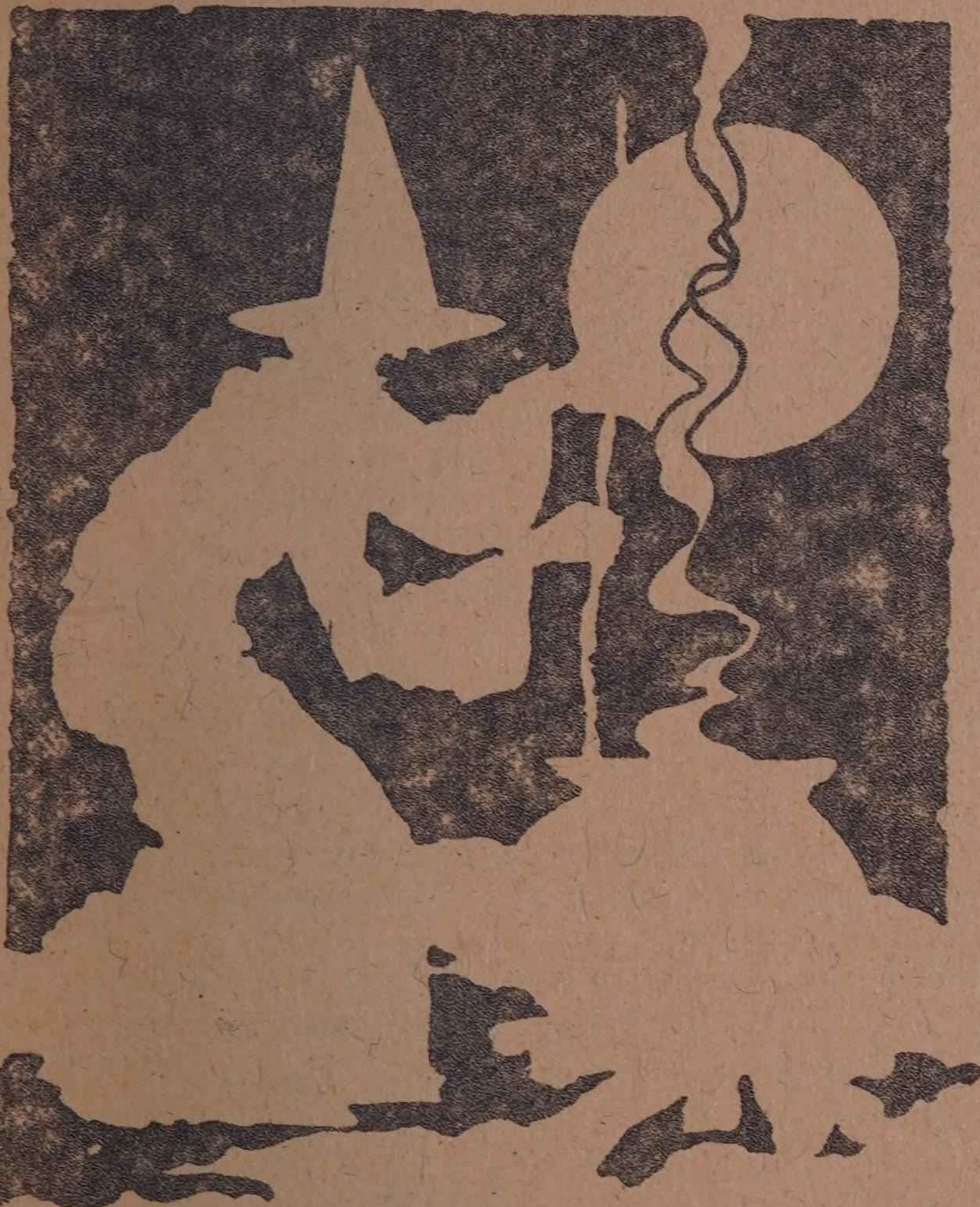
Of weariness, sorrow and sweet silver violets,
 Quick laughter and stormclouds and armies in silk
 The song of a tree and leaves of a poet
 All left on her doorstep and crying for milk.

She sits on the mountain and sings with her fingers
 Where only the rockwinds will answer her call
 An owl whispers white to the hare in the meadow
 When serpents start flying, the eagle must fall.

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MARCH 1981



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STUFF & THINGS

DOROTHY in Brooklyn sez: as usual, the newsletter always manages to bring a laugh. As I read Gail's note in San Jose, I really laughed. Because here in Bklyn., the Roman Catholic church in this neighborhood sent out a circular "warning" parents to beware of the evils of "pagan influence" on their children! (I should know, two of my kids go to instruction 1X a month - I am not going public yet.)

No, seriously do you think they listen to a Pagan's well-meaning words without twisting them into some type of "threat" to their sanctimonious way of thinking! Oh well, nothing to Lump about, just a thought. Maddening - but still a thought.

About Armeeta's article on raw potatoe slices for puffy eyes: I do the same for a mosquito bite, and add a little baking soda after the potatoe slice is warm (start with cold potatoe). Great stuff!

This for Jennie in Florida:

SINUS HEADACHES

- 1- sniff a small amount of Golden Seal into nose (you can mix with warm salt water also). It cleanses the mucous membranes.
- 2- make a tea from any of...fenugreek, hyssop, yarrow, elder flowers and/or black cohosh.

TENSION HEADACHES

rub some peppermint oil into each temple & relax.
 a bath with a few drops of wintergreen oil, if you have time, is even better
 also a blend of some peppermint, wintergreen and/or spearmint plus hops, Chamomile Catnip, and alfalfa, and some lemon verbena (equal amounts of each herb chosen). Steep for 7 minutes, add sugar or honey, and dream on.

ABOUT:

- 1- RUE (Ruta Graveolens) The "Sour Herb of Grace" was a symbol of repentance & remembrance in Elizabethan times. Native in the Mediteranian area, it makes an invigorating tea and a soothing poultice.
 That, I learned from reading. From personal use, I've found RUE to be very favorable as part of an incense-offering to Diana.
- 2- BALM OF GILEAD (Populus Balsamifera) These Poplar tree buds are also known as Balsam. To make a nice-smelling cosmetic aid for skin & hair, boil buds in olive oil, strain, and use the oil. They are also great for a soothing bath additive and salve.
- 3- EYEBRIGHT (Euphrasia Officinalis) The technical name is after Euphrosyne, one of the three Graces of Greek mythology. Eyebright is usually made into a tea, and an eye rinse. (For animals, too!) And once I read it is one of the ingredients in a "Stop Smoking" tobacco mixture.

Last (but not least) we have:

(continued next page)

DOROTHY continued

PASSIONFLOWER (Passiflora Incarnata) A native of Virginia, it is also called Maypops. It is a symbol of faith, and makes a soothing tea, and is also used as a tincture.

Incidentally, I hope everyone adds a little imagination and/or creates their own, too. Would hate to wind up like Armeeta - go to the task of trying to pass along some good vibes, and Bang! It doesn't work..for them (Rus?) So it doesn't work Period?! No fair.

I feel the vibes you put into any "remedy" can and will work. But faith is of the essence. As a matter of fact, I think it is the essence!

Right on, Armeeta! Now - maybe Rus should try an "Arcane Crafts" polish. It may sell.

Incidentally, Rus may not have hives but mosquitoes will be big this year (especially on Long Island) !

Love and Blessed Be

Dorothy

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MIKE HOWARD in London sez: In your January issue you wrote that religious education has to be taught by law in British schools. This is true, but recently two Pagans successfully won court cases allowing them to teach their children at home because they objected to the Christian propaganda in the state education system. Religious education classes are becoming more liberal nowadays with lessons embracing Buddhism, Islam and Hinduism, but not the oldest religion - yet.

