

1908 VERDE STREET
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93304
(805) 323-3309

MERRY MEET - BLESSED BE - AND ALL THAT GOOD STUFF!

BAKERSFIELD - Finding a suitable place for a meeting can sometimes be frustrating. One place refused to take a reservation saying we would have to arrive and pay for the camp the day we wanted to start. You can guess how that would have turned out. Another said he would only rent to a Catholic Church. One a place a couple years ago said he had never heard of our church but, "I hope your people aren't as weird as those Mormons we rented to last year." We dropped that one.

Anyway, we will be going back to Panorama Heights again this year. We will have the campground, but there will be no cabins available this year. Send check for \$10. for your camp space and we'll send a map and more info. There will be a deputy hired to be on the entrance to keep out any undesirables and lookee-loos. So we will need in advance the names of persons attending so they can get in.

Plan to be self-sufficient. The restaurant will be open, but if you plan to cook, you must bring food with you. Remember to get things that won't need refrigeration. Bring a flashlight and toilet paper. If pets are brought, they must be on a leash or chained.

We expect a couple of rituals by other groups, but the theme of the Bakersfield ritual this year will be based on Egyptian things. If you have an Egyptian costume or jewelry, bring 'em along. If you have Craft articles to sell, bring them.

Though there will be no cabins available, there may be a couple of rooms at the lodge. You're on your own to make such arrangements, (805) 536-8816.

If you bring children, they are YOUR responsibility. You can't expect others to give up there fun to baby sit for you.

If you have any questions, you can call the number at top of page.

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There was no Sabbath this month so only the Full Moon. Gail and Puck conducted that one. And, of course, we can expect Puck with his songs and guitar in the mountains.

Sorry to be so late answering some of the mail but my sextary hasn't been available much lately...though we expect her at the mountain meet. Fortunately, Lady Selene is still helping with the typing of the newsletter.

*

BEING A WITCH AT THE MOUNTAIN MEET IS....

...wondering how big the Circle will have to be to get everyone in.

...meeting people for the first time that you've had correspondence with or have been reading about for a few years.

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

I don't know anything about this except what I recieved in the mail, but you might want to look into it: Journey Into Egypt, Novemeber 7-21. For info: IMAGE, 2139 East Indian School Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85016. (602) 957-4100.

Just recieved the new K.A.M. Newsletter. Excellent as always. 42 pages. Published twice yearly. Midsummer & Yule. \$2. each. KAM, POB 34464, Bethesda, Md. 20817.

UNICORN GARDENS NEWSLETTER, 8 times a yr. \$7. Very Nice. Also the Nexus Songbook...words & music for Pagans. Randy is working on these with his guitar as this is written. Hope we'll have a comment before this is mailed. Order newsletter from UNICORN GARDENS or NEXUS SONGBOOK from NEXUS \$2.25 includes postage. Both at same address: POB 45061, Dallas, Tx. 75245.

A very nice tape letter from Sandra in Cleveland. Hadn't heard from her for awhile. Sandra enclosed some nice color photos of Bambi, the cat. Too bad we can't afford to print these at the present time. Also nice photos of Sandra. Sandra is busy these days with lessons.

ELVES from Gainesville, Florida, now in S.L.O. area of Calif. Sounds like all is going well for them.

BONNIE & ALBION in Albuquerque sez: A short story for Le Ann in Columbia, Mo. ...when we were buying our athames at a flea market in Albuquerque (2 bone-handled knives made by an old Navajo man in the mountains), we overheard the man who sold them to us, who was a mountain-man-type himself, say to his next customer as we walked away, "Just say the magic words and the Gods will come down!" Ah, Pan!

ELLEN in No. Hollywood sez: Well, the gathering is over, even the shouting, and we all had a great time. There will definitely be a Second Annual PACIFIC CIRCLE. I even have a site picked out for it--one that will be private and large enough for the crowd we expect next year! Got to meet Mariah, at long last, and that was a joy! She arrived early, so we got a good chance to visit before everyone else showed up. The campground is beautiful, and it had a bare hilltop just perfect for the rituals. Since 2 big ones and some small private rites were held up there, it has become a special place. I hope we find one as perfect for next year.

We had some day-time visitors, too--who came to enjoy the rites. The handfasting went off beautifully, and the Goddess rite--well! We had about 40 people in that one, and talk about variety! Everything from Odinists to Esoteric Christians, including a couple of observers. Members of 4 different groups performed the rite...and there were many comments about the feeling of unity. All of us have new friends, a few mosquito bites, and some glorious memories.

