

New Religions Research Center  
 GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION  
 2451 DODD ROAD  
 BERKELEY, CA 94709

MERRY MEET, ALL YOU HAPPY CRAFTERS AND PAGANS.

BAKERSFIELD - No Sabbats in April but we're busy preparing for Beltane, which comes just a bit too late for this issue. Tanya and Greg (Los Angeles) were initiated here this month. Congratulations. We're happy to have them join us. Tanya enjoys working outside, so while she was here she insisted on cutting the tall grass with the weed eater. Did a good job, too. Then she decided to give the dogs a bath. I filled their little swimming pool with water, and Tanya got busy. As soon as she finished bathing Pook and Lady, they decided to roll in the dirt. Poor Tanya. She was so discouraged that Sirius didn't get a bath. Funny thing is, as soon as they dried and shook the dust off, Pooka and Lady appeared spotless.

Julie and Puck did a ritual at one of the weekly meetings, something they adapted from Pagan Way material with a lot of additions. Came out beautifully. Judith and Puck conducted the Full Moon ritual. Very well done.

We're also busy this month preparing for the Tomfoolery Fair at Cal State Bakersfield, Saturday, May 16. We've had a booth there each year since they started. We make very little money but we have a good time.

Sorry we're still running late answering some of the mail. Manon has to work some weekends so she doesn't always get here to help with that. Any mail that doesn't require an answer probably won't get one. Anyway, if you see it in print, you'll know I got it. If a reply isn't too personal, it may be in the newsletter.

Don't forget, always make it clear if anything you write is not for publication. And for articles, etc., be sure you make it clear which name or names you want on your writing.

It will be helpful if you make checks to either the Georgian Church or Georgian Newsletter. Makes our bookkeeping easier and helps keep bank accounts straight. If you make them to C.O.W., they have to be deposited to that account and then transferred to the Georgian account, etc.

So we still don't have a location or date for the August Mountain meeting, but Lord Vulcan has promised to spend more time on that problem.

As you know, Lady Allusha (Pismo-S.L.O. area) plans to be there with her new husband. I'm sure we can count on her for one of her wonderful belly dances. She's great. Rus and Ruthi (Arcane Crafts are planning to attend, and they'll bring along some of their new Pagan jewelry designs.

So, in general, all goes well here. We take our own advice: think positive, have fun, enjoy life.

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## STUFF &amp; THINGS

KITTY (Miami area) sez: We will be at this box number 'til June 1 st. Our house has been sold and we have purchased a farm. We will be moving our stuff in June, then use the Summer & Fall to travel...we'll be in too late to grow crops this year. In April we are going to Largo (near Tampa) where I'll be working in the Festival of the Renaissance. July 4 weekend and the week after, I'll be working near Denver at their Renaissance Fair. August 3 rd we'll be in California to see the Renaissance Pleasure Fair, and then sight-see throughout the state. Perhaps we can meet with you during that time.

Early September it's on to N.Y.C., then London. We should be back to the farm in time for Beltane.

Name of the farm is now Moon Shadow's Manor.

Since I wrote last, a neighbor was murdered, shot to death in her car only a few blocks from here. WOW! Are we glad to be leaving!

ED. NOTE: Kitty, you go to the doghouse. You forgot to enclose the box number address. I assume you bought the farm in Missouri that you mentioned earlier.

Kitty sent literature on what she's been doing at the fairs. She and husband give a performance as Lady Jane Grey and Lord Gilford Dudely from past life memories.

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LE ANN in Missouri sez: Well, I finally met some Craft persons here. I attended a seminar (I guess you would call it) at the University's Women's Center. They had a feminist Witch present the program, and it was done in extremely good taste and very positive. Only problem was that it was Goddess oriented aspect and not Goddess?God, but it turned out well. The people who attended ranged in age from the early 20's (college students) to late 40's (faculty/staff, and public).

Artemis spoke on the elements..she had an altar set up and explained the items on it, and held an informal healing ritual with all present. After it was over, several of the people attending were interested in a study group of some type so people may learn more. I hope to become involved in some way so I may learn more and help teach what little knowledge I have. Do you have any suggestions as to what should go into teaching a study group? Would you ask the readers to send me a brief explanation of their traditions. I've been looking at several traditions but would like to know of others. Ruthi & Rus sent a very nice explanation of the Promethean Tradition.

I was reading Armeeta's Goodies in the April issue, and was happy to hear she enjoyed her trip. If anyone is interested in vacationing in southeren or northern Arkansas, they should take a side trip to Branson, Missouri, and visit Silver Dollar City. They have a sort of amusement park, but also have kept alive some of the old traditions...candlemaking, blacksmithing, basket weaving, candy making...a bit of everything for the whole family.

The Ozarks are very pretty and have kept alive many of the old

## LE ANN continued

traditions and are very rich in folklore and remedies. Spring is also a very good time of the year to pick greens. They are a lot like spinach and very good for you..so my grandmother says. There are dandelions, sheep sorrel, sour dock, mustard greens, poke...all sorts of good things. They are picked and washed several times, placed in cold water, and then brought to a boil, then cooked slowly until tender. I've also learned how to cook with game. It's really a change of pace from pork, beef, chicken and fish. I'm still interested in corresponding with others.

Love & Blessed Be

Le Ann Richter

1202 Tandy

Columbia, Mo. 65201

ED. NOTE: Le Ann, I'm sure you know that much material is not available without first being initiated. However, there is much that is available for a study group. You can use the material I sent to you more than a year ago. You also recieved a reading list with the better books marked with an asterisk. If you can find these, you will find a lot of useful information in them that can be used. Go through them, make notes of the most useful parts, then write an outline on each or make notes. There is so much available if you care enough to put the time and work into it.

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## SONG-SHADOWS from Shadowhawk

Brushing my lips in a verse of the Dark  
Your songshadows melt in my mind,  
Touching my ears, like the trill of a lark  
Your song shadows merge in my mind.

As soft as the feathery puffs on the green,  
As easily sailed through the air,  
Your song shadows linger in night scented dreams  
and waft through the clouds of your hair.

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STAN in Chicago phoned to say that THE SILVER SUN (page 10, April) is part of a trilogy and should be read in sequence. THE WHITE HART, THE SILVER SUN, and THE SABLE MOON. Stan also sez regarding DEFENSE OF CEREMONIAL MAGIC, one should read HIGH MAGIC'S AID by Gerald Gardner.

ED. NOTE: I've read it. A very good novel with much info in it.

## DOG DAYS AND OTHER ANIMAL PEOPLE

I hope you got to see the special of THOSE AMAZING ANIMALS. Brooke Shields started it off with a sad segment: puppies and dogs, kittens and cats in an animal shelter. Beautiful little animal people. Then a shot of the door through which 50 thousand a year must pass to be put to death because no one wants them, because thoughtless, stupid people allow their animals to breed indiscriminately instead of spending a few dollars (or in some cases it could be free) to have their animals made sterile.

But the program ended on a happy note. Film of the people of Prince Edward Island gathering up some of the baby Harp Seals to save them from slaughter. They protected them and cared for them, and when the seals were old enough, they were returned to the ocean.

Sorry to say that the bill requiring dogs in pickup trucks to be tied to the truck did not pass in Sacramento. I have seen dogs thrown from pickups as the driver lurched off from a stop or turned a corner too fast. The people at S.P.C.A. said they thought that's what happened to Lady since she was found on a freeway. Probably someone passing through town, she fell off..they didn't know what had happened to her so no one came for her. Fortunately she wasn't killed or badly injured.

I'm sure the legislators who wanted the bill to pass were more concerned with preventing accidents than with saving the dogs, but I'm sorry to say that the farmers fought it and it didn't pass.

This is the time of year when heart worms in dogs can become a problem in some areas. If not treated, they will kill the dog. They are carried by mosquitoes, and enter the blood stream of the dog. There are no special symptoms for this problem so the only way of detecting it is to have the vet take a blood test. If it is found soon enough, there is treatment available. There is also a vaccine to protect against this.

Since the heart worms are carried by mosquitoes, this problem will obviously be more severe in some areas than others. If you can, have your dog tested. At least call your vet and find out if it is a serious problem in your area.

Vets here in Bakersfield are recommending that all dogs get Parvo shots since there is an epidemic here. I'm happy to say that all of my dog children have had their shots. A new vaccine has been developed that protects them for a year instead of a few months. And, in case you didn't know, the rabies vaccine now protects for two years instead of one.