We do not have the Moral Majority over here (thank the Gods) but there are many evangelistic churches which preach against the Pagans. One cleric even said recently that yoga was the work of the devil! Pagans face harassment from journalists and the police, and several have lost their jobs or been ended from rented accommodation when their beliefs became known.

"The Cauldron" journal, which I edit, is making a stand on Pagan rights, and we hope to feature a special article on the problem in our Beltane issue.

ED. NOTE: Thank you, Mike. We are always glad to hear what is going on with Pagans everywhere.

THE CAULDRON may be ordered from BCM Box 1633, London WC1N BXX England.

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MARLENE in Odessa, Texas sez: Just a note to say we are still here. Our Witchling has arrived (Jan. 4). We named her (yes, a girl) Athena Dawn. She is just as I saw, but female - oh well--! We are both fine and were home 12 hours after she was born. Robert has that flu bug, and we have the baby at my mother's, so I run back & forth between them.

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DOG DAYS

Dogs also may have heart attacks, especially older dogs. Wanting to lie down..apparently weak, trouble breathing after a bit of exercise, standing with spread legs as though having trouble keeping balance..may be signs of a heart attack or other heart problems. Of course, the dog should be examined by a vet. First step if he doesn't quickly return to normal after a little rest is to give him/her a little coffee. Adding sugar and cream is okay.

SOME NOTES FROM U.P.I.

Sacramento - A bill prohibiting the killing of dogs or cats for food...a practice of some refugees from southeast Asia living in California...has won approval from the assembly water, parks and wildlife committee.

The measure, which was sponsored by Democratic Assemblyman Lawrence Kapiloff of San Diego, was virtually identical to a senate bill just approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Kapiloff's bill, sent to the ways & Means Committee on a 7-0 vote, would make killing a dog or cat for food a misdemeanor.

Supporters of the bill said they were concerned about reports that refugees from Southeast Asia were killing dogs and cats to eat, a customary practice in their homelands.

One of six known hairless cats in the world went on display in Sacramento at Cal Expo.

It's the Epidermis, a hairless Spinx, an unusual feline specimen because it lacks body hair. Owner Bill Benson says the cat is almost priceless because of a rare mutation...it's the offspring of another hairless cat mated to an American short hair.

Benson says it's useless to mate two hairless cats because the offspring always die. American short-haired cats can be used for mating, but they also must have the recessive gene to get the hairless mutation.

The cat was at the Sacramento Valley Cat Fanciers' annual show.

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ED in El Cajon, Calif. sent a photo of SCOOBY-DOO. Ed says he is German-Australian Shepherd. He loves paper, beer, herb tea, chop-suey, pop corn, peanuts & just anything. He says Hi to Pooka, his brother in mischief.

A very nice-looking dog person. Too bad we can't print color photos at present.

BOBBI in Pittsburgh sez: my idea about doing a protection ritual for animals didn't go over so good. I recieved one response. But I'm going to do one on March full moon anyway. If anyone else is interested, they'll probably contact me by then.

Miffy got cut really bad on Sunday. I had her & Zeus out for a walk, and it was snowing really bad. She must have stepped on broken glass. I didn't know it until we got into the house & she started licking her paw. We (me & Walt) couldn't get it to stop

cont. next page

DOG DAYS continued

bleeding. I couldn't believe how bad it was bleeding. I wrapped it really tight, and we took her to the vet. It was snowing so hard Walt could hardly see the road.

The vet had to keep her overnight 'cause she had cut through some tendons. I felt really sorry for her. She's home now and doing pretty good. Her one toe is crippled, but she can walk ok, and it doesn't seem to bother her. We're taking her back Wednesday to get the stitches out.

She's going to put up a fight. I won't be much help because of the baby. So poor Walt will have to take care of holding her down. She weighs 85 lbs. and can fight like hell when she gets to the vet. One time a vet insisted on putting a muzzle on her.

After we got back from the vet Sunday, we discovered a bird in the house. Zeus was diving from the couch to the coffee table and all over the house trying to catch the bird. We caught the bird, and let it out, unhurt, but Zeus was hunting for it all day.

ED. NOTE: Binding the bleeding foot 'til you got to the vet was good. However, in the case of an unknown source of the cut, it should be inspected before binding just in case a nail or piece of glass may be stuck in the wound. Tight binding with a foreign article still in the wound could cause more damage.

Dogs naturally dislike muzzles. It's much like you'd feel with your hands tied behind your back. I've always held my dog's mouth with my hand if it seemed necessary. They don't seem to mind that as much.

I have found with the many dogs I've had over many years that they will sometimes hate a vet, especially if he hurts them, is rough with them, uses dull needles, or if they sense that he doesn't like animals. The vet's attitude can make a great deal of difference. My staying with them while the vet works on them helps them to be more relaxed.

LADY FAUNA in Long Beach sez: we have a dog, too. His name is Tramp. He's almost 3 months old...part Shepherd, part St. Bernard, and part Great Dane. He's tan with black markings and is just adorable. He was Dean's birthday present.

ED. Note: sounds like a very nice puppy...but I think you'll feel like you're feeding a horse by the time he's full-grown. Purina Puppy Chow would be good for him, and young dogs really seem to like it. A good vitamin for puppies & dogs is PET TABS made by Beecham Laboratories. Cost about \$7. for 150, available only from the vets.

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

...having a wonderful time when the little neighbor dog digs a hole under the fence so he can come in the yard to play.
...trying to bite the neighbor when he comes to take my friend home.

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Anglo-Saxon Magic: A Review and a Little Bit Extra
By WYNDEL

The Anglo Saxon period in England is one of the oldest of which written records are extant; and as such is a fertile area of study for the serious student of the Craft and it's origins.

Anglo-Saxon Magic by Dr. G. Storms is concerned with this period and it's magico-medical practices, and is drawn from the surviving Anglo-Saxon manuscripts on medicine; the Lacnunga and the Leechbook.

Part one is a fascinating discussion of magic and the magical cures practices of the period's doctors and part two discusses 86 (given) cures or charms for various infirmities and afflictions, while the appendix gives 16 prayers of various origins used as charm formulas.

Although rather expensive at \$50.00 per copy (366 pages in a very durable library binding) it is available from Folcroft Library Editions, and is an exceptional piece of scholarship well worth the price to the serious researcher.

One part of especial interest is section A1 of Appendix 1: TRACTATUS MEDICI DE VERTUTIBUS HERBARUM. This is described as "...a hymn to Mother Earth and is of pagan origin..." and the oldest version dates back to the sixth century C. E.

The following is a translation from the original Latin as it appears in Anglo-Saxon Magic.

Holy Goddess Earth, Mother of the things of nature, who bringest life to all things and bringest them back to life; because Thou alone surpasseth the tribes.

Guardian of Heaven and also of the sea, Guardian of the Gods and of the oracle-women through whose sleep silent nature speaks.

And Thou who restoreth the day and drive away the night, Thou protector, covering the shadows of the dead and the boundless lower world, ruling the winds and the rain clouds.

Thou holdest back the storms, and when it pleases, Thou sendest away and confound the raging seas; and Thou drivest away the sun and producest tempests.

And likewise, when thou wishest, thou sendest forth the cheerful day, and thou allotest the food of life with continuous trust, and when the soul will have retired, toward Thee we flee back.

Also Thou art called Great, Thou Mother of Gods, by dutiful conduct Thou hast vanquished a well-known God.

Thyself, power of the tribes and mother of Gods, without Whom neither is anything made ripe nor can it be born.

Anglo-Saxon Magic: continued

Thou art mighty.
Thou art Queen of the Gods.
O Divine One.