* * * * *

DEFINITIONS #2 · LADY ALLUSHA

- Lords of the Towers -- the 'ancestral spirits' or 'secret Masters' of the Craft; also known as the 'Mighty Ones'; the guardians of the powers of the elements and the four quarters
- Lughnasad -- the August Eve Sabbat (Lammas); Funeral Games of Lugh, the Sun God; a mid-summer festival for the increase of material supplies; recognition of reincarnation and the cycles of life, symbolized by seeds
- Lupercalia -- the Feast of Pan
- Mabon -- September 21, the Autumn Equinox Sabbat; a quarter day; a giving of thanks for the blessings of the year; a farewell to the Sun God who departs to the Summerlands to be rejuvenated
- Madin -- the title of the assistant High Priestess in some traditions; in Scots tradition, the youngest female member of a coven
- Maiden Crown -- a tiara (smaller than Diana's Crown) worn by the 'permanent' assistant to the High Priestess (Maiden) of a coven in some traditions as a badge of office
- Ma'Kheru -- (Egyptian) the Tongue of Truth
- Meeting oil -- a special oil worn at a Craft meetings; used as a perfume to set the ritual mood; used as a charging tool; used as a protection for outdoor skyclad meetings
- Melrawd -- the process and period during which the candidate makes the necessary adjustments from mundane non-wiccan morality and to the Pagan ways of freedom and discipline; it is the time of breaking mental, psychic, sensual, and sexual blocks; a period intense learning
- moonwise -- always facing inward while circumambulating
- neti neti -- not this, not that; trivial
- Osiris Position -- a stance in which one's arms are crossed over the breast, with the hands resting, palms down, on the edge of the shoulders; also known as the God Position
- Pentacle Position -- a stance in which one's feet are spread apart and the arms are held out to the sides at shoulder level; also known as the Goddess Position
- poppet -- see fith fath
- projection -- a journey taken by the psyche
- Purifying Oil -- a mixture of salt, water, five-fold leaf, scented oil, and the breath of the Priestess or Priest; also known as Charging Oil
- Pursewarden -- the coven member responsible for keeping enough money in the coven's purse to cover operating expenses, for keeping a coven record of the moneys, and for giving quarterly financial reports
- quarter days -- the solstices and equinoxes, on which are celebrated the Lesser Sabbats of the Craft; celebrations of the seasonal changes, the Turning of the Wheel
- quarters -- the four cardinal points of the Circle; the four periods of 13 weeks each that begin with the Great Sabbats
- Queen -- a term used in some traditions for a 'Grand Mistress' of the Craft; a High Priestess who is responsible for more than one coven

DEFINITIONS #2 Cont.

- Recorder -- the coven member who is responsible for keeping the coven's records safe and current; also known as Scribe
- Sabbat -- the major religious celebrations of the Craft, at which all the covens in the area traditionally come together; traditionally, the Great Sabbats (the cross-quarter days) begin at sunset on the eve and last until daybreak, the Lesser Sabbats (the quarter days) are held on the day closest to the seasonal change
- Samhain -- the November Eve Sabbat; a cross-quarter day; the beginning of the Celtic New Year; Festival of the Dread Lord of Shadows; the night of the returning dead; also known as Halloween
- scinlaeca -- (Olde English) one who can project the astral body
- Scourge -- a ritual whip or cat-o-nine-tails, usually made of leather, cords, wood, or a combination thereof; a purification tool
- sigil -- any sign or symbol used to represent a concept in making a talisman or in any other working
- Summerlands -- the name of the Lands of the Gods; the place where the spirits of those who have passed on, go to rest and wait to be reborn
- Sword -- a larger type of Athame' (or vice versa); it must be ritually pure; used for operations of even greater power than the Athame
- tan (teine) -- (Celtic) fire
- Thurible -- an incense burner, usually filled with charcoal, and resting on small legs or a stand to raise it off the altar; used as a Censer when a larger, less mobile unit is needed; a tool
- Traditional -- the form of the Craft practiced by witches who have been trained and initiated into a tradition (usually 'ethnic' in some sense) that has been maintained by a coven rather than a family
- Trees -- often refers to the 22 trees of the ancient Tree Calendar
- tuatheal -- Gaelic for 'northwards'; withershins; counter-clockwise
- Turtle Position -- a kneeling 'fetal' position
- Wand -- traditionally made of a hard wood, and measures the distance between the elbow and the middle finger; a tool
- warricking -- the ritual binding of a witch or initiate; used for raising psychic awareness and/or energy
- White Knife -- the whit-handled knife or dagger; used for ritual cutting; a tool
- wiglian -- (Olde English) divining by the moon
- Yule -- December 21, the Winter Solstice Sabbat; a quarter day; Celebration of the Rebirth of the Sun God

STUFF & THINGS

MARIAH in Whittier, Cal. sez: I am enclosing my money and a friend's money to go to the campout. All my free time is spent thinking about the mountain meeting.