AND THESE FROM U.P.I The director of San Francisco's Catholic Charities, Rev. John O'Connor, which aids Southeast Asian refugees, has enraged animal lovers. He suggested that the refugees be allowed to get--and eat--unwanted pets from the Humane Society.

ED. NOTE: Maybe he'd also like to turn over the prison population to cannibals.

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## DOG DAYS AND OTHER ANIMAL PEOPLE continued

MORE FROM UNITED PRESS: FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA... Marksmen riding in a jet helicopter shot and killed 10 coyotes on the first day of a controversial government effort to increase the antelope population in Arizona by controlling their predators.

An attempt to block the start of the hunt failed when U.S. District Judge Carl Muecke refused the request by the Animal Defense Council Of Tucson. The department contracted for a 3 day hunt in April and 3 days in May. The hunters plan to kill as many as they can.

Well, we have lots more but guess we'd better quit for now

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Now we begin a new series which we expect to continue monthly for about a year...or more. In later columns, any questions from readers may be answered, or possibly answered privately. Be sure to enclose an S.A.S.E with your questions.

## WITCHUALS

by Ruthi (Lady Seanara)

High Priestess, Promethean Coven

POB 383, Mastic Beach, N.Y. 11951

## PART 1 - Introduction to Ritual

Rituals have played an important part in every system of religious belief and practice since the first humans came to know the divine forces. Rituals of worship and magic are vital components of Pagan/Wiccan religion.

We can best define a ritual as an act of magic, a communication with divine forces--the Goddess and the God-- using symbols: visualization, speech, motion, scent, color, objects; which all reinforce each other in their relation to the ritual's purpose, to expand our consciousness in tune with that purpose, accomplishing it effectively.

People have performed rituals ever since they became aware that there were forces outside themselves which governed their existence. As people's awareness grew, they personified the natural forces as Goddesses and Gods, spirits and elementals. Rituals were slowly developed to honor and propitiate the deities, the forces of nature which govern our existence. There were seasonal celebrations, rites of passage, special magical workings for specific needs, and more. Four basic kinds of ritual developed: rituals of worship, to praise the Gods for what is; to ask them for what is needed; and to thank them for what they grant. The fourth kind, rituals of magic, are to aid the Gods in their work.

What makes rituals work? The accumulated power in symbols through thousands of years of traditional usage. Psychic energy, generated by participants through their emotional involvement in the ritual, creates sympathetic vibrations on the astral planes. Divine inspiration makes the ritual flow smoothly, makes it "feel just right".

continued next page

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## WITCHUALS continued

To make any ritual work for you, you must first establish intent. Make sure that all the participants are agreed on the purpose of the ritual and are prepared to work together to accomplish it. Everyone should understand, identify with, and agree on the symbols to be used. Use universal symbols for starters because of the magic inherent in them as a result of thousands of years of tradition. Never do a ritual you don't understand or identify with. Know your parts. Fumbling, reading from books, unnecessary stage directions lessen concentration, diverting energy from the psychic working. Maintain emotional involvement. Stay attuned to the reality of the ritual. Boredom breaks concentration and dissipates energy. Dissent is ruinous to any ritual. Maintain structure. Begin at the beginning, end at the end, and make sure all symbols are used in their appropriate places and relate to the purpose of the ritual.

Most importantly, maintain absolute confidence in the success of the ritual. Doubt destroys everything. The time for questions, even mental reservations, is before the ritual is performed, when you are planning it; or after you have performed it, if you are a neophyte being introduced by an established working group to a ritual which is new to you. Once you have begun the ritual, you must maintain your faith in its efficacy even after you have ended the Circle, for the magic continues to work, accomplishing the purpose, and needs your belief in it to keep working. Faith is the foundation of success of two major religions: Buddhism and Christianity. The faith of the worshippers, magnified by their numbers, creates strong astral thought-forms which have sustained these religions for hundreds of years. We, as Pagans, can do the same with our religion, and with our magic.

These guidelines apply equally to traditional and original rituals.

Original rituals can be as effective as traditional ones. In fact, more so, because they are created especially for your coven or grove's needs and abilities. They are even more valuable to solitary Pagans and Witches. Spontaneous ritual from the sheer joy of being one with the Goddess and the God is the highest form of worship. (Perhaps it is an instinctive recognition of our place in the universe.) The five most important steps in creating your own rituals are:

- 1) Define your purpose.
- 2) Choose the appropriate symbols.
- 3) Establish a structure, and keep to it.
- 4) Maintain your emotional involvement.
- 5) Eliminate confusion, contradiction, ambiguity, and unnecessary repetition. Three-fold repetition is enough.

Next month: We begin to explore the symbols.

\* \* \*

They tell us that Jesus is coming back. The Goddess never left.

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## ON BELIEF STRUCTURES

By WYNDEL

A belief structure is in essence a structure of presently existing knowledge and comprehension which provides a frame of reference for new information and experience, and which exists separately within the mind for every area of experience. A coherent belief structure in any area is synergistic in that its elements are interactive and interrelated; thus producing a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts.

A belief structure can exist in any of three forms: Rational as an interlocking and interdependent structure of knowledge, concepts and ideas in which a new datum is consciously examined with reference to the existing structure and accepted or rejected upon its own merits. Emotional- as an assemblage or group of knowledge, ideas, and feelings within which a new datum keys an emotional response and is accepted as "Fantastic!" or rejected as "Bullshit!" without rational examination. Composit--in which some areas are emotional "sacred cows" and other areas are rational, and a new datum may trigger either a rational or emotional response dependant upon the area to which it relates.

In the purely emotional belief structure, new data can have no effect upon the existing belief structure, as a new data only be assimilated into a pre-existing niche and conflicting data is automatically rejected.

In the purely rational structure, the examination of new data can radically alter the existing belief structure by causing the reinterpretation of vast blocks of existing data and thus necessitate the restructuring of some or all of the belief structure.

In the composite structure, reactions to new information may cause either an emotional or a rational response, but a rational response can lead indirectly to the death of a "sacred cow" and therefore new information must be carefully examined. The death of one sacred cow usually results in the phoenix-like birth of another, however.

In terms of the Craft and Paganism there are both individual and group belief structures. It is the group belief structure which both determines and defines a Craft tradition, while it is the belief structure of the individual which determines how well (or if) an individual fits into a tradition.

Group belief structures are generally composite; individuals with purely emotional structures could not function within a group where any difference of opinion could only be construed as a personal attack, and purely rational belief structures would be lacking in any sort of religious belief.

In point of fact it is the sacred cow (or cows) which provide the common reference for the belief structure of a group, and allow working together without conflict. Should any one of the group threaten that sacred cow, the full wrath of the group will be focused upon that individual in order to maintain the status quo. This can be seen in the Christian practice of excommunication and in banishment as practiced by many

## ON BELIEF STRUCTURES (cont.)

Craft traditions; the basis for the effective use of guilt and fear as tools for maintaining the fealty and control of the individual to the group.

In an individual the development of a composite Paganist belief structure begins with interest (an emotional response to a concept or idea), proceeds to information gathering (which modifies or amplifies the initial emotional response), continues through separation and definition of rational areas and sacred cows, through further gathering of information, and finally emerges as a reasonably complete belief structure.

Group belief structures evolve in a manner similar to that of individuals save that a group is composed of individuals who have already developed some form of personal belief structure. In the case of a group the gathering of data and subsequent modification of the belief structure is referred to as "eclecticism". The degree of eclecticism of a group is inversely proportional to existing knowledge and the number of sacred cows within the belief structure.

A prime example of the evolution of a group belief structure (and personally close to home) is that of Torr Wicca.

The Torr Tradition began with a small group of Gardnerian Thirds who have developed emotional responses to certain teachings, and in the process of rational examination of those responses redefined the five-point description of Gardnerian principles (polytheistic worship, reincarnation, Law of Return, magic, initiation) and developed a five-point definition which became the primary belief structure of Torr Wicca; balanced worship of a God and Goddess, reincarnation as a mode of spiritual evolution, belief in and use of magic, belief in and acceptance of the Law of Return, and the necessity of initiation.

Equilization of the God and Goddess then necessitated the incorporation of balance as an integral concept of the belief structure, and this balance concept in turn necessitated the re-definition of the roles of the HP and HPS, the creation of the coven position of Majister to balance that of Madin, the alteration of several rituals, reinterpretation and rewriting of the Book of Shadows, and many other changes.

The examination of magical practice and technique within the Tradition defined three separate levels of magical practices and also resulted in the adoption of Craft names to be used only within the Circle and never outside it.

The examination of initiation in turn led to the definition of criteria for elevation to each of the three Degrees, and a restructuring of training.