I entreat thee, a Goddess, and I invoke thy Name, and this easy thing fulfill Thou for me, which I ask thee; and I shall deliver thanks, O Goddess, to Thee which deserved fidelity.

Listen to a lament and be favorable to my prayers. This which I beseech Thee, O Goddess, for me perform.

Thou wanting green plants of whatever kind, Thy greatness produces them, for the sake of health Thou assignest them to all the people, and in order that Thou should concede to me the following means of Thine.

Come to me with Thy virtues, whatever of these (cures) I shall have made, may it have good consequence, to everyone I shall have given the same, may Thou cause to succeed whatever Thou grantest, in Thee all things collectively retreat.

Deservedly they well have received the same goodness from me; the same healthy things that Thou offerest.

Now O Goddess, I request that thy majesty should fulfill this to me, that I, as a suppliant, ask thee.

Now I beg of all you mighty green plants, and I prevail upon your majesty.

You, whom Mother Earth has brought to life, and has given to all peoples as a gift, and has put together in you medicine of purity and grandeur for the whole human race; may you be a very useful help.

This I kneeling implore.

I entreat secondly (that you) come hither with your goodness because the One that has created you Herself, has allowed me to assemble you, this being favorable even to the ones to whom the medicine has been handed over, and as much as your goodness can offer this medicine a good cause, a service of health.

I request for me, may you perform for me through your virtue so that for all men whichever of you I shall assemble, that it may have a good result very swiftly and good consequences, so that I may always be allowed, Majesty being favorable, to gather you, and struggling for you, to relieve the fruits of the earth; and I shall express thanks, through the Name of Greatness, that She ordered you to be born.

The original Latin version in A.-S. Magic was not broken up into three parts; I did this in the final transcription into

Anglo Saxon Magic: Cont. . .

English to show the internal structure of the work and how it relates to its usage.

In general, the entire TRACTATUS is an invocation and prayer for the blessings of the healing herbs and was apparently recited when herbs were picked or gathered for use in medicines.

The first part is an invocation of an unnamed goddess. She is referred to by several titles but the sacred or secret name is not written; much in the tradition of the lapwing and rowbuck of Graves' White Goddess.

The second part constitutes a prayer requesting of the Goddess healing herbs in their optimum strength, Her blessing in their gathering, preparation and use, and indirectly Her permission (or leave) to gather them.

The third part is a prayer to the herbs themselves for efficacy and the conclusion of the invocation and prayer of the first two parts.

In all, this is a most effective piece of ritual magic, and a fascinating look into the pagan beliefs of the period.

A GREETING TO THE RISING MOON

By Rik in Tucson

When you see the Moon as it first rises, you may perform this greeting as a sign of devotion.

Sit comfortably until you see the Moon begin to rise. Stand with your feet together and your hands before your loins in the following position; place all four finger tips and the thumb of one hand on the same fingertips and thumb of the other hand. Point the finger tips down and the thumbs up to form an elongated oval, pointed at the top and bottom and open between your palms. This is the ancient sign of the Goddess which was taken and used by the christians. As the Moon rises, allow your hands to slowly rise until they are at the level of your solar plexis.

Just as the Moon clears the horizon and you see Her in Her entirety, separate your hands and move into the Goddess Position: Spread your legs and arms to their full length so that your body forms a star, your head, hands and feet being one of the points each. Tilt your head back slightly and hold your hands out in a cupped manner. If you wish a blessing,

A GREETING TO THE RISING MOON cont.

then hold your right palm up and your left palm to absorb the Power more easily and do a short invocation to the Goddess. This rite came to me in the Autumn of 1980 as I sat and watched the Moon rise over the desery.

A GREETING TO THE RISING SUN

By Rik in Tucson

When you see the sun as it first rises, you may perform this greeting to Him as a sign of devotion.

Sit comfortably until you see the Sun begin to rise.

Stand with your feet slightly apart and your hands at your sides in the following position: extend your index finger and little finger, holding the two middle fingers against the palm with your thumb.

This is the ancient sign of the Horned God.

As the Sun rises, slowly allow your hands to rise until they are on a level with your shoulders still at your sides.

As the Sun clears the horizon, move into the God position: feet together and arms crossed over your heart at the wrists.

You may now do a short invocation to the Horned God if you wish.

HERBS OF VENUS

By James Excell in Colorado

A key concept in dealing with Venusian symbology and attributes is harmony. The balancing force represented by one of Venus rulerships, Libra, may be taken as an apt metaphor for the playing out of the idea of harmony on every level of endeavour. Thus the sense of the aesthetic, of empathy and love, manifest on all levels, is emphasized. It is the sphere of Netzach to which Venus is attributed - the ecstatic consciousness that is a wellspring of creativity.

The herbs of Venus serve these ideas, each in their own fashion. Venus rules the eliminative organs (with a subsidiary interest in the genitals, as well), which in their total function act to restore and maintain a harmonious systemic balance in the physical body which ideally carries through into more rarefied levels of function.

All of the herbs are stimuli of one sort or another. Their principal action is aphrodisiacal, but several also relieve difficulty in various organs of elimination. Several herbs, also effect functions pertaining to Aphrodite as an aspect of

HERBS OF VENUS cont,

the Great Mother. Rosebuds may be taken to relieve uterine cramps, while mandrake promotes the onset of childbirth. Vervain and fennel (taken with barley water) both stimulate the flow of milk.

The seemingly endless variety of elementative functions are effected in a wide variety of ways by the Venusian herbs. Rosebuds act to purify the blood and, in a decoction with wine, serve as an invigorating heart and nerve tonic. Vervain is an effective astringent while coriander is an aromatic, antispasmodic stimulant that promotes the efficient function of the entire digestive system. Loveage is an aromatic diuretic, generally used for digestive, kidney and urinary problems. It relieves water retention, brings on menstruation, and a decoction makes an excellent cosmetic skin lotion. Orris is a diuretic and stomachic used most often to purify and relieve congestion in the liver.

It is, however, the mood-elevating, psychotropic, empathic and aphrodisiac qualities that preponderate in the herbs of Venus. Even the dense wood of the jyrte in its polished marble smoothness imparts by its very touch an air of sensuality. Vervain has been used since ancient times in love philtres and good luck charms as well as being an invigorating tonic. Coriander also has its aphrodisiac qualities, but it is Damiana that has earned a wide reputation in modern times as an aphrodisiac. Its action seems to be more as a psychotropic and hypnogogue than as an actual physical stimulus. It promotes an empathy level that with proper nurturing leads to telepathic bonding, which, after all, is the best form of aphrodisiac.

Perhaps the mandrake in its action indicates the flip side of damiana. It is the darker analogue to the gentle but powerful flow of emotion that damiana facilitates. Mandrake is an extreme cathartic (as is love) and produces a severe, often shock to the system (as does love). European mandrake, in preparations that minimize the severity of effect, has also been used to relieve melancholy. Damiana and mandrake quite effectively symbolize in their respective function, the polarities of the ecstatic sphere of Netzach and thus Venus, and love itself.