Well, my greenhouse temple was rebuilt bigger this time, and a bird aviary was built in it also so my birds could have their babies. They kept laying eggs in their nest in the house in the cage. I now have 3 doves and 2 finches sitting on their eggs. And there are about 50 eggs in the incubator of quails. The critter pet doctor gave me 2 crows to take care of, cause someone shot them in the wings and he had to remove part of 1 wing. Now they will never fly. one with the wing tip removed is about 9 months old. The other crow is about 3 months old and he/she never learned to fly...maybe 'cause its mother was also shot, and it had to go find its mother, and someone found it walking down the street and took it to the doctor to see what was wrong. The Vet then had to find someone who could take care of it for the rest of its life 'cause they live for about 50 years. They eat a certain kind of dog food with all the vitamins in it.

My husband said I have funny animals 'cause I have a one-eyes black cat that likes to eat Alpo Dog Food...an Australian Shephard with blue eyes that likes to eat tuna cat food. George, the turtle, likes to eat gold-colored only fish. NOW! Crows that eat dog food. So, I make everyone eat in an area alone to make sure they eat what they should eat.

ED. NOTE: Always good to hear from you, Mariah...we'll look forward to seeing you at the mountain meet as usual. Interesting that you should mention birds. On my way to work this morning, right at an intersection, I saw a little bird hopping along in the middle of the street..followed by a young puppy trying to play with it. I parked the car, chased off the little dog (another car making a turn was kind enough to wait instead of running over them) and picked up the baby bird...too young to fly. I think it fell from a tree with the lowest branch about 30 feet up. So I put it under some heavy brush on the sidewalk. Didn't know what else to do with it. I rushed to get in my car...couldn't find my keys...find I had jumped in the wrong car..another Honda station wagon parked in front of mine. Jumped out, rushed to work,,had no key to open the door. Remembered I had thrown them on the car seat while looking for my car key. Rushed back to the other car (fortunately still there) got my keys and went to work. I checked for the little bird when I left a couple hours later but didn't find it. I have never seen any cats around there so I hope the mama bird found it.

* * *

JIM in Winchester sez: Please find my enclosed check for reservation at the mountain meet ..also will try to make it for Lammas.

ED. NOTE: Love those long letters, Jim. Just wait 'till you ask for more lesson tapes!

* * * * *

A Article by
Karen in Colorado

AIR is the element of the intellect and is considered active. The direction and quarter of the Circle that corresponds to Air is the East, where the day begins. Air is the springtime, beginnings, and, in the foundations of magick, it is Faith. Faith (or confidence) in magick comes from knowledge, and from understanding the processes of ritual and applying them with sure result.

The tool of Air is the Wand, which is used to direct and channel energy in magick. In its application for healing where it is used to absorb the energy of the universe and channel that energy into the subject of the healing, it corresponds to the caduceus of Mercury, a god of Air - you will notice that this same symbol is used by doctors today.

The Sabbat which corresponds to Air is Candlemas/Oimelc. This Sabbat falls in the fixed Air sign of Aquarius, the sign of the zodiac noted for intellectualization, eccentricity, and being the forerunner of new waves of thought.

The archangle of Air (in magick, angels represent invisible forces, powers ascending and descending between the source of all things and the world; an archangel then being the highest and most pure force) is Raphael, the archangel of healing, teaching, and travel. He is visualized on a mountaintop, in robes of yellow and purple which blow gently in the wind.

Sylphs are elementals attributed to Air and are similar to human in form, although they are transparent and have lovely, delicate wings. They travel on the wind and you can hear them talking and laughing as they drift in and out of the trees. Paralda is their king. As you might imagine, they are very articulate and logical. Sylphs prefer the mountaintops where the air is thinnest. They are related to the nervous system in the human body. Their favorite scents are the mints and light flowery essences such as tulip. They love the sound of bells

Next Month - Fire

THE HIGH PRIESTESS

Victorian Flower Language Continued

- Freshness... mint flowers
- Friendship... Blue perriwinkle, oakleaved gerranium
- Frivolity... London Pride
- Frugality... Chicory, Endive
- Gaity... Butterfly Orchis, Yellow Lilly
- Gallantry... Sweet Willi am
- Generousity... Orangetree, Honeysuckle(French)
- Genius... Plane tree
- Girlhood... White rose bud

Victorian Flower Language Cont.