Examination of reincarnation led to new understandings of the relationships between spirit, mind, and body, provided a viewpoint for the study of the Law of Return, and further defined the roles of the God and Goddess within our Tradition.

Examination of the Law of Return resulted in the restructuring of some magical training and the reflection of Karma as a valid concept within the limits of our Tradition.

The knowledge of belief structures is just a tool, but it is

## ON BELIEF STRUCTURES (cont.)

a very powerful one which can be used to explore the depth and breadth of other knowledge.

For the individual it can be a key to self-knowledge and for a group the key to greater internal strength.

This begins several articles and lists from Lady Allusha Pismo - S.L.O area of Calif.

## DEFINITIONS #1 - BY LADY ALLUSHA

- aca threads-- etheric threads that attach you to anything you touch.
- altar-- 'the high place', an area within the Circle made of whatever is convenient, usually wood or stone, on which the ritual tools are placed.
- Art-- magickal practices conducted by the superconscious, using intuitive and automatic abilities.
- athame-- the black-handled knife or dagger, having a white metal blade with two cutting edges; one of the basic magickal tools, representing Fire, a male element.
- aura-- the energy field surrounding any living being.
- A Year and A Day-- an expression of time based on the comparison of the lunar year (364 days) and the solar year (365 days); traditionally, the length of time between initiations.
- Book of Shadows-- the Sacred Book of the Craft in which is kept the Laws, Landmarks, Tenets, Rituals, and all other necessary information for the continuing practice of the wiccan religion.
- Cakes and wine-- the little feast with which most working meetings end.
- cast-- to construct, to put into action, as in "to cast a Circle".
- charge-- noun: a set of instructions, as in the "Charge of the Goddess".  
verb; 1) to invest with energy; 2) to dedicate to Craft use; 3) to instruct; 4) to place under geis.
- Circle-- the magickal, psychic barrier which defines the place "between the worlds"; it is created at the beginning of almost all Craft workings; when "closed" serves as a protection device and energy enhancer; when "open" or "broken" indicates the end of the working; "in the Circle" means having to do with, during, or referring to activities of a working
- clairaudience-- the psychic art of 'clear-hearing'.
- clairsentience-- the psychic art of 'clear-feeling'.
- clairvoyance-- the psychic art of 'clear-seeing'.
- Cone of Power-- the concentrated field of energy raised by a coven during certain workings.

## DEFINITIONS #1 cont.

- Conscious-- the rational part of the mind, made up of: Conscience, reason, will power, 'switchboard' (brain activities).
- coven-- a spiritual family or clan, usually a small group of people, who gather together under the leadership of a High-Priess and/or High Priest to learn the ways of the Craft, do heals and other workings, and participate in the celebrations.
- covendom-- the area within which the active members of a coven live.
- convenstead-- the regular meeting place of a coven.
- Craft, the-- the most common term for the Pagan European religion of worshipping the Goddess and the Horned God.
- Craft Laws-- the traditions that define the mundane workings and ethics of the craft.
- cup-- usually a chalice type; one of the basic magickal tools, representing water, a female element.
- curse-- a maleficent working
- discharge-- 1) to divest of energy; 2) to return a person--especially a Priestess-- or an object to mundane status; 3) to dismiss; 4) in some senses, to desanctify, exorcise, or purify.
- divination-- the use of the Art and Science of magick to foretell the future, direct the present, or read the past.
- Drawing Down the Moon-- (also called Bowing Down...) the invocation of the Goddess during a working
- ecstasy-- to have broken the bonds of one's everyday world and entered into another state of being, through joy and pleasure
- elements-- fire, water, air, and earth; of which all matter is made
- Esbat-- The working meeting of a coven during the Full Moon, and sometimes also the First Visible Crescent; focus is on the utilization of the Power
- ethers-- the fibers making up the substance of the vital force
- exorcise-- the ritual removal of unwanted entities and/or phenomena
- First Visible Crescent-- the first view of the moon in the lunar month, usually about 2 or 3 days following the New Moon
- Full Moon-- the peak of the lunar month; the time of integration, perfecting
- geis-- Gaelic, a personal obligation to do or not do something; whereas a tabu only prohibits and applies to everyone impersonally
- ground-- 1) to discharge to earth, or by means of earth; 2) to establish a working connection with the earth
- hard self-- one's physical body
- heathen-- term meaning 'one who lives on the heath', refers to people who have not been converted to Christianity and who still hold the old beliefs
- higher self-- the part of the mind that deals with the non-physical world

## DEFINITIONS #1 cont.

- High Priest-- the male leader of a coven, and qualified teacher of the Craft
- High Priestess-- the female leader of a coven, and qualified teacher of the Craft
- humility-- awareness of both greatness and smallness of mankind and oneself
- hyponosis-- a state of heightened suggestibility in which the mind is totally centered on one idea to the exclusion of everything else, including sensory perceptions that are unwanted or distracting
- initiation-- a ritualistic form of rebirth, marking a new phase or status
- intuition-- direct perception of the truth or of a fact without the reason intervening
- karma-- action bringing upon the individual an inevitable result; the Law of Cause and Effect
- Land of Faery-- the world of the souls of the pagan dead, of nature spirits, and of the pagan gods; the world of magick
- Landmarks-- the requirements which establish a person as free and able to follow the Craft
- libate-- to pour a sacrificial drink (a libation) on the ground as an offering to the Earth Goddess
- Life Force-- the pure energy by which all living things are able to perform their acts of life; the source of this energy; is us for activities in the material world; is like a light filtering through a stained glass window, the purity of the force is changed by the emotions and metabolism of the body; can be directed; is the link between the mortal and mental worlds
- lunar month-- the moon's cycle, from New Moon to New Moon, there are thirteen lunar months in a lunar year
- magical thinking-- a kind of thinking, poetic in nature, which is not random, and which has its own curious logic; it works through analogies, allegories, and symbols; it looks to one's deep inner wells of inspiration, imagination, insight, and instinct; the roots of magick lie in this thinking
- magician-- not a witch, uses the powers of Nature, usually works alone
- magick-- (not magic-slight of hand) the art of controlling the forces of Nature; controlling events and producing desired effects by supernatural or paranormal means; causing changes in conscious to occur in accordance with the will, the science of this control; the way we perceive the secret forces of Nature; it is used in the service of the will to develop the ego and willpower of one who practices it; it is known as the dark shadow (mystery)
- matter-- energy manifesting in such a way that we perceive it as the three dimensional world
- meeting-- the general term used in the Craft for any gathering
- metaphysics-- the philosophy of magick

continued next month

STUFF & THINGS

RICHARD in Indiana sez: Plans for P.P.F. 5 coming along. Got about a dozen workshops lined up, plus several people interested in the child care coop. A quiet location this year should help. I'm really glad to see all the festivals being held around the country. Ten years ago there wasn't one at a camp out, at least, not one that was nationally and openly advertised. It appears that Pagans from all over the country can now attend an open festival within a day's drive of their home. Seems like the movement has come a long way.

BLESSED BE.

Janel & Richard

WE FOUND IT! You lost your athame at the 1980 Pan Pagan Festival in Indiana. Call or write, describe same, and we can work out details for its return..

CALUMET PAGAN TEMPLE, Janel & Richard Clarke, 4524 Towle Ave., Hammond, Indiana 46327. (219) 931-4348

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MICHELLE in Italy sez: I am 36 years old and for 8 years I have been interested in esoterism and magic, particularly in ancient religions and its rituals. I read many books of Gardner on this subject and I think it is right to restore the Old Religion and the magician's wisdom in this period of violence, incomprehension, materialism and I think everybody should give sometime to Goddess. No person is really so busy that he is unable to devote a part of each day to the most important of all man's duties - seeking oneness with his spirit. When I have got to know the existence of your movement, I have decided to write to you to know your activity and the way to become a disciple of your incomparable teachings. So I hope I will discover a real life through application of your "moral" and esoteric principles and to realize also a deep fellowship with other truth on this path. Hoping for an early reply with my kindest regards