* * *

BEING A WITCH IS.... from Ellen in N. Hollywood

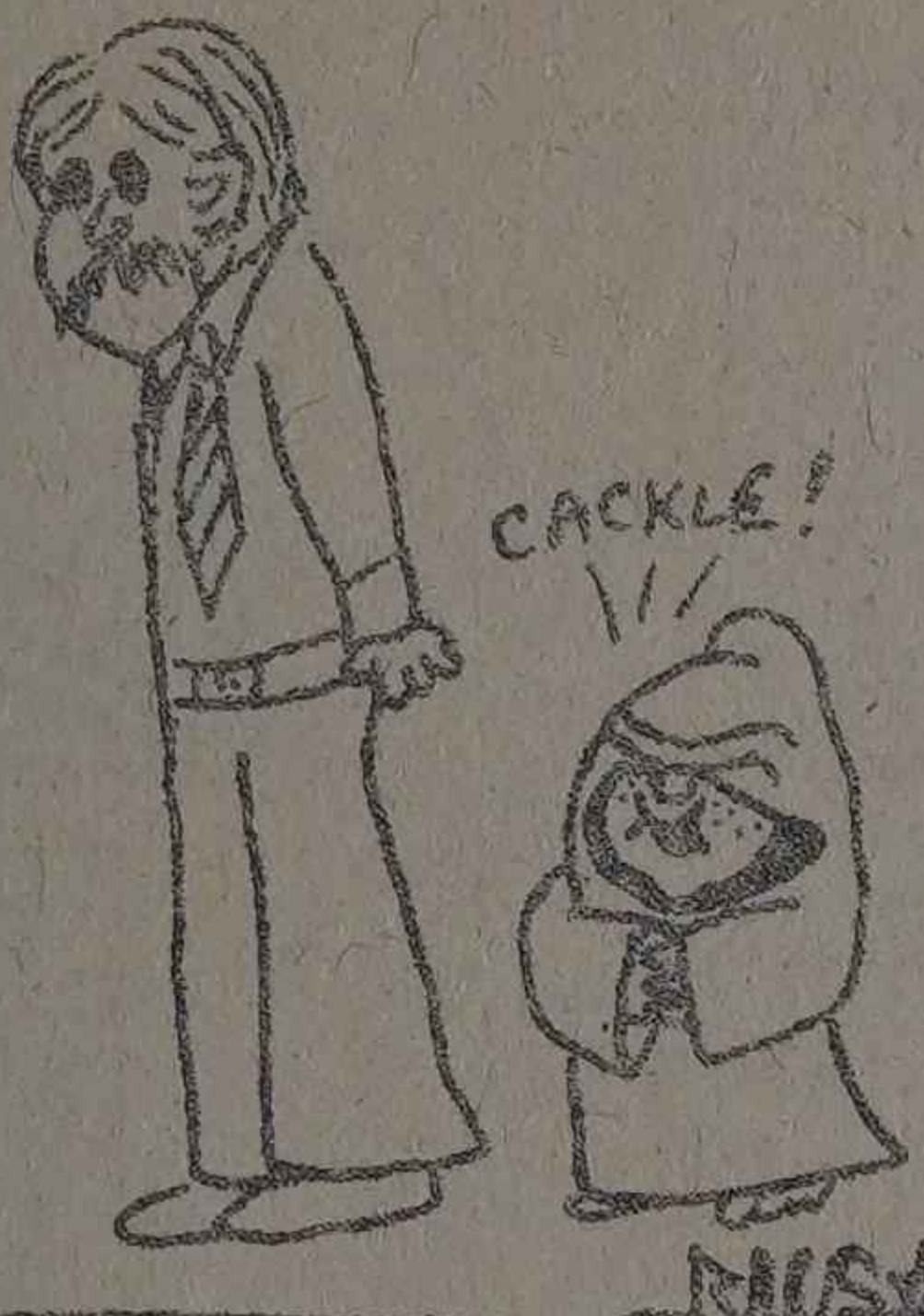
...planting bulbs in September while considering the symbolism of the brown dry bulbs sleeping through the winter and bringing forth life in the Spring...
and having them come up in October.

...having to take people's word for it that the sun is up there.

* * * * *

Gwenkin

RUS, I GOT A COMPLAINT AGAINST THAT LITTLE WITCH OF YOURS!



CAKLE!

RUS



NO, DIS AIN'T DA DOGHOUSE; IT'S DA MYSTIC ARFS CENTER!



O, CERBERUS!



DOGHOUSE, MY DUPA? WHAT ABOUT DAT BIG HOLE IN DA BENCH?

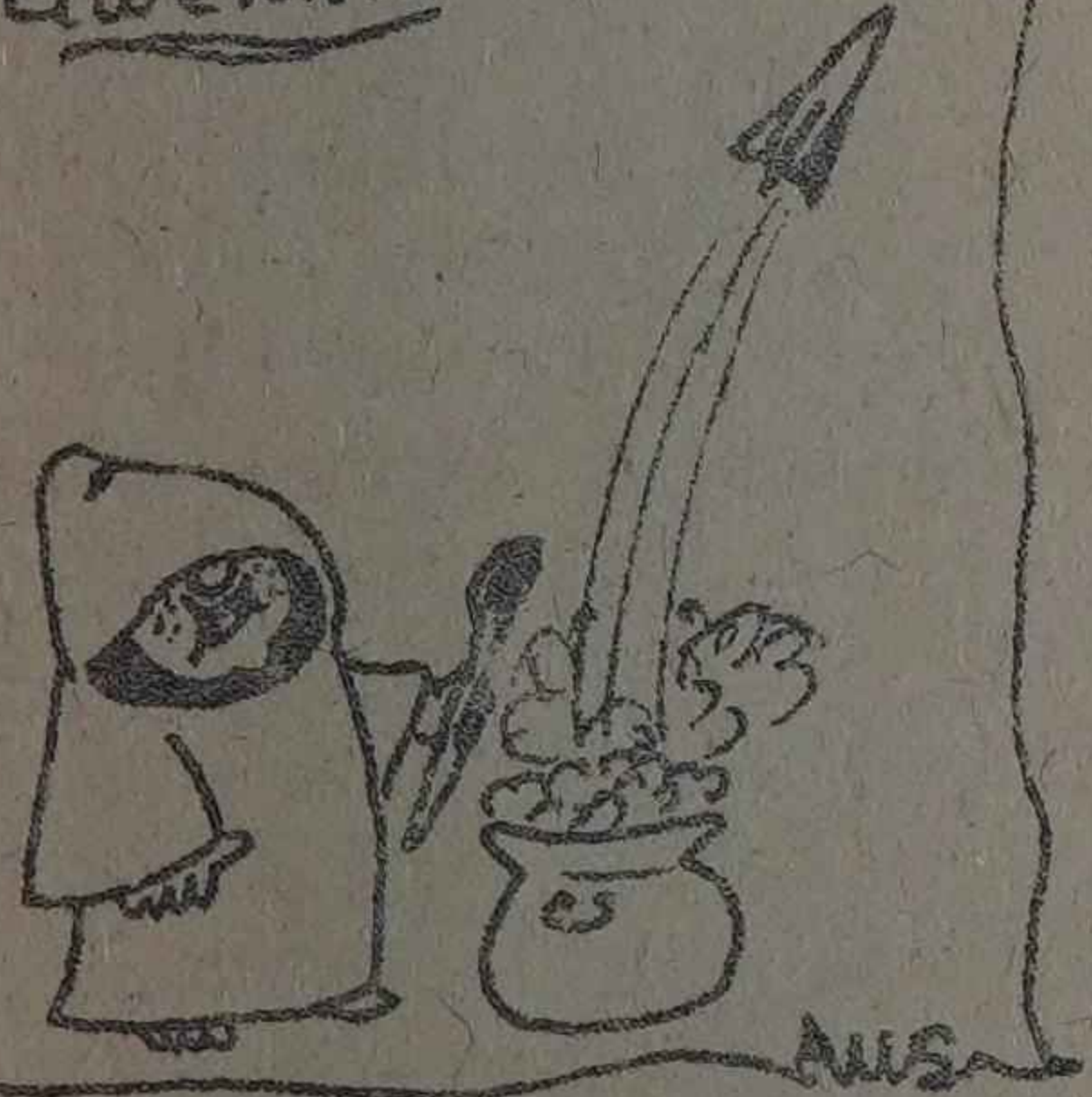


WE GOT A SPY IN HERE; I HEAR IT PURRING!