Glory... Baytree, Laurel, Gloryflower
 Good wishes... Sweetbaisil
 Grandure... Ashtree
 Grief... Harebell, Marigold
 Happy love... Bridal rose
 Hatred... Basil
 Haughtiness... Purple larkspur, Tall sunflower
 Health... Iceland moss(this is used as "filler" in bouquets today)
 Hermitage... Milkwort
 Hidden worth... corriander
 Honesty... Honesty
 Hope, Flowering Almond, Hawthorn snodrop
 Hope in Adversity... Spruce pine
 Hopeless love... Yellow tulip
 Hopeless, not heartless... Love-lies-bleeding
 Horror... Mandrake, Dragonswort(fireweed) Snakesfoot
 Hospitality... Oaktree
 Humility... Small bindweed, Field lilac, Broom
 I am too happy... Cape jasmin
 I am your captive... Peach blossom
 I am worthy of you... White rose
 I change but in death... Bayleaf
 I declare against you... Belvedere, Liqueo rice
 I declare war against you... Wild tansy
 I die if neglected... Laurestina
 I desire a return of affection... Jonquill
 I feel my obligations... Lint
 I feel your kindness... Flax
 I have lost all... Mourning bride
 I love... Red crysanthamum
 I partake of your sentiments... Double china aster, Garden Daisy
 I shall die tomorrow... Gum cistus
 I shall not survive you... Black mulberry
 I surmount difficulties... Mistletoe(not in berry)
 I will think of it... Single china aster, wild Daisey
 I wound to heal... Elegantine(sweetbrier)
 If you love me you will find it out... Maiden Blush rose
 Idleness... Mesembryanthemum
 Ill natured beauty... Citron
 Imagination... Lupine
 Immortality... Everlast, Amaranth(globe)
 Impatiencie... Yellow balsam
 Impatient of absence... Corchorus
 Impatient resolves... Red balsam
 Imperfection... Henbane
 Impotunity... Burdock
 One of the interesting aspects of Victorian Flower language is that it tells a lot about the Victorian ethic. There was great concern with DUTY, HONOR, PURITY AND PIETY.

Victorian Flower language cont.

This is the ethic that our grandparents were raised in, and our parents. Life, in general remained very much the same (ethically) from the middle ages up through the 1950's.

That may be why our folks had such a hard time accepting the "new morals" (which aren't "new" at all, and of which the pagan revival is a part.)

Of course the Pagan rising, had to follow the 60's movements. The Most sweeping and fundamental change was the idea that our bodies were not "dirty." This, more than any other issue, paved the way for us.

Blessings,
Shadowhawk.

Article By
Lady Phoenix in Dallas

It was a good feeling to see the entire article I sent to you in print. That is one feeling, I don't think one ever "outgrows", no matter how often or how many of your works are published. I've been in several books, anthologies, etc... and am working on a couple of books now... but that article in a Craft publication meant more to me than the whole group of non-Craft anthologies, magazines, etc.

The writer who talked about trying to define a Georgian...really said it. I've just been sitting here, trying to find words to explain my feelings...what the Craft is, to me, describe the belongingness that nestles into every fibre of my being. I can't do it. The Craft simply is. And I am part of it. It is both my challenge and my serenity, the source of my inner strength, and too special and too much a part of me to be able to form into mere words. I've looked back through much of my early writings, and have been amazed at all the subtle references to the Moon and the Goddess...which I did not see at the time..nor would I have understood, had I been aware of them..The thought crossed my mind then, "O.K. Mother...how long have you been watching me?" A very gentle whisper of thought brushed mine, "Always".

Perhaps that is the focus I had not seen before, or truly understood. I feel so very much a part of all that Craft or Wicca is to me...because finding this path again, this lifetime was truly Coming Home. My only problem is not understanding all the back-biting and conflict within the Craft...snide and even cruel comments about where someone's initiation came from..."I'd like to see her credentials!"..etc. On a spiritual path of Perfect Love and Perfect Trust....where do these things have a place? Why do we as much or even more desension within our ranks than the usual

Article by Lady Phoenix cont.

modern religions inter-denominational battles? They don't belong here! The traditions of the Craft are---like two of us women going to purchase a new dress....we might choose the same, indentical style--but select different colors; or, we might both select the same shade of a color, but choose slightly different desings for the fabric. That's all the difference is, a personal preference because we are more omfortable with this style rather than that, or that shade, rather than another. We don't fight with each other because I perfer blues and another person likes greens best....So why the conflict with a Path that is One in the first placd?

At any rate...I am Home...and hapny to be here...to my brothers and sisters of the Wicca...whoever, wherever they are, and whatever they call their portion of the path, I wish you love, laughter, sunshine and rainbows....and always, the Lady's Presence!

Blessed Be.

Demeter - Ye Full Moon Wicca
15 Ivy Road, Mastic Beach N. Y. 11951

Alcoholism and the Craft Part 2.

A progressed alcoholic has to be careful about withdrawing. It can be dangerous without medical supervision. When the body has come to rely on alcohol DT's, hallacunations, convulsions are dangerous side affects that could result in heart failure, brain damage and death.

How to help an alcoholci: Don't try the guilt trip. It makes it a whole lot worse. When faced with what was done "under the infuence" the deep sensitivity is triggered off again- only to have the person want to blot out the shame, remorse and guilt with the old familiar coping mechanism-alcohol. Don't try to talk to an alcoholic who is drunk. That's like trying to discuss something with a person who is drugged and on the operating room table. See if you can discuss it when sober or after the person is awake with a hangover.

With love and understanding have a talk. Point out that it is a disease and there is help available. There are more programs available than just the heaiivly christianized AA. Don't expect meraicles with that first chat, or maybe the 2nd, 3rd or 4th AA has good literature about the desease as do some insurance companies and goverment agencies.