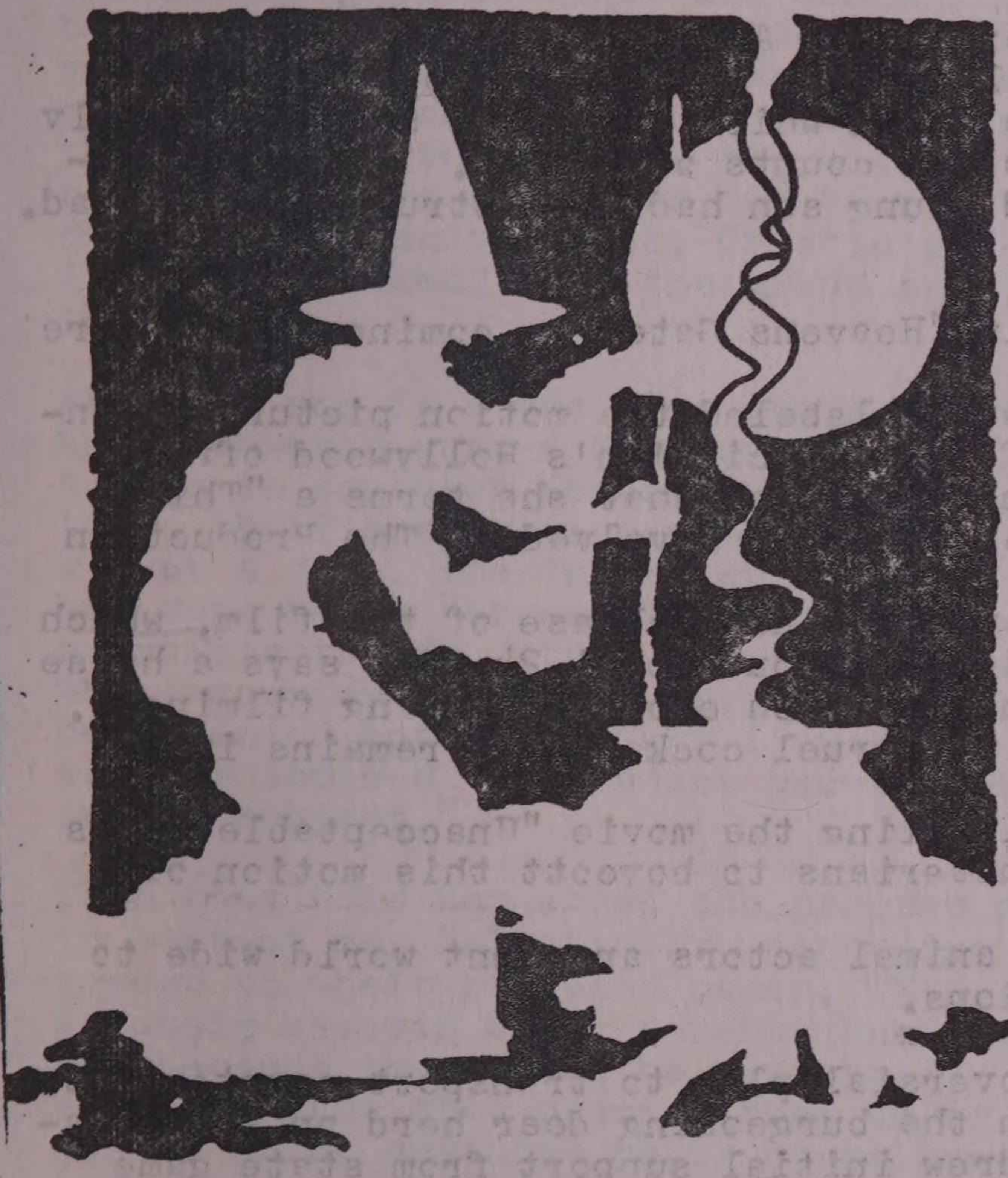
MICHELE E. BARRACO  
VIA DELLO SBAREO, 96  
91025 MARSALA (TP)  
ITALY

-Please excuse my English  
thank you-

ED. NOTE: Michelle, you're doing fine with English. Wish I could handle another language as well. I'm sorry to say that we can't be of much help to you since we have no initiate in your country, and so we couldn't get you initiated. So much of the learning must come AFTER initiation. Perhaps one of our readers has contact with someone in your own country. We wish you luck, and hope we'll be hearing from you again.

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## DOG DAYS (and other animal people)

A recent story from U.P.I. said that Frederick Roehler claimed that the family dog had jumped or fallen overboard from his small boat. He said his stepson had jumped over to save the dog, and he jumped in to save the boy, causing the boat to overturn. The wife and son drowned (they don't mention the dog) but Roehler was picked up by a boat.

Another story from Santa Barbara on April 8 sez: Frederick Roehler denies killing his wife and stepson...saying they drowned in the Pacific Ocean while trying to save the family dog. He pleaded innocent to two counts of murder. An autopsy determined Roehler's wife and young son had been struck on the head.

Also from U.P.I.

DENVER..the troubled film "Heavens Gate" is coming in for more criticism.

The American Humane Association labeled the motion picture as unacceptable. The director of the association's Hollywood office says the Denver-based organization has what she terms a "Thick Dossier Of Animal Killing And Cruelty Involved In The Production Of This Film."

The director recently reviewed the new release of the film, which was scheduled for public viewing about April 24. She says a horse was killed by a dynamite charge which exploded during filming... and what she calls "A long and cruel cock fight" remains in the new version.

She says her office - by labeling the movie "Unacceptable" - is urging "all concerned humanitarians to boycott this motion picture."

Her reviews of films using animal actors are sent world wide to Humane groups and associations.

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SAN FRANCISCO...a controversial plan to transport coyotes from the Sierra wilds to prey on the burgeoning deer herd on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay drew initial support from state game officials.

The plan was the latest in a series of proposals developed in the past 5 years for thinning the island's Blacktail deer herd, now believed to number between 150 and 200.

With no natural predators and no hunting allowed on the island, the herd periodically suffers from overpopulation, leading to disease and starvation. Overforaging has caused extensive damage to the island's trees and shrubs.

The plan for introducing a small pack of coyotes to the island state park was drawn up by Dale McCullough, an eminent wildlife scientist serving as a consultant to the state Department of Parks & Recreation.

McCullough told state officials his plan offers the prospect of bringing about a natural balance in the island's deer population and that he believes it stands a good chance of being accepted by animal protection groups opposed to shooting the animals.

\*

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

...barking and barking until the coven members come to pet me as they arrive.

## STUFF &amp; THINGS

CYPRIAN in Nashville sez: We want everyone to know that the Pagan Pioneer group has moved onto the Jackson county, Tenn. site right on schedule, April first. New Moon ceremony was held and the site dedicated the weekend of April 4 & 5. The core group, Murray, Betty and George from Chicago, and Linda from Atlanta, are living in tents while the first log home is built. Cristie from Nashville visited the group over the New Moon weekend and pitched in to help clear weeds, etc. and dodge the torrential, but much needed, rains that drenched the area on the night of the new moon. Despite the rains, she says the tents had been pitched properly and all stayed dry. Oh, I musn't forget, Cristie's 5-year old daughter, Katy, also spent the weekend with the group and just had a ball romping through the woods.

And this one is a gas...it shows we have a LOT more PR work to do. What happened was, a few days ago two high school senior boys from a town in southern Kentucky called me and asked for an interview to do their senior term paper. I said sure, just drive on down, and we set a date. The interview went off nicely; the boys, nice chaps, had done their "homework" so to speak and pretty well knew what questions to ask. (they had seen our earlier TV program.) After the interview was over, one of the boys said he hoped I wouldn't be offended but he thought I ought to know that at first their teacher opposed the project because they "couldn't find anything on the subject."

Then they told her about the program and that they had been able to contact me. Reluctantly, according to the boys, their teacher agreed to their proposed paper. THEN, she cautioned them to be absolutely certain their parents knew my name, address and phone number because they might be kidnapped!

AND, she made them promise that under no circumstances would they eat or drink anything while at my home!!! So, we opened another beer, had a good laugh and went out to enjoy the Spring season before they had to leave.

They were really nice kids, and I enjoyed talking with them. And I'm interested to know how their teacher grades their papers... they promised to tell me.

Blessed Be

Cyprian

\*

\*

\*

REMINDER: The P.O. WILL NOT forward magazines, newsletters, etc. (bulk mail) unless you sign a card that you will pay the postage. Otherwise, they are thrown away. If you move, be sure to send us your new address. PLEASE PRINT. Some handwritings are just difficult to read. Some zip codes are so scribbled we can't be sure we have it correct. Some memories need improvement. Letters arrive saving dollars enclosed for subscription, but there is no money enclosed. It is always better to send a check or money order anyway. That way you have a receipt if it gets lost. Please make checks or M.O.'s to The Georgian Church or Georgian Newsletter.