WOTTA PARTY LAST NITE!!! D'YOU REMEMBER IF I WUZ THERE?

Gwenkin



AUS



ER...UM... GUESS WHAT!



SAMHAIN AT THE PROMETHEAN COVENSTEAD.

STUFF & THINGS

PENNY in Bradenton, Florida sez: (phone call) Jennie from Gainesville got here for Candlemas, and recieved her initiation. She and Jeff were also handfasted. Nice meeting with 14 in our Circle that day. We had another initiation the following day. We also had a very nice Lupercalia.

ED. NOTE: we're happy to hear that Jennie finally made it. She started her studies while living in Maine, then moved to Florida, but that trip to Bradenton has really taken a long time.

* * *

SYLVIA in Lawndale, Cal. sez: Got a microwave. Finally. They're great. Sure saves time. I should switch from Vino to ? Can't afford that hard stuff. Oh well, my little ones don't like getting loaded, and we always let our animals have a taste of what we eat or drink. Things are moving along slow but sure in re-doing our old home. Mother Goddess has been good to me.

ED. NOTE: Sylvia, you're better off without that hard stuff..better for your health. Also, a recent news item said that wine drinkers are less likely to have heart attacks.

I never give Wickian Pooka or Sirius anything alcoholic, but if anyone sets a glass of wine on the floor or on the ground, they will help themselves.

Microwaves are nice but have their limitations. I cooked everything in it for about the first week, but now use it mostly for hot dogs, melted cheese or garlic bread, and cooking bones for the dog people.

* * *

NATURES'S REALM by Lilli in Costa Mesa

The crystal azure waters
Of the rolling seas
Harbor sea sprite daughters
Bounced on wave wash knees.

The deep green forest bowers
Of wooded hills and dales
Have spirit folk and flowers
That live in many tales.

The bright clear sky above
Is trimmed with cloudy lace.
There soars the eagle and the dove
And an airy, fairy race.

The flickering orange red flame,
Dancing on dry wood,
Was once a door where demons came,
But now it's used for good.

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

PUCK in Bakersfield sez: An urgent request. HELP! As some of you know, I am trying to put together a songbook of the many songs I've written, containing several Sabbat songs, as well as some others which the Georgians and other Pagan folk who've heard them enjoyed. I need help in finding an arranger for them, as well as suggestions on how and where to get them copyrighted and actually putting it all together. As I hope to have the songs themselves written by Lammas, at the latest, the sooner I can get help on this, the less I'll have to wait for finding out what to do and how to go about doing it. Any positive advice on this would be greatly appreciated! Send your letters, suggestions, etc. to: PUCK, POB 1993, Bakersfield, Cal. 93302...or write to me in care of the newsletter.

I guarantee that those who help will get full credit in the songbook and on the copyrighted songs for arranging them. I hope to make this the first of many songbooks celebrating my love of the Lady and Lord, and I look forward to hearing from any and everyone who'd like to help a struggling Wiccan musician.

BLESSED BE

PUCK

* * *

LAUREL in Utah sez: I'm enclosing two newspaper articles from the Daily Utah Chronicle. Just thought you might be interested in seeing to what new heights of the absurd this poor Valley has now sunk. Hopefully we will be moving back to California in the near future, but one can never tell. The poor Mormons here see a Devil behind every cabbage leaf! Our local radio station is constantly harping on how awful the "Devil Worshipers" are (true, we do have some Satanists in the Valley, but the Mormons don't know they are here). Anyone who does Astrology, or reads Tarot Cards is labeled a Witch. I'm expecting them to start dunking or burning folks any day now! So very sad, but something which we've all learned to live with, I'm sure.

ED. NOTE: Laurel has told us before of the problems in her area. The enclosed articles, however, I think, involved a misunderstanding. The original article from Professor Morley gave many quotes regarding the beliefs of the public, past and present, regarding Witchcraft. He did not say they were his beliefs. A Witch, Callie Morgan, wrote a letter to the editor which was also printed. The letter was very good in explaining the Craft, but the writer apparently thought that Morley was expressing his own belief. Anyway, thank you for the articles, Laurel.

* * *

BEING A WITCH IS....
...wonderful.

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FROM UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

PALO ALTO, CALIF. - A Stanford University study says The Moral Majority and other conservative religious groups are getting more credit than they deserve for affecting the outcome of the 1980 election.

In a study just released, Professors Seymour Martin Lipset and Earl Raab said the election of Ronald Reagan was the result of a general conservative trend that had very little to do with moral issues of fundamental religion.

Their findings were based on a number of polls and surveys showing the impact of religious groups on the election was "much exaggerated" and that the country's political swing to the right was greater among non-evangelicals than born-again Christians.

Lipset, President-elect of The American Political Science Association, said The Moral Majority and other such groups have been "very good at getting publicity" and creating the impression they are a decisive force in American politics.

* * *

Researchers in Turkey say Disco music makes mice homosexual.. ..and could trigger the same reaction in humans.

According to a report in a Turkish newspaper, researchers at the Aegean University in Izmir "discovered that high-level noise -- such as that frequently found in Discos -- causes homosexuality in mice and deafness among pigs."

The researchers added that humans should take a warning from their findings.

* * *

Bob Renphrey of Peterborough, England decided there was only one safe thing to do on Friday the 13 th..spend the day in bed. The 53-yr.-old Renphrey is a bus conductor..and he's so accident prone--especially on Friday the 13 th--that his boss and the regular driver of his bus eagerly agreed with his decision.

His wife Betty keeps a scrapbook which says: he...

- ...was involved in 5 car crashes in 2 years.
- ...walked through a plate glass door, which he said seemed to shatter even before he touched it.
- ...threw a stick for his dog to chase, and watched as the stick hit his wife above the eye. She still has the scar.
- ...crossed a plank bridge, tripped and fell into the river.

Says Betty Renphrey, " even when we go out for a drive, the car usually breaks down, or fog closes around us on a perfectly sunny day." She says she's lost count of the times Bob goes out to do a spot of gardening and staggers back injured after stepping on a rake or an upturned fork.

What's more, she says, "most of the serious accidents happened on Friday the 13 th"..so now, "Bob takes the day off & stays in bed."

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

DIDJA KNOW???

The navy has 34 psychics who job is to track Russian subs. Madame Zodiac in Washington, D.C. is one of them. She gets paid \$400. for one visit a month...each month. Congressman Rhodes is much concerned about Russian psychic viewing for military purposes.

Dade County (Miami) is now short 275 cops. Not enough local people to fill the jobs. Now they have a finder's fee..a \$500. Savings Bond for finding a person to enter the police academy. They will also pay the new cop \$40. per day extra to help him get settled, and a moving allowance of \$1,000 for a single person, and \$1500 if married.

During this century nearly twice as many people have been murdered as have been killed in wars. The murder rate in this country has doubled since 1965. The U.S. has ten times as many murders as other countries.

FROM U.P.I.

The British are so busy keeping stiff upper lips that they don't have much time for kissing. A survey found 16 % of the people cannot recall when they last gave anyone a lingering kiss. Scots kiss the least..9% below the national average...while people in southwestern England most frequently had lip-smacking good times...10% above the national average.

A British man has been sentenced to life in prison after confessing that he tried 7 times to kill his wife after taking out a \$350,000. life insurance policy on his 23-year-old wife. He tried twice to poison her. It didn't work. Twice he tried to get her to sit on the edge of a cliff so he could push her off...but she wouldn't go near enough the edge. Twice he tried to burn the house down, but fires were discovered before she was burned. He tried to run her down with his car but lost his nerve at the last moment and swerved to miss her. The wife told police she was never aware that her life was in danger until her husband confessed.