I found a great deal of help from a relatively new program called WFS (women for sobriety) based in quaker town Pa. It's 13 step program contains equivelant craft dieas such as self-healing and creative visualizatiom". "I am what I thind" and "all love given is returned two-fold" also this program is geared to a very misunderstood sædor of the alcoholic population - women. It's macho for

Alcoholism and the Craft Part 2.

for a man to have a few belts with the guys and "tie one on". A lady doesn't drink unless she's a lush or tramp. More women are facing the added pressure of career and homemaking and are resorting to drink to cope with the pressure.

It's easy to undermine or sabotage the efforts of an alcoholic who is trying to stop drinking. When I decided to stop drinking - some people couldn't believe that I couldn't have "just one little glass of wine." "Aw - c'mon, you're not an alcoholic- not you!" Believe me, alcoholics would love to believe they could drink like a non-alcoholic and stop at just one or two. It's easy to convince them to try that "just one." But that's like trying to tell a diabetic he's not one.

The 1st month is probably the hardest although the body eliminates most of the alcohol within 72 hours - a pattern in life has been established involving alcohol. Personal relationships can differ too. Insomnia is a big problem that faces many newly abstaining alcoholics. No more can that drug be used to "relax", "Wind down" or "get to sleep". This is usually surprising and frightening for an alcoholic to discover just how much of life was devoted to drinking or being in various stages of intoxication or looking forward to it.

Craft wise what can be done? If a covener is a victim of the disease - group support can be a major help. Self-purification, self-approval done over and over again is good therapy. Circle work for healing is great too. Group discussion about the disease can broaden each person's knowledge. The best help you can give is a combination of knowledge, support and love.

So many people will recognize the problem and take the attitude "so and so is drunk" or "did you see what so and so did last night after all that wine!" and promptly proceed to crucify the drinker behind the back or laugh off or feel awkward about the problem. Instead of ignoring it or rejecting the person - reach out and help. Confront the drinker when there is some rationality. Be positive and supportive - "You have a problem with drinking you may not see. You need help and it's available - I'll back you 100%" and if you really care - be prepared to do just that.

I'll be glad to write more about the condition for the Georgian Newsletter if people want me to or if you have some private questions write to me with a SASE and I'll answer to the best of my ability.

Finally here are a couple of helpful hints if someone wants to try going on the wagon:

Alcohol depletes the body of Vit. B's so take mega doses of Vit. B complex and multi vitamin - surprisingly this decreases the desire for drink. Insomnia is a big problem, so during the day just have one cup of regular coffee than switch to de-caf. Avoid cola-loaded

Alcoholism and the Craft Part 2.

soft drinks . A good natural suplimant is a herb "capsicum" or cayanne pepper which can be bought in capsules. Change some habits. If you sat in one chair in the living room to drink and watch tv or read - more to another sport. I made up a drink for myself that tasted like my Carbls Rossi's pink cables- apple juice, cranberry juice, some strawberry and cherry soda- bubble up with club soda. I poured it in an old wine bottle and took it with me. It was a good psychological trick and other people got "high" drinking my "wine".

Remember you are not alone and share this disease with millions of other people. But there is no cure- only abstention. May the Lady and Lord smile on your endeavors!

Blessed Be Demeter

Second Article on Poisonous Houseplants and Poison Prevention
By Lady Selene

- Dracaena Idivisa (Cordyline indivisa)--non-toxic
 - Dumbcane (Dieffenbachia amoena)-- toxic-oxalates
 - Emerald Duke (Philodendron hastatum)-- toxic-oxalates
 - Emerald Ripple (Peperomia caperata) -- non-toxic
 - False Aralia (Dizygotheca elegantissima)-- non-toxic
 - Fiddleleaf Fig(Ficus lyrata) --non-toxic
 - Gardenia (Gardenia radicans floraplana)-- non-toxic
 - Glacier Ivy(Hedera glacier) -- toxic
 - Giant white Inch Pl nt(Tradescantii albiflora)-- non-toxic
 - Goldfish Plant (Columnea banksi)-- non-toxic
 - Gold Toothed Aloe(Aloe nobilis) -- toxic, possible dermatitis
 - Grape Ivy (Cissus rhombiflora) --non-toxic
 - Heart Ivy (Hedera helix) --toxic
 - Heartleaf (Philodendron cordatum) --toxic-oxalates
 - Indian Laurel (Ficus nitida) --non-toxic, possible dermatitis
 - Ivy (Hedera helix) --toxic
 - Jade Plant (Crassula argentea) --non-toxic
 - Janet Craig (Draceana derminensis)-- non-toxic
 - Jerusalem Cherry (solanum pseudocapsicum) -- toxic
 - Madagascar Dragon (Draceana marginata)-- non-toxic
 - Madagascar Lace Plant (Aponogenton senentralis)-- non-toxic
 - Marble Queen (Scindapsus aureus) -- toxic-oxalates
 - Majesty (Philodendron hastatum) --toxic-oxalates
 - Moon Magic (Pilea 'moon magic') -- non-toxic
 - Needlepoint Ivy (Hedera helix 'needlepoint') -- toxic
 - Nephtytis (syngonium podophyllum albolineatum) --toxic-oxalates
 - Norfolk Island Pine (Araucaria excelsa) -- non-toxic
 - ParlorIvy (Philodendron cordatum) -- toxic-oxalates
 - Parlor Palm (Chamaedorea elegans) -- non-toxic
 - Painted Needle (Coleus)-- non-toxic
 - Peacock Plant (Calathea)-- non-toxic
 - Piggyback Begonis (Begonia hispida cucullifera)-- non-toxic
- Thats all for this month Blessed Be! Lady Selene