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dealer of the Tarot pack

the dreamer shuffles his cards

"if I decide  
to grant your desire niña"

the dreamer says smiling

"what will you ask of me"

the dreamer deals the Magus

hear! hear!

the chill winds shiver

chill as the open grave

and Eastlan trembles

a godless man

receives the Judgment

"let me follow you" la niña prays "te sigo"

"why" demands the dreamer to know

with a look as cold as winter

and over orion's jewel belt

the pregnant storm clouds

swirl and pass

the devil receives the Devil

"it is true" she says

as the wind works loose

a strand of her hair

"you do not make me

feel important to you, but then that to me"

she sighs "is but an unwrapped gift

the mortals bring to lay in my hand"

rain drops puddle

in her outstretched palm

the dreamer deals

the crumbling Tower

"are you afraid" the dreamer smiles "are you

afraid now niña" the dreamer says

lightning

rapes the sky

and jehovah's Death angel

falls out of the pack

"estoy contigo" la niña replies

"it is true" she says

as the dreamer

lays a card face down

"you shine on me

like midsummer on the vineyards"

southbound winds

tear the Eastlan road

with one hand the dreamer

turns up the Sun

then he calls all his cards

back into the pack

dealer of the Tarot pack continued

"awaken fair nina wake up little girl  
and robe thyself  
in the new dawn"

Alayna del Amo

\* \* \*

ELIZABETH PEPPER in Rhode Island sez: Spring is just beginning here. A robin just landed in our new birdbath. He seems to like it a lot.

Marion visited us last week. We picked out a lot of old prints to decorate the new printing of her book POSITIVE MAGIC. I guess you know Doug Brown is publishing (reprinting) it. It is as good a basic primer as can be found, I think. Colin Wilson wrote a fine introduction for it.

Yes, we Scorpios live in a black and white world. They either love us or hate us, no luke-warm reactions. I wouldn't have it any other way. I love knowing where I stand and I'm sure you do too. It's interesting how many Scorps (and Water Signs) are part of the occult world.

"Woof" to Wickian Pooka and "Wuff" to Sirius and a polite "ruff" to Lady. WHY don't you have a kitty? We have nine and one lovely dog named Thoby. He thinks he's a cat.

Love and Blessed Be

Elizabeth

ED. NOTE: I'm sure we're all looking forward to the new version of Marion's book. Hope it will be coming out soon. I don't have a kitty because it doesn't work unless they are raised with the dogs. Sirius and Lady were both more than a year old when I got them. Also..I have 3 parakeets. When Judith had her cats here a couple years ago, the only thing that kept them from having the birds for lunch was the god gun (water pistol). But someone has to be around all the time to use it. Things are more peaceful this way. Pooka, Sirius and Lady say "ARF ARF" to Thoby. Blue Boy, Specks, and Tweety (parakeets) say..."who needs putty tats?"

\* \* \*

BEING A WITCH IS.....

- ...remembering that BORAX is not the guardian of the north.
- ...remembering that it is the "cauldron of immortality" not IMMORALITY.
- ...remembering that we welcome the Gods to our CIRCLE, not CIRCUS.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE COVEN by Jim in Winchester

Under the towering oak  
 Beneath night's dark cloak  
 Did gather those of the wise  
 of old  
 Tho naked, unmindful of the  
 cold

The Coven, to honor Her, who leds  
 them all  
 With Her guidance, we will not  
 fall  
 From mountain top to gentle sea  
 The Circle is broken, Blessed Be.

Warmed by their cone of power  
 At this, the Witching hour  
 Bright full moon, shining down  
 Thirteen bright points of steel  
 raised as Her crown

\* \* \*

in the way of the snake

at the hot heart of the land  
 the rattlesnake  
 waits in the yellow grass  
 ssshtrrrrr  
 waits beside the path  
 ssshtrrrrr  
 wrong way, little girl, he  
 whispers  
 you stray, listen well, I will

not tell you again  
 then stay, little feet, you heed  
 the wisdom of sir snake  
 how trusting of you  
 is your faith  
 in knowledge or in ignorance  
 based?  
 the two, my lord, in both  
 how trusting of you, my beloved

Alayna del Amo

\* \* \*

THE MOON from Lilli in Coasta Mesa, Cal.

O mystic orb of silver light  
 Shine bright during your even flight  
 Down upon the sleeping child  
 Beneath your pale glow so mild.

When full you set the night afire  
 Your daytime sister seems a liar  
 To compare her warm and radiant gold  
 With your enchanting silver cold.

O living symbol of secret life  
 The dark, unseen, and hidden strife  
 Hid from mankind's daytime searches  
 For the 'truth' in ancient churches.

Blessed Fulls or halves or crescents  
 Secrets live in your high presence  
 Sacred beacon most profound  
 Always shine on our humble ground.

\* \* \* \* \*

## FROM UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

The singing of Walt Disney Production's "Johnny Appleseed Song" in a kindergarten class in Meridian, Idaho, has prompted protests from one parent who contends the ditty is a form of prayer in public school.

Lake Hazel Primary School Principal, Barbara Pease, said she received a letter of protest from Sue Rogers, a Meridian parent, prompting her to conduct a poll of all kindergarten's parents to determine if they approve, disapprove or have no opinion on their children singing the song in school.

Of the 212 questionnaires sent to parents, she said, about 100 have been returned, and only a couple of parents said they objected to the song.

Pease said the song has been used by 3 of the school's 5 kindergarten teachers daily for the past 2 years.

The lyrics:

Oh, THE LORD IS GOOD TO ME.  
AND SO I THANK THE LORD,  
FOR GIVING ME THE THINGS I NEED;  
THE SUN, THE RAIN AND THE APPLESEED.  
THE LORD IS GOOD TO ME.

Pease said about 120 of the school's 212 kindergartners are affected by the song, which is used to signal the beginning of a class break.

School officials said they are seeking a legal opinion to determine if the children's constitutional rights may have been violated by use of the song.

\*

In Sacramento...family members are testifying in a juvenile hearing on charges a 13-year-old girl shot her younger sister to death deliberately. The mother of both girls told the court that Kimberly Goytia had said 2 years before the incident that satan had instructed her to kill her sister. The mother says she dismissed the remark as "rebellion."

\*

SANTA ANA - workers loading a tanker at a Santa Ana chemical company accidentally created nitrous oxide - laughing gas - by mixing a mismarked barrel into a tank of chemicals. Fire fighters diluted the mixture in water...then neutralized it with sodium hydroxide. They said it really was a laughing matter.

\*

Thieving elephants at the Denver zoo have amassed quite a pile of loot...using their trunks to snatch cameras, jackets...even a woman's purse from well-meaning visitors. But zoo officials are putting a stop to it. Director Clayton Freiheit says purse-snatching by the gray comedians will come to an abrupt halt with the construction of a moat around their outdoor playground. The only problem, he says, will be training the elephants not to fall in.

\*

BEING A WITCH HP OR HPs is...

...a lot of work and headaches.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXCERPT FROM AN EDITORIAL BY CATHERINE AND KENT WHICH APPEARED IN THE AUSTRALIAN WICCAN

This issue we are discussing Craft courtesy, or lack of it! We recently heard a term, new to us, "Pagan Standard Time". This appears to apply to Pagans and Crafters world wide, who do not consider the old adage of punctuality being a virtue, to be applicable in this modern world. We have had many personal experiences of this rudeness, even the past few weeks.

There are occasions, when, due usually to transport deficiencies, being late is quite unavoidable. To compensate for this factor, perhaps one should allow more time when attending meetings or visiting?

It is our opinion that a date or appointment, with ANY person, should be kept at the time allocated. Time is given, because one party, or the other has certain commitments, so why should any of us be so rude and ignorant, as to arrive, either not at all, or even phone hours later, giving idiotic excuses?

Have you ever considered that the breaking of an appointment at the last minute, being very late, or just not turning up at all, is theft? Well, it is! You are stealing an amount of precious time, which the other person could have used, perhaps even in the service of the Old Ones!

Every person's rice bowl depends on different factors, time usually being one of the most important. If one is late at their place of work, often a bundy clock discloses this to the employer, who on seeing this misuse of the time he is paying you for, becomes annoyed, and in turn deducts a portion of your wage. You don't like this, but have to agree that it is his right.

Is it then less to steal time from fellow Crafters and friends? Some day, it may happen to you, and who is to know but the Goddess, whose time was more precious?

Pagan Standard Time...not in Australia, thank you!

ED. NOTE: Right On! We've often had the same problem. One solution with Crafters is a fine of cash or work for one who just doesn't show up for a meeting, or one who calls long after they were due to arrive to say they can't make it.

\* \* \*

YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN THE WRONG COVEN WHEN... from Rus, Arcane Crafts

...you don't realize those things are Sabbat cakes, and you try to light one.