A woman's dreamy premonition has been credited in preventing a major fire in a convalescent home that houses 39 elderly residents. Frances Vernier awoke early dreaming that a fire had broken out in one of the 3 Santa Clara Valley rest homes she manages. But from the dream, Mrs. Vernier couldn't tell which one was on fire. So she went around to all three. At the second one she stopped at, she found flames shooting out of the gas main to the hot water heater. It took 22 firemen and five rigs to extinguish Mrs. Vernier's latest bad dream. She called the fire department and helped evacuate 39 residents ranging in age from 59 to 97. No one was injured in the blaze.

STUFF & THINGS

CATHERINE & KENT (THE AUSTRALIAN WICCAN) sez: back on costs again, if you could tell your readers that surface mail will take about 6 weeks and keep the cost to \$2. (per copy), it may be of some help. With TAW being much bigger in future, weight will be the problem.

We thought your repro of our pic was very good, especially considering the difficulties in doing it. We have no facility for photo work in TAW, but are working on it. We have a new series in the next issue (enclosed) local news from all the states and o/s. The N.S.W. correspondent is our younger son, Kelly.

The dingo is a feral dog, evolved from dogs gone wild about the time of the first fleet. It is lovely to look at, glossy pale sandy yellow coat, bright & intelligent face, but it is a scavenger, and reputed cowardly. That is the reason cowards in OZ are nicknamed "Dingoe". Many have tried to make it domesticated, but sooner or later it raids the chook pen, or the sheep yard. It is just the nature of the creature, it is wild and a natural hunter.

The inquest into the baby tragedy has not yet resumed, but is one of the wierdest stories ever in OZ. We have a theory that one of the couple's sons, aged about 5 & 7, could have accidentally killed the baby, and that the parents are covering up for him. Time will tell.

I would think the dingo similar in nature to your coyote. We will send a pic when available.

Glad Lady Rowena has been in touch, she is one of our newest HPS's. We had another elevation last Sunday, our dear Lorraine became Lady Ista, and leaves to live in England in March with her twin sons. They are nearly 7, and she wants them raised in European English climate, Wiccan and social that is. We had a beaut Chinese banquet at our local restaurant after the rites, and it was great, being so hot (about 100 deg.) having someone cook & wait on us was a treat.

Blessed Be.

Catherine & Kent

ED. NOTE: Hope people understand about your rates now. Sometimes air mail isn't much faster. Thank you for using one of your stamps showing the Australian Terrier. Also, thank you for the newspaper articles on the baby. From the evidence so far presented, it certainly wouldn't appear that dingos were responsible for the baby's death. Maybe your theory is correct, but if so, the parents were certainly foolish to try to cover it up that way. The photo of the dingo in the newspaper makes them appear to be fairly large, very slim, pointed nose, and short-haired. Too bad if they can't be tamed. It is the nature of dogs to be pack animals..they must have a leader. Dogs in this country that are abandoned will often form into a pack and become very destructive. A dog should not be beaten, but the owner must make the dog understand that he is boss (leader).

* * * * *

A Hallomas Fantasy
By Naunette in Modesto

On a quiet dark evening of ninteen and eighty
Two covens conuened to worship the Lady of Life and Lord of the
Night--

So they geared up their broomsticks for a safe quiet flight.

A Hallowmas feast as has never quite been,

Ceres and Trothland with both of their Queens.

The covenors of Trothland appeared staid and sober

As they arrived in new black winter cover.

The Ceres peoplès costumes were creative as hell!

One was a totally green yoda as well

As a Sinister Lady with whip and black tights.

She looked stern and did give us a general fright.

One brother sported an organ of regeneration so long that I
vow that none in the nation would want to dispense.

Pleasure from anything quite that immense!

He truly wanted to please--

That organ hung down and swong 'tween his knees!

A delightful dancer- a sweet guelded beauty

Did jingle and jangle as part of the duty

To circulate round and with love and trust

Introduse all of each other to us.

Last but not least (you'll think Im fussy)

One prim looking sister dressed like a pussy

She wasn't so prim as she was looking to be

She'd broken her arm playing leapfrog in Karate!

On with Athames!

Late we were waiting, a circle to make
with serious business our attention did take with thoughts of
our loved ones, drawing us closer--

we encircled ourselves as warm as atoaster.

The ceremony went off with hardly a hitch

How can you be wrong if your'e a good witch?

All in all-- it was a devilishly great night!

IN REPLY TO "PARANOID AND THE POWER GAME"
By WYNDEL

As an "old" Crafter (most ways by todays standards!), I really
have to comment on Mariah's article in the January Georgian as
there are several points which I can not in good conscience lea-
ve as is.

In reply to Mariah's opening question, there are dangers in-
herent in the Craft and two obvious danger areas are the practice
of magic and in merely being Craft.

For example, admitting your Craft publically (or being found
out) makes you a target for nuts, freaks, psychos and in general,

IN REPLY TO "PARANOID AND THE POWER GAME"
Cont.

and other groups and individuals in specific. It is not uncommon for Satanists, amateur magicians (usually magick with a Crowley 'K'), and even other alleged "Craft" groups to take magical or psychic potshots at others for poaching their territory or for poaching their territory or for a variety of other alleged reasons.

Magical practice itself always has an element of danger, if you have the knowledge, skill and ability to get results. If you are magically inept, errors are seldom dangerous: nothing times nothing is nothing.

In reply to the next three questions, the answer must be a qualified YES: qualified because although these things can be done, genuine Craft people would not be party to such activities.

There are, however, nasty unscrupulous people in the real world who, by magical and psychic attacks and similar practices of this sort, increase both their power and depths of their depravity while screening their unsavory practices behind the name of Craft.

I don't know to whom, or about whom, Mariah's article is addressed as it seems to be generally aimed at the internal relationships of a coven or group, but power IS and any power can be abused.

Here we seem to be concerned with power of position and magical/psychic power in the Context of the Craft.

Power of position is exemplified by the roles of the HP and HPS in a coven. Contrary to popular opinion, power of position is not a prerogative of rank, but is accorded to the HP and HPS by the coven members out of respect for their knowledge, experience, and (most importantly) their wisdom. This form of power is abused when its reciprocal nature is either not realized or not accepted and acknowledged by all concerned.

The main symptom of this abuse in a coven affects the HP and HPS and is called "God-itis" or "Goddess-itis", in which one or both develop a sort of papal infallibility and superciliousness toward those of lower degree.

This particular "-itis" is one of the main causes of coven friction and the eventual breakup of a group.

Magical power (here defined as the ability and skill to focus psychic energy to accomplish a desired end) is a different situation from power of position. Every person has the potential for magical power, and one of the goals of Craft training is to develop this ability. Along with the realization of magical power must come realization of the responsibilities involved in its use; the power to help is also the power to hinder, just as

IN REPLY TO "PARANOID AND THE POWER GAME"
Cont.

the power to heal is the power to harm, and the power to cure is the power to kill.

Using power or the threat of power TO "Scare" new people, to coerce them, or to force them to anothers will is not a game. It is as close as anyone within the Craft can come to 'sin'. In my own tradition of Torr Wicca anyone doing such things would be an oath-breaker and outlaw, and would at the very least face banishment. Stronger punitive action would also be very seriously considered.

All of this brings us back around to magical and psychic attack, also a part of Mariah's article.