The following was printed in issue # 1 of the Australian Wiccan.

INSTANT CURSES FOR THE USE OF ALL ILL-WISHERS

Yes, all you dear folk of ill-intent, this is in print and readily available. Rush your order now to your friendly neighborhood church bookshop for a copy of the Bible, and then you will possess your own text of curses and be able to vent your ill-will on whom you will, whenever you will!

"Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand.
 When he shall be judged, let him be condemned: and let his prayer become sin.
 Let his days be few: and let another take his office.
 Let his children be fatherless, and his wife a widow.
 Let his children be continually vagabonds and beg: let them seek their bread also out of desolate places.
 Let the extortioner catch all that he hath: and let strangers spoil his labor.
 Let their be none to extend mercy unto him: neither let there be any to favor his fatherless children.
 Let his posterity be cut off: and in the generations following let their name be blotted out". Psalm 109 vv. 6 to 13.

I wonder what the poor man did to deserve such a curse, after all, Witches were only burned!

PSALMS AGAIN. From the version in the Anglican Psalter of Psalms 108 v. 1:-

"I will sing and give praise with THE BEST MEMBER that I have."
 I think most Pagans would drink to that!

* * *

STUFF & THINGS

Recieved phone calls from Sardo & Pippin and also Shadowhawk & Blacksun...al in Washington state. We hope all of them can make it to the mountain meet...depends on work schedules, etc.

Also, a nice long call from Penny and her new husband in Bradenton, Florida. All goes well there with a newly enlarged outdoor Circle, etc. Penny is now 3 rd degree and is no longer an "acting HPs". Good work, Penny. And our special thanks to Jodi in Atlanta.

Another nice call from Beth & Frank in Memphis. Wish they didn't live so far away.

I had to call Dagda recently about some Craft business. We had a pleasant talk for at least an hour..but I'm not looking forward to my next phone bill. If Dagda and his people don't come to visit soon, we'll send the whole bunch to the doghouse.

BEING A WITCH IS.....

...wondering how to get out of Pat's doghouse.

* * * * *

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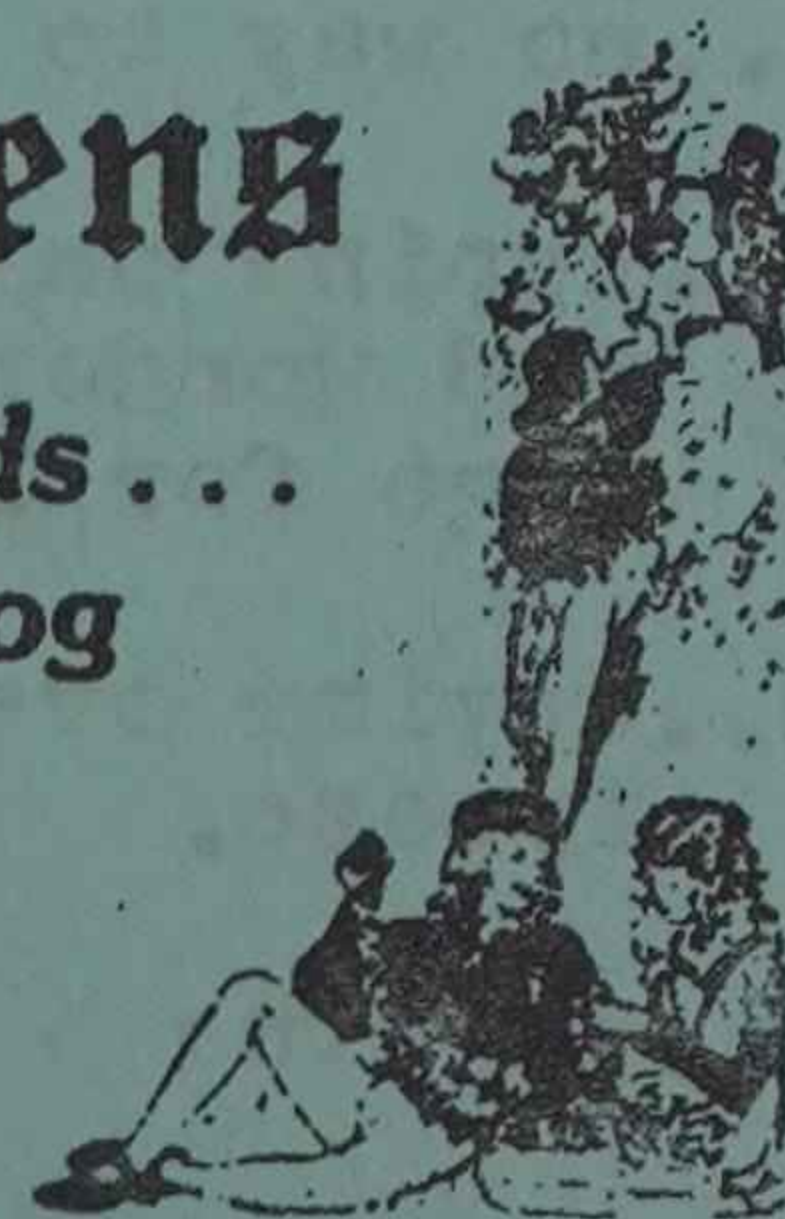
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SOLITARY OR COVEN? from your editor