....the driving directions to the covenstead land you at a swingers' club.

....you're bound and gagged, and they're invoking Kali.

\* \* \* \* \*

## STUFF &amp; THINGS

MICHAEL OF STARGATE, Columbus, Ohio sez: I was very interested in reading the letter from Blacksun of Elvenhearth in the last newsletter, in reference to the relative "back seat" of male God-forms in the contemporary Craft. This letter is in reply to a closely related issue - the question of what Paganism & the Craft might have to say on the subject of sexual identity.

First of all, since paganism openly acknowledges the feminine, as well as the masculing, aspect of Nature, it should only be natural that we have attracted proportionately more avowed feminists than any other religious system.

Ideally, this should be a very healthy sign, but unfortunately I have observed many feminists that seem to have brought to the Craft with them a 'reactionism' - based upon their past experiences with the Christianised version of patriarchal males - which clouds their attitudes towards pagan men. (For example, I have been amazed to hear female Witches - on at least three separate occasions - claim to venerate the Great Mother, but at the same time reject 'motherhood' as a 'demeaning role').

Feminism is an extremely valid issue to Pagan & Craft folk, but with any philosophical issue, I feel that it should be approached from a balanced perspective. Let me stick my neck out on the chopping block quite a bit and offer my definition of the true Feminist Pagan: She is a woman who seeks to understand herself by introspection (an awakening of her inner self), through devotion to the Goddess, and by attempting to attune herself with the feminine principle as it exists in all of Nature. (The same, of course would define a Masculinist: he would attempt to seek his inner self, devote himself to his God-form, and examine the male aspects of Nature.) Each has a right (or perhaps a duty) to seek this knowledge for him or her-self.

I happen to believe that the Craft is an extremely 'sexist' religion (how could a system which venerates such archetypes as 'The Virgin', 'The Great Mother', 'The Wise Old Crone', 'The Hunter' and so on, escape this classification?); our salvation seems to lie in the fact that even though we do make distinctions between the sexes, we do not value one above the other.

However, it certainly does seem that the feminist side of the Craft does have a bit of a head-start in self-awareness. As a corrective to this situation, I would like to suggest the following reading list - a Masculinist primer, if you will, to Pagan men who still need to learn to feel good about themselves...

ON HUMAN NATURE by Edward O. Wilson, Bantam Books 1978, \$3.95

WHY MALES EXIST: AN INQUIRY INTO THE EVOLUTION OF SEX  
Mentor Books, 1979, \$2.95

THE BIO-SEXUAL FACTOR by Richard Hagen, Doubleday 1979, \$9.95

"Omni" Magazine - March 1981, Interview with Donald Symons

## MICHAEL OF STARGATE continued

"THE BRAIN: HIS AND HERS" ..article - Discover Magazine -April  
continued next month

\* \* \*  
More from Michael, he sez: Last week Linda and I joined the recently formed Central Ohio Pagan Council, which is a group of local covens, pagans and magical groups which have joined together in our area for the purposes of unity, networking, & so forth. As some of your readers may be in our area, could you note our existence and mention that any interested folks could write for info to: Central Ohio Pagan Council, 758 Holly Hill Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43228.

\* \* \*  
CATHERINE & KENT (The Australian Wiccan) say: Speaking of attacks, we have had a few funnies of late. Last week, at would you believe, precisely midnight, some demented woman stood under our balcony, (we live in an apt.) and chanted "In the name of the father, and the son and the holy ghost, God save me from Witches!" By the time I got to the balcony, she had departed.

Two days later, we opened our front door early in the morning, to find a big white cross painted thereon, and the wretched paint all over the door and the hall carpet. No real harm done, just a little elbow grease needed to clean it off. It's a jolly good thing we have a sense of humor...best to ignore such things. At least we think so, even though it is an unpleasant experience.

Maybe I have a weird sense of fun, but I keep thinking what fun it would be, if we were back in the medieval times, and my "Guzzunder" (what goes under the bed, or used to) could be brought into action, kept on the balcony, and tipped over the offenders head, that is, if it occurs again! Kent chuckled over my very practical or at least I think it is a practical solution.

Lady Ista has settled in England, but says she is having trouble finding suitable permanent accomodation. It seems 6 yr, old twin boys are not welcomed by landlords.

ED. NOTE: Love your solution. Hadn't heard that name..Guzzunder. Have heard 'em called Thundermugs. Not so long ago when I visited an antique shop, the proprietor told me that young people sometimes come in, purchase one of the old metal type, and say they plan to use it for a bean pot. Obviously, they don't know what it was used for. Don't think I'd care to have an invitation for dinner from them.

\* \* \*  
YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN THE WRONG COVEN WHEN... (from Rus, Arcane Crats)

...you discover that you're the only one who brought any food.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

These beautiful books which Elizabeth Pepper donated to the newsletter are now out of print. They are hard cover, and are autographed by Elizabeth Pepper. We still have a few. \$11.50 includes postage. Send check or M.O. to the newsletter.

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, **MAGICAL AND MYSTICAL SITES** examines the many ways that men have sought to explain and master their world.



# Magical & Mystical Sites

EUROPE and the BRITISH ISLES

Elizabeth Pepper and John Wilcock

\$10.95

ONLY FIVE OF THESE BEAUTIFUL BOOKS LEFT.

## STUFF &amp; THINGS

Manon finally agrees that I do need at least one more secretary to help keep track of things...like keeping better notes than I do. I made a note that Stan called from Chicago a couple of weeks ago. Somewhere I made a note of what he called about, but now I can't find the note. I think it was about a book mentioned in last issue, and he said it was the middle book of a trilogy which should be read in sequence. So maybe you can figure it out from that.

Sorry the address on the stencil for Lady Galadriel's article on Grove Of The Unicorn (last issue) got fouled up. It is POB. 9865, Atlanta, Ga. 30319. Moonstone may be ordered from the same address. \$6. for 8 issues (1 yr.)

ARCANE CRAFTS, POB 383, Mastic Beach, N.Y. 11951...sez that due to the new higher postal rates it will be necessary to send a S.A.S.E. when writing for a catalog. Large envelope.

PAN PAGAN SPIRIT GATHERING, June 18-21 at a private Nature Sanctuary near LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Lots of things happening and sounds like lots of fun. Registration must be sent by June 7, by May 15 to qualify for low set of rates. For registration forms, etc...write Pagan Spirit Gathering, c/o CIRCLE, Box 9013, Madison, Wi. 53715. (608) 767-2345 3-7 PM CDT NO COLLECT CALLS.

The Starwood Festival, July 17-19, Cooper's Lake Campground, Wester Pa. Write the Chameleon Club, Box 174, Perry, Oh. 44081.

Pacific Circle gathering, June 19-21, Chilao Campgrounds in Angeles National Forest. Write Pacific Circle, Box 9513, N. Hollywood, Ca. 91609.

Georgian Mountain Meet planned for August as usual. Exact location and date still not definite.

Goddess Lecture & Women's Spirituality workshops with Starhawk, June 23-25, Madison, Wis. For info, write CIRCLE, Box 9013, Madison, Wi. 53715.

SUMMER SOLSTICE...workshop June 17-19, Solstice Weekend June 19-21. Write Warren Light Center, 1000 E. State St., Sharon, Pa. 16146.

Council of the Sacred Earth PAN-PAGAN FESTIVAL, June 11-14, Circle Pines, Delton, Mich. For info, Christa, POB 25129, Chicago, Ill. 60625. Registration deadline, May 15. (312) 334-7478 6-10 PM CST NO COLLECT.

BEING A WITCHLING IS... from Cloud in Kalamazoo

...having a great wild yard to play in, and inviting about 100 friends over to watch your mom pick supper.

...knowing a lot of grownups who can see your "imaginary" friends.

## DOG DAYS &amp; other animal people

FROM U.P.I.

FRESNO - An official from the China Lake Naval Weapons Center says the navy felt it had no choice but to kill some 700 wild burros last month because they were hampering base operations. The Animal Protection Institute of Sacramento is asking for a permanent injunction against shooting the burros. A lawyer representing the Institute says no collisions were reported between burros and aircraft on base runways in the 37 years China Lake has been in operation. She called the shootings inhumane, needless and unnecessary. She said the burros were herded together by helicopters and then shot from 25 yards away by civilian marksmen. She said the stomachs of the wounded burros were slit open, and the animals left to die.