We often hear things like; "everything's going wrong lately... my boss is on my case, I keep getting these damn headaches, I'm always tired and can't seem to get enough sleep, I can't seem to get anything done,...etc. I'm beginning to get the feeling that somebody doesn't like me." This is a common situation and requires that action be taken by examining the astrological transits and discussing the problems individually. Many times a difficult and unrealised saturn transit can set up situations in which problems arise. Usually though, a conscious and logical examination of the problems and situations concerned reveal their causes and solutions, and the discussion itself helps relieve the general malise of frustration and tension.

But if someone phones me at 3 a.m. and says that they're under psychic or magical attack, I will tell them precisely what to do in self-defense rather than take the chance that they might not be around the next day to discuss it.

In many of the newer "sweetness and light" Paganist Traditions it is thought that refusing to acknowledge a nasty situation such as magical or psychic attack will make it go away or prevent it.

This is the real world folks! Fefusal to beleive in psychic and magical nastiness is like denying the existance of nuclear weapons and pollution:

It doesn't make them go away either.

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BEING AN L.A. WITCH IS....

from Ellen In N. Hollywood

...standing in your front yard, your nose & eyes full of smoke from a forest fire in the hills, with your arms around a tree, trying to comfort her for the loss of her sisters.

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STUFF & THINGS

THE FOUR FIRE FESTIVALS, a book by Adam McLean, is available from Megalithic Research Publications, 12 Antigua St, , Edinburgh 1, Scotland. Price is \$4. Don't know if that includes postage.

TOM in Pottsville, Pa. sez: In regards to Armeeta's Goodies from Page 14 of the Feb. issue I wish to relate the following:
QUESTION: In which position is it better to sleep?

There is a constant alternating magnetic flow from the North to the South Pole of the earth, which is conducive to welfare of life. Because of man's relationship to this terrestrial energy, when he sleeps with his head to the north and his feet to the south, his sleep, in many cases, is more sound and restful.

However, some find that when the bed is changed to a position from east to west, with either the head or feet pointing toward the east or west, the sleeper's rest is more thorough. This is not merely an idle hypothesis. Try this test of the influences of the earth's magnetic rays upon yourself. You will be surprised at the effect it has on your sleep.

Blessed Be.

Tom C.

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JOHN in Wisconsin Rapids sez: We've been quite busy here & have formed a study/discussion group for those interested in the Craft & Paganism as a religion. It is based off the format of Pagan Way & Seax Wicca groups & will function as they do for networking, but will not confer initiations into any other aspect of the Craft. But will conduct Worship rituals of the Pagan Way & Seax Wicca. Anyone who is interested can write to: Temple of the Pagan Way & Seax Wicca, POB 131, Wi. Rapids, Wi. 54494.

Also, we have set up another study/discussion group for those who are interested in Ceremonial Magick & Qabalah as geared to Paganism Spiritual Discipline & Psychic development. This group will not confer initiations nor indulge in any form of Demonology. Those interested in this can write to the Fellowship of the Holy Grail, POBox 131, Wi. Rapids, Wi. 54494. Most of the material will be presented through our quarterly magazine, The Raven News & Brews. Rates of sub is \$3. per issue or \$10. per year. Each issue about 15 pages.

BEING AN L.A. WITCH IS...

from Ellen in No. Hollywood

...being within an hour of the sea, the mountains; the desert
-- so many kinds of the beauty of the Goddess.

...trying to get in tune with the seasons when L.A. only
has two -- wet and dry.

BEING A WITCH DOG IS.... from Sirius

...asking the Goddess to guard your bone.

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STUFF & THINGS

ELLEN in North Hollywood sez: A catholic friend shared something rather nice with me. Her priest got up and informed everyone that God had forsaken no one -- that pagans (and he used the word specifically) were not deserted by God, and that he didn't want to see or hear of any religious intolerance by any member of his church. Now that's nice to hear -- and quite a change.

In answer to Mariah's comments on going public. Put me down as one who will, and not because I seek fame or fortune, or even notoriety. I am willing because of all the reasons she gave for not going public. How can we expect any of that to change as long as the only information the public receives is negative? How can we fight the propaganda if we don't replace it with the truth?

Every single religion -- and most cultural groups -- have been discriminated against at one time of their lives. We still are. Why is that? The Christians, the Mormons, the Irish, the blacks, the Jews -- they've all had to put up with the same problems we have.

And she's right -- most of the "public" Witches have been those who are your basic notoriety seekers. They've done us little good, and sometimes have done us harm. But not all of them. I'm sure Marion Weinstein's radio show has helped. I'm sure Karen's lectures and media appearances have helped. The same goes for Jim and Selena of Circle! But they can't do it all.

Some of us must be willing to put up with the problems involved in order to make it possible for us to live our religion freely and openly. It won't happen overnight. It might not even happen in our generation. But if some of us -- lots of us come out and show what the Craft really is, then one day, it will happen.

True, not all can go public. True, you might find yourself ostracized in the neighborhood. But I have no children to be hurt at school, and I am basically self-employed. I have little to lose. I will be willing to give lectures -- have one all ready to give, if I can find some takers.

I've been doing something little -- I started wearing my "Trust in the Goddess" button on my jacket. Believe it or not, I've had no negative comments. People ask "What does it mean?" I answer, "It means I believe we have a heavenly mother as well as a heavenly father." The reaction is usually, "Well, that makes sense." Hardly equal to burning me at the stake.

RUNES \$7. a year, \$1. an issue.
BOX 9513
N. Hollywood, Ca. 91605

BEING AN L.A. WITCH IS

...pretending the smog is incense smoke.

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THE HIGH PRIESSTESS from Shadowhawk

"SAY IT WITH FLOWERS"

In my last column, I mentioned "Victorian Flower Language". I'd like to tell you a bit more about this quaint custom now. I'll just give you a logical guess as to how it all started.

In those days, one did not go on a date unescorted until engaged to be married or married. And the subject of love could not be discussed in front of a frowning chaperone (if you were male, or not at all if you were female). So lovers exchanged bouquets - usually by messenger. That is how the language was probably popularly used.

As to its beginnings, well, there are two likely probabilities - one, is that the servants invented it as a way of communicating the "mood of the home." Every Victorian home big enough, rich enough to have servants, had an entry hall, and in that entry hall was a flower arrangement on a table. Also, servants could, in this way, send an insult to the master and not be punished for it, or communicate privately to one another.

The other probability also comes from the lower classes - the "Flower Sellers" invented it as a way to sell bouquets - taking the meanings from "superstition", and/or the Christian Church which used flowers in the services and for offerings...or, perhaps both emerged together.

In Victorian London, England, there was a Street of Flowers, where all the flower sellers hawked their goods. This was a very popular strolling place for young lovers - So take your pick as to probabilities.

We are going to list some phrases and their flowers. To use these in ritual, we are using the whole mature blossom in an arrangement in a vase or other suitable vessel. These meanings do not relate to planetary attributes, or use in incense or any other magical compounds.

However, the list is so long, we'll wait until next month to give that to you.

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BEING A WITCH KID IS from Justin B. in Pittsburgh

...saying "Goddess Bless You" when your grandmother sneezes.

...volunteering to make the "witch" for your school's Halloween party...and drawing your mother.

...never outgrowing "fairy tales".

YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN TROUBLE WHEN.... from Joyce B.

... the rabbit dies.

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GOODIES FROM ARMEETA

During the second World war, the Russian pilots had to eat carrots to keep their vision clear and eyes in good condition. Carrots (Vitamin A) are particularly good for people troubled with night blindness...not being able to see at night to drive.

Fennel helps assuage hunger or makes a person less apt to eat (if they constantly need to nibble and eat). Vitamin C helps in this manner, too. It seems that the person's (so I sometimes think) system needs the vitamin C as the body does not manufacture any, and nature wants to get what it can from food; and when enough gets into the system, a person seems satiated..