Occasionally some new person asks what is a "Solitary"? The simple answer is that it is a person who practices the Craft alone. But why?

There are several reasons. Most I have had contact with practice alone because they haven't found anyone to work with, or a group they feel comfortable with. Some have had a bad experience in getting involved with the wrong group, and are afraid of getting involved again with any group. Too bad! That makes as much sense as permanently avoiding the opposite sex because of a bad love affair.

Then there are those who will come up with dozens of excuses- none that make sense. The real reason is their own insecurity - their lack of belief in themselves. They fear that someone will discover that they really don't have ALL knowledge about the Craft & magick. ..and so they block themselves from more learning. They think of a coven as something competitive - like a contest - and they are afraid of not winning.

Coven members should not be in competition with one another. They should be closer than a family, working together, helping one another.

Just the close feeling and the freedom to discuss occult matters openly, without being considered a nut or at least strange, makes coven membership worthwhile.

But other factors are even more important: the opportunity to learn from one another, the increased power of a ritual. No matter how much power an individual has, the power is increased when working with others. One plus one plus one doesn't equal three when it comes to ritual. The total is always greater than the sum of the individual parts. It would take too much space to explain the reasons, but study, practice and experience will bring understanding.

Yes, there are many advantages to being part of a coven. the right coven. Just use caution and have patience. Don't rush to be initiated into the first group you find. If they're worth joining, and if you're worth having, taking your time will cause no problem.

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BEING A WITCH IS.....

...no way to get rich.

...typing on a newsletter with no help, (from Lady Phoenix) and wondering if there is a minimum wage for labors of love.

...crying over a Gardenia bush that was caught in the late freeze.

...missing a meal so you can afford to feed your familiars.

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

BLACKSUN (Elvenhearth) sez: I've so much to tell about, I hardly know where to begin! First, let me say thanks to everybody who took the time to send me their thoughts about the April article. Not only have I gathered my own thoughts together concerning the whole concept of duality, but I have found more beautiful people to correspond with. I am in the middle of setting my thoughts down on paper and will write to you all about this when I feel less like disputing with a certain Dianic.

On to much happier thinking: there is a possibility that Shadowhawk and I will be a mommy & daddy! I have a son by a previous marriage whom I have not seen in six years. His mother never stayed in one place long enough to have an address. The last time I saw him, he was 4½. I had lost hope. I just recently was called by a welfare case-worker, and told that the state had taken him away from her and would I like to see him! Dumb question, huh? Last week, I and Shadowhawk drove to where he is under foster care and spent the day with him. I can't tell you the joy that was in my heart, but I'm sure you know it was just wondrous. Shadowhawk melted and wants as much as I do to get him living with us. The usual paper wall is there to scale with the state agencies, but we are working on it. We can't have children of our own, so the Lady has given us a beautiful, healthy, and wonderful 11 year old boy. Blessings upon all Mothers!

Also, I have been working on lessons for our students. When they are all typed up and ready to be published, I will sell them for the cost of photocopying plus binder and postage to anyone who wishes. These are lessons not so much about the Craft, as they are about some of the knowledges that are used in the Craft. They are being used with discussion so that a basis of communication can be firmly set before any discussion about initiation takes place. Parts of them will be used as articles for a new column, "HP: Power Behind the Crone", which will be sent to Pat in a few weeks in one lump for him to break up into 12 sections so that it spans a year's worth of issues. Which brings me to the last thing I want to bring up.