\*

LOS ANGELES - Westley Halston is accused of taking 2 green Amazon parrots in a breakin. Officers say they spotted Halston walking a long the street about 2 A.M. with a parrot on his shoulder. They stopped to talk to him because they thought it unusual. Later they stopped to talk to a man unlocking his pet shop. He mentioned the burglary...the officers went in search of the bird man. Halston spotted the patrol car approaching, ran, hid in some tall grass. The officers couldn't see him but were led to his hiding place by the parrot squawking. The second parrot was found stuffed inside Halston's coat.

\*

Citizens of Swiss cities had better think twice before using pesticide against pesky pigeons..because those messy birds just might be on military duty.

The Swiss Army has a corps of 30 thousand pigeons stationed at bases all over the country trained for use as couriers. They are to take over in event of a communications failure or enemy occupation. A spokesman says the pigeons can cover Switzerland's rugged terrain much faster than a person can by road..and are less likely to be intercepted by enemy forces.

\*

The mourning for Otto, the hero fire dog, is over for the men of N.Y.C.'s Engine Co. 35..and the patter of tiny paws is in the air. Otto died last month under a wall of bricks in a Harlem tenement blaze. But his spirit lives on. Otto's mate, Benji, has given birth to 6 bouncing baby fire dogs. Benji leaves the pups to go with the men every time there is a fire. She lost her last litter because she inhaled so much smoke and bounded around so much on the trucks. A fireman says, "but this litter was pretty valuable to us, so we had to keep her tied up for awhile before the babies came. She was very frustrated." When Otto was killed, mournful colleagues buried him with full honors next to the firehouse. The firemen said, "We got a lot of sympathy cards and letters saying, 'take care of his puppies. '"

\* \* \* \* \*

STUFF & THINGS

PIPPIN in Kirkland, Wash. sez: I have a question and a charge in poem form to contribute this time. My question is about comfrey, a very popular herb these days, that many are touting as a heal-all.

Recently in the Wash. newspaper, THE DAILY, an herbal column recommended comfrey tea for many useful healing purposes. The next day, in a letter to the editor, a biological chemistry (or something like that) student wrote to say that he had recently been doing experiments with it on laboratory mice. In not-so-large doses it was found to be an extreme hepato-toxin (liver poison).

I didn't save the letter, but would like to know if anyone of your readers has read of research relating to this or other herbs and/or knows anything about it personally. It would seem that it (comfrey tea) wouldn't be indicated in those prone to or having liver damage or disease.

My charge was something I wrote recently and surprised myself greatly in how it came out. I was considering how to phrase a presentation for the character of Aradia that I was portraying in a costume contest, and the Goddess/muse smacked me between the eyes (I usually don't write poetry).

When I presented it, I invoked the Goddess form, and felt it was my way of doing a bit of undercover positive PR for the Craft.

I am Aradia  
 Heavenly child of the dark and  
     the light.  
 Born of Diana, Huntress of  
     night  
 And Lucifer, radiant splendor  
     and bright.

across the heavens, created me  
 Human to teach to mortal-kind  
 Through the craft of the wise  
     oppression to bind  
 And themselves to set free  
     in all ways to shine  
 So she set in the heavens her  
     bow as a sign.

Diana  
 The cat who chases the star-  
     mice that flee

\*

I am also interested in responses from other men in the Craft to Blacksun's letter. Being a woman, I would prefer not to comment, but to learn from the male side how this issue is handled by them.

Love and April  
 rain-drops  
     from  
         Pippin

\*

\*

\*

YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN TROUBLE WHEN....

....you wait long and patiently for your I.R.S. tax refund check...and get a bill from them instead.

\* \* \* \* \*

referred to the sun; in fact, the sun is the source of all life on earth. The sun is the source of all energy, and it is the sun that gives us the light and heat that we need to live. The sun is the source of all life, and it is the sun that gives us the light and heat that we need to live. The sun is the source of all life, and it is the sun that gives us the light and heat that we need to live.

If you can't read anything above this line...you didn't miss anything. We had to blank out something for future use.

### SOLAR HERBS

B. James Excell in Colorado

In medicinal terms, the sun could be considered the great restorative. Even as the returning sun allows plant life in turn to flourish on the earth, the herbs attributed to the sun act, each in their fashion, to restore metabolic vitality, to stimulate and balance a system suffering wither from excess or deficiency.

Many of the plants, of course, may be considered solar simply on the basis of appearance. Camomile, celandine, juniper and St Joan's Wort all produce bright yellow flowers, many of which blossom around the solstice, and the bright solar disc of the marigold points up an obvious sympathetic correspondence. Saffron produces the bright yellowgold dye that may be considered solar in effect.

It is in healing, however, that the solar herbs exemplify their benefic attribution. Although the particular system and action of a particular plant may indicate a subsidiary attribution the action of Angleica as a nerve tonic, or Eyebright in reducing eye inflammation and so clearing vision would suggest a Mercurail attribution, for example! the general effect is to restore equilibrium and promote the free flow of vital energy.

The herbs effect the circulatory system in a variety of ways. The heart is commonly considered the solar center of the body (ruled by Leo, etc) and a preponderance of the solar effects of these herbs seem to center around that organ. Angelica relieves circulatory conditions, such as gout, when used as a compress, as well as fever, inflammations, and headache (all conceivable occasions of excess heat). Juniper also benefits gout, St Joan's Wort relieves headaches, and camomile and celadine reduce fever. Camomile, celandine, juniper, and St Joan's wort also relieve swellings inflammations and rheumatic conditions, which tie in neatly with the use of eyebright and

## SOLAR HERBS cont.

and St Joan's Wort to relieve symptoms due to colds (the application of restorative, solar heat on rheumatic joints and congested lungs - not unlike the bright sun dispelling fog)

Angelica and St Joan's Wort have restorative properties that recommend them for use in cases of weakness and anemia. They are considered to restore the blood, but the juice of thecelandine may be taken for a blood analogue; the yellow juice turns bright red when exposed to air, suggesting the oxidizing action of blood as it turns from blue to red in contact with air.

Mistletoe, parasite/symbiote to the oak, attributed in a wide variety of cultures to solar dieties, produces a drastic, often fatal action on the heart and circulatory system (in immoderate or improperly prepared doses). By reducing blood pressure, it can reduce bleeding, as well as induce abortion, and is often used to reduce uterine bleeding after parturition. One of the few spots of green in the forest in the dead of winter, the mistletoe is also often viewed as a solar surrogate.

Angelica, St Joan's wort (the original "MEDicine for Melancholy") and Frankincense-- in addition to the aforementioned medical properties of the two-- seem to have a psychotropic, mood and perception elevating effect. My experience with frankincense and studies of Angelica and St Joan's Wort have led me to speculate that, among their other properties, their effect on perception can, under the appropriate circumstances, facilitate the attainment of consciousness of the solar Sephira of Tiphareth.

An Article from Ruthi of  
ARCANE CRAFTS  
P.O. Box 383  
Mastic Beach, N Y 11951

A word to Lleu: The ancient Japanese worshipped a sun-goddess; the emperors of Japan were supposedly her direct descendants, and therefore divine. Tolkien, despite his veneer of Catholicism, surely was a high initiate of more than one mystery tradition in his former incarnations. His Silmarillion, which will, I'm sure, become as classic as The Lord of the Rings, depicts the Sun as female and the Moon as male. Not to mention the goddesses and gods of the Silmarillion, the Valar, whose chief goddess is Queen of the Stars, her con-

## An Article from Ruthi cont.

sort is Lord of the Air, and whose Earth was ruled by two; the mineral formations by a god, Aule, while the vegetation is his consort, Yavanna's domain. Tolkien's deities are not quite Wiccan (there is also the good-evil duality of a supreme Creator and a supreme Destroyer), but nevertheless, valid Pagan archetypes.

Rik's greetings to the Moon and the Sun are priceless. Simple and beautiful. But then, I'm not surprised--Rik's one of our most talented Crafters, as anyone can see from the work he's contributed to the Georgian. Keep up the "Great Work", Rik!

Another word of praise is due Wyndel, not only for his excellent article on rituals some issues ago, but for his common sense, as demonstrated in his reply to "Paranoid and the Power Game". I've seen too many Craft leaders, who ought to know better, destroy both the personalities of their members and, indeed, their entire covens unity, with their personal power trips. God/dessitis is a real problem--as Ellen Cannon said (in another sensible article), we coven leaders are still human--please, Goddess, never let us forget it. But there are some who do. There are HP/Ss with emotional problems, alcoholism for example, who love to hold court as the God/dess's personal representative, draining psychic energy from their luckless followers, insisting that the dogma they try to impose is the "one true way", that those who question or disagree will suffer from the God/dess's wrath. Sounds like a Monnie-type cult, no? I've seen it happen among supposed "Crafters", too. Not often, thank Goddess! But one rotten apple in the Craft is one too many; we've got enough bad publicity to contend with; enough satanic elements parading as Witches, and the public doesn't always know the difference, particularly if the would-be Witch is recognized as one by any of his/her peers.