Astrologers maintain that if and when a person goes on a reducing diet, they should start during the fourth phase of the moon, or at any rate, during the waning from Full to New Moon. A person born during or near the Full Moon is more likely to be heavy... fat and round like the Full Moon. Also, an afflicted Jupiter and/ or Neptune have a tendency to put on weight. Afflicted Jupiter will eat and eat and likes fancy gourmet foods. Neptune afflicted has a tendency to drink and often retains water.

People born in the fourth quarter of the moon either marry late in life or not at all. Also, babies born just prior to the New Moon are often sickly in infancy, and some don't make it.

People are born at the same time of day as when the parents were making love or at time of conception, but there is a hair-breath's difference as conception can sometimes occur later. Most people, or the majority, are born in the evening or night.

Don't know whether this is worth mentioning or not. You know how I feel about buying food or anything in plastic containers. Many companies are putting up vinegar in plastic containers..gallon jugs. We went to about 6 supermarkets to find apple cider vinegar in glass containers, then finally went about 15 miles to an independent store and found some put up by Musselmans. Apple cider vinegar is good for so many things (particularly if taken into the body..better than white) healthwise, as well as around the house. Can you imagine that vinegar setting in a store leaching the plastic, as vinegar is an acid. The better grade food processors stay away from using plastic containers. Yes, it's cheaper and less breakage and cheaper weight-wise to transport. For anyone who is interested in many hints for vinegar usage...you can write to two places, but please enclose postage.

Vinegar Institute
c/o Robert Kellen Co.
64 Perimeter Center
East Suite 790
Atlanta, Georgia 30346

Lois Millner
Willernie, Minnesota 55090

It might take a little while to get them.

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MEETINGS AND THINGS

THE PACIFIC CIRCLE, an informal gathering for pagan folk, will be held June 19-21, 1981 at the Chilao Campgrounds in the Angeles National Forest.

There will be a Midsummer Rite, a Moon Rite, and possibly other surprises. A wooded, mountain area with plenty of room to put your tent or sleeping bag. Away from major highways, so no traffic noise.

Registration: \$10. per person, \$18. per couple. Groups of 5 or more, \$8. per person. Children under 10 are free..but let them know how many are coming. Pagan-related products are welcome. Make checks payable to Julie King.

The Pacific Circle, Box 9513, N. Hollywood, Ca. 91609.

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CIRCLE is sponsoring two major Pagan festivals in 1981:

The PAGAN SPIRIT GATHERING is being held June 18-21 at a 170 acre private Nature Sanctuary in Southwestern Wisconsin. This national-international gathering is open to Witches and other Pagans on positive paths everywhere. The gathering will include Nature walks and meditations, shamanic dancing & music making, feasting, rituals, some workshops, plus several Pow Wow discussions. A brochure with registration info will be available in the Spring. CIRCLE, BOX 9013, MADISON, WI. 53715.

The STARWOOD FESTIVAL is being held July 17-19 at Cooper's Lake Campground in Western Pennsylvania. Circle and the Chameleon Club are sponsoring this New Age-Magickal Pagan festival for folks in the Eastern part of the U.S. and Canada. The Festival will include rituals, music, merry-making, and a wide variety of workshops. Registration info will be available in the Spring. The CHAMELEON CLUB, BOX 174, PERRY, OH. 44081 for info.

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HELP!

BONNIE sez: I am considering opening a supply shop here in Pascagoula. There is a need here as there is only one along the Gulf Coast that I know of. I need to know where to get serious books on Wicca and related subjects, and other supplies. Bonnie Buchanan, 4106 Old Mobile Hwy., Pascagoula, Miss. 39567.

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AGING IS WHEN.... from Don in Lomita

...you look forward to a dull evening.

...you walk with your head high trying to get used to bifocals.

...your favorite part of the newspaper is 25 years ago today.

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STUFF & THINGS

The 1981-82 International Guide to PSI Periodicals is now available, 68 pages listing publications around the world. \$4.50 includes postage. Inner-Space Interpreters Services, POB 1133, Magnolia Park Station, Burbank, Ca. 91507.

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We have some back issues of the Georgian Newsletter available. March, July, August, September, November of 1978. All of 1979 except August, September, & December. All of 1980 except July. Please give an alternate choice since in a few cases there is only 1 copy available. 50¢ each...includes postage.

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Don't forget to order your KAM Newsletter. Published twice a year...Midsummer & Yule. \$2. each. KAM, POB 34464, Bethesda, Md. 20034.

CIRCLE Newspaper \$5. yr. Circle, POB 9013, Madison, Wi. 53715.

Midsummer Pagan Festival, June 19-22, at Big Trees Meadow, East Bay Regional Parks, Oakland, Calif. \$15. per person, children under 12 free. For info: Midsummer Pagan Festival, Forever Forests, POB 212, Redwood Valley, Ca. 95470.

MOONSTONE is published cross-quarterly on each of the Sabbats. \$6. year U.S. & Canada, \$9. overseas..surface mail. MOONSTONE, POB 9865, Atlanta, Ga. 30319.

Llewellyn Catalog (lots of books) POB 43383, St. Paul, Min. 55164

The Wise Woman newsletter, POB 19241, Sacramento, Ca. 95819. \$4. for 4 issues per year.

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GEORGIA in Oklahoma says she is having a few problems because some lou-mouth relative has been telling everyone she is a Witch. And someone trying to claim her marriage here was not legal in an attempt to cause a financial problem.

ED. NOTE: Don't you believe it, Georgia. Each Handfasting that has been performed here has been legal so long as there was a license and it was filed at the Hall of Records. Don't let 'em fool you. You can write to the Hall of Records to get a copy.

BEING A WITCH IS

...wishing everyone had sense enough to be one.

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STUFF & THINGS

It is unfortunante that the crime & violence situation seems to get worse every day. Manon called from Modesto the other night to say that an hour after she left work, the store was held up. The clerk on duty had a heart attack when the holdup man waved a gun in his face. Manon asked that we send some energy since the clerk was in the hospital in critical condition. Fortunately, it was the night for Pagan Way meeting here so we had some people available. Manon reported next day that the clerk was in stable condition. We hope all is well by the time you recieve this.

* * *

I got another dog person the other day. She is a Border Collie, a beautiful glossy black body, with white belly, white chest and wide collar, a white nose and 4 white feet. She gave no indication of being in heat so I put her in the yard with Wickian Pooka. But ...I could have been wrong. Form what happened about 10 minutes later, there could be a batch of furry puppies on the way...not what I had in mind.

Since I have to keep Pooka & Sirius separated (they both want to be boss), I thought a little female could spend part of her time with each of them to play with no fighting. So, that part is work - ing fine. She gets along great with both of the. Haven't definitely decided on a name for her,; just calling her "Lady" for the present. Any suggestions?

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You'll notice that this issue is a bit longer than usual. We were getting toomuch of a backlog. Without Lady Selena's help in typing, we probably wouldn't have it finished yet. We'll be 3 days late getting this in the mail for several reasons...a short month, availability of people to prepare for mailing, and more pages. Guess I'll get a few dozen phone calls & letters from people complaining that they haven't recieved it yet. Most of the time the delay is caused by the P.O. It isn't too unusual for people to recieve the newsletter 2 or 3 weeks late. And don't forget, the P.O. will not forward newsletters.

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Sorry it takes so long to replv to some of your letters. Unless a letter needs immediate replay, they don't get answered unless Manon gets here (some weekends she has to work) and if there is no Sabbat (they leave no time available).

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If your friends complain that they didn't recieve their news- letter, remind them to check the date on the address label. If it say 4/81, for example, that means the sub is due for April..next edition.

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS.

LOVE AND BLESSED BE.

Pat & All The Georgians