## A QUESTION OF KARMA

By WYNDEL in New Jersey

I was recently talking to a fellow Paganist who made a comment about worshiping the Goddess, and I asked if she only worshipped the Goddess and ignored the God. She said yes and that "worship has been of a male god for the last two thousand years, so now it's necessary to worship the Goddess until things balance out."

## A QUESTION OF KARMA cont.

Then I asked her if it was really necessary to go from one extreme to the other in order to find balance and reach a balance point. She said "Yes, It's Karma. We have to balance things."

I didn't pursue the matter further, as I had to be elsewhere shortly and my fellow Paganist was becoming slightly irritated at my stupid questions, but the encounter did kick up a few interesting questions in my mind.

First, what does Karma have to do with the Craft? We already have reincarnation and the Law of Return which fill the Bill nicely. Karma on the other hand is an alien concept of a culture which in turn is alien to the culture from which the Craft came. There are similarities and parallels, but not total equivocation.

Second, how can Paganists balance out the last 5,741 years of Judeo-Christian God worship? The way I figure it, 5,741 years times 10 million people comes out to 57.41 billion man-years of worship. If you figure 50 thousand Goddess worshipping Paganists, it would take about 1.2 million years to balance things out. (I do realize the numbers are wrong, and that the equation doesn't include several factors, but I think it makes the point!)

Basically I guess I just don't understand why Crafters and Pagans should assume responsibility for Judeo-Christian "Karma".

## SHE DID IT AGAIN!!

Well it was one of those nights here in Bakersfield again. The High Priestess, Lady Selene was busy consecrating the Cup before ritual, after having several cups herself, when she was overheard saying, "By air, fire, water and earth, I conjure thee, Hear my will! Attend to me! as my word, so motit it be! Burma Shave!"

## COMMENT

As a result of the above tattle-tale comment. Anyone wishing to buy a Lord Vulcan cheap, write me care of the newsletter,  
--Signed Lady Selene.

## PRAYERS

## Maytime Prayer

O Green Goddess of the fields and woodlands, May the joy that we give out at this time stay with us through the years.

## FROM YOUR EDITOR

From personal experience, observation of some we know, and many letters received here (we don't print everything), it would appear that the major problem of many covens is of their own making. To avoid the problem, SLOW DOWN! It is especially true of new covens that they start playing the numbers game. They seem to think they can't have a good coven unless they have large numbers of people. This is a sad mistake.

Although this problem is more prevalent in newer groups, it also happens in some of the older ones. We heard of one HPs (?) in the New York area who is said to grab anyone off the street who happens to pass her house, and initiates them at once. Of course, this is an exaggeration, but it is almost that bad in some groups.

What value can such an initiation have? NONE! It hasn't been earned and the coven members certainly don't know the person. It is far better to have a small coven of three members than thirty members bickering, back-stabbing, playing power games, etc.

It is most unfortunate that the Craft attracts all the screwballs, crackpots, people looking for orgies, people looking for drugs and those looking for power over others. If you initiate just anyone who comes along, you are certain to take in some of these.

Some people can make a great first impression and some can keep up the good front for months before they let their hair down. Sometimes you feel that something is not quite right but you can't put your finger on it. In time, the answer will come. Hopefully, you'll find it before the person is initiated.

Sometimes people can change, but don't count on it happening after initiation. Be patient. If you have doubts about a person, so long as they don't seem to be disruptive, let them stay with the study group for as many months or years as it takes until you are certain the person fits in or they don't, or until they realize they don't fit in and just drop out.

Remember, "Perfect Love and Perfect Trust" WITHIN THE COVEN. You can't have it if you don't know the people. And also remember... the "Perfect Love and Perfect Trust" applies only within the coven.. not to everyone you meet. There are some who have been initiated into some groups that you shouldn't take the chance of turning your back to. You could get hurt.

\*

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Midsummer Pagan Festival, June 19-22 at Big Trees Meadow, East Bay Regional Parks, Oakland, Calif. For info: Midsummer Pagan Festival, 4010 Granada Rd., El Sobrante, Ca. 94803. (415) 223-1384.

The Faerie Shaman, the music of Gwydion from Wheel of the Year songbook. Stereo LP \$7.95, Dolby cassette \$8.95. send to: Nemeton, POB 212, Redwood Valley, Ca. 95470.

\* \* \* \* \*

INVOCATION from Puck

NIGHT QUEEN,  
STAR QUEEN,  
EARTH QUEEN,  
SEA QUEEN...

EARTH-SPIRIT,  
AIR - SPIRIT  
WATER - SPIRIT,  
LIFE - SPIRIT...

HEAR US!!!

TOUCH US!!!

MOON QUEEN,  
FAERY MAIDEN,  
EARTH MOTHER,  
DAETH CRONE...

THRICE - CROWNED QUEEN,  
THRICE - BLESSED GODDESS,  
MANY - NAMED ONE,  
KEEPER OF THE CAULDRON...

GUIDE US!!!

BE WITH US!!!

WHITE GODDESS,  
EARTH GODDESS,  
SEA GODDESS,  
DARK GODDESS...

BLESSED BE!!!

PUCK

BLESS US!!!

\* \* \*

Don't know why people can't get things in here on time. The deadline for articles, poems, ads, etc. is the 20 th of the month. News of meetings, etc. no later than the 25 th. We recieved this one by the 25 th...but the wrong month. It will be history by the time you get this newsletter.

SABBATSMEET BELTANE, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI. MAY 2, 3, and 4. Just in case any of you recieve this in time, you can phone for info: Sefauna (816)531-4746 or Rhiannon (816) 756-0719.

\* \* \*

BEING YOUNG IS....

...wondering why a \$100. per month phone bill should seem unreasonable to anyone.

WORDS OF WISDOM

The Moral Majority should really be called the Immoral Majority because they visit the porno shops and hookers by the back door. That's dishonest. Dishonesty is immoral. Hope you got to see the impersonation of Jerry Falwell on a recent "WKRP IN CINCINNATI". Really good.

STUFF AND THINGS

Forgot to mention that Bobbi's "Animal Protection Ritual" was included with our Full Moon in April. Went very well. Also forgot to mention a visit from Walt (L.A. area) recently. About time.

\* \* \* \* \*

## STUFF &amp; THINGS

PENNY in Bradenton, Florida sez: she is happy with her new job. Now that she has a box number she is receiving her tapes & newsletters. This had become a problem, as with others in Florida. Penny says Jodi in Atlanta had a baby boy (congratulations, Jodi) so Penny has postponed her visit until June. Three of Penny's group moved to other states but she still has a nice little group; they enjoyed adding Bobbi's Animal Protection Ritual to the Full Moon. Penny says "Camelot Mead" is available in some stores, and she says it is good. She would like to know where to get JET for a necklace. Hasn't been able to find any. Penny's mother is a bit annoyed with Penny's dog person since he snatched her steak off the Bar-B-Q grill. Almost as bad as Manon's Spanky (Pooka's papa); he devoured an entire ham while Manon left the house for awhile.

\*

Inflation is getting to us. Since the last newsletter, paper has gone up 40¢ a ream, ink up \$1. per pound, and stencils up \$1.70 per quire. And our bulk postage will probably go up in June as usual.

\*

Received a very nice letter from Margie M.C. but find no address in the letter and have lost the envelope. I think the postmark was from a town not far from Bakersfield. She also enclosed an article "Before You Begin To Learn" written by her friend, Cheri M. in Mesa, Ariz. Margie says she started learning about the Craft while in the army in Germany. If anyone knows Margie, you might suggest she write again.

\*

We normally try to get the newsletter in the mail on the first of the month, but this time we hope to mail about 2 days early to give us more time to prepare for the Sabbath. No, the P.O. hasn't speeded up delivery.

\*

Newsletter is presently \$5. per yr., 12 issues.

We'll be celebrating:

Beltane	Saturday, May 2	Full Moon	Tues., May 19
Summer Solstice	Saturday June 20	Full Moon	Tue. 16.
Full Moon	Thur. 16, July		

Well, there's more we could write but we've filled enough pages for this time, so some will have to wait for next month.

That's All, Folks

Love and Blessed Be

Pat & all the Georgians

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