Pat, you exhibit all the things that mark a person of intelligence, but I, one of your subscribers, wish to pick a bone over these silly subscription rates. You have to be losing money! I for one will not put up with this! I depend on this newsletter too. #?#!?!! much to let it take the chance of going down the drain because of lack of proper funding! From here on, I and any others I can convince, will be subscribing for \$10. a year and that's that! I hope this doesn't get edited out.

Time and \$ don't allow me to get to the mountain meet this year, but Shadowhawk will. Maybe next year. Sunshine, our 8 year old "puppy" says "BERK" (she doesn't really say bark) to you and your pups.

PL, PT, & BB.

BLACKSUN

* * * * *

DOG DAYS & OTHER ANIMAL PEOPLE

Feeding your pet properly is very important. Some people go overboard on the dry foods. Some of the dry foods are very good and contain much nutrition, but a diet of dry food only may be harmful to your pet. Your pet needs moist foods and plenty of water as well as dry foods.

Of course, your pet's diet will depend on what you can afford, the kind of pet you have, and what your pet likes. Since I have 3 fairly large dogs, the following is what I feed to them.

Early morning - graham crackers..a box is divided so that it will last 6 days.

Several hours later - pork neck bone for each. The butcher cuts them into about 2 inch lengths, and then they are thoroughly cooked. One jerky treat each (the ones in boxes for dogs are much cheaper.

One vitamin pill each.

A bowl of dried food, one dog biscuit, several flavor snacks, and a couple of dog treats. Sirius gets a Bonz instead of a dog biscuit because he likes that better.

Late afternoon - one can of a better grade and different flavor canned dog food divided 3 ways every other day. On alternate days, one half pound of cooked liver each.

Maybe once a week, a scoop of ice cream for each, and maybe once a week, a small bowl of milk. They love both but milk is not too good for their digestive system.

Maybe once a day, a small tootsie roll or other small candy treat. Candy is not really good for them but they love it.

Once in awhile maybe some hamburger (cooked), tuna, or spare ribs after some of the meat is cut off. Once a week, cooked chicken cut off the bones. (Chicken bones can be dangerous to your pet.

This may seem like a crazy diet but it keeps them healthy and active...and they don't get bored with their food.

Remember, exercise is also important.

* * *
FROM U. P. I. Los Angeles - "Rooster", a Los Angeles police dog with 19 felony arrests since graduating from the police academy earlier this year, has been buried on the academy grounds. The dog plunged seven floors to his death while tracking a burglar. The dog's handler said Rooster was following a scent and didn't see the gap between 2 buildings. It was the first time a K-9 Corps dog was killed in line of duty in L.A. One officer says Rooster will be missed...and his paws will be hard to fill.

*
WASHINGTON - The Southern California nests of the world's largest birds, the Condors, won't be threatened by oil drilling. The U.S. Supreme Court saw to that by refusing to disturb a ruling that blocks oil drilling near Sespe Condor Sanctuary in Ventura County. The Condors, once numerous, are now found only among high peaks of the Andes Mountains in South America and the coast range of Southern California.

*
LAS VEGAS - We're certain everyone must know by now that Donna, the duck, has recovered from the operation to remove a three foot arrow from her chest. Poor duck was probably shot by some brat whose stupid parents gave him a bow & arrows to play with.

* * * * *

FROM U.P.I.

GAINSVILLE, MO. - In what seemed like a scene from a horror movie, swarms of bees attacked & killed a woman, then hovered over her body for more than ½ hour.

58-year-old Margaret Brenizer was walking along a road with her husband & a friend when the bees came swarming out of their hives. Brenizer, a diabetic with numerous allergies was stung hundreds of times & died almost instantly.

*

The bare breasts of 2 women outside the Chamber of Commerce in Cape May, N.J. sent shock waves thru the office.

The woman in the back seat was nude, the other wearing only her Bikini bottom. One woman got dressed, entered the office & asked for a drink of water. She was told she'd have to put her shoes on. She walked out, pulled off her top and.. "Did the Hoochie-Coochie at us." They then drove off.

The phones have been ringing wildly ever since with requests for a repeat performance.

*

New evidence that a dog, cat, or other pet can help a person lower blood pressure, prevent a heart attack, or "Toughen your Ego" has been reported by Dr. Aaron Ketcher, Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania. Ketcher, quoted in the June issue of Science Digest Magazine, said, "We have found seven ways that pets increase well-being by decreasing depression and anxiety."

He noted pets are a source of companionship, are pleasant to touch, take people's minds off their troubles, allow them to become busy and involved, make them feel safe, are a stimulus to exercise and actually lower blood pressure.

Ketcher said a team, of which he is a member, found that in a group of 93 cardiac patients, 11 of the 39 patients who did not own pets died within a year..but only 3 of the 53 who had pets died.

Pets also teach children to become "more human", said Dr. Boris Levinson, Professor of Psychology at Yeshiva University, who said caring for pets teaches children they must sometimes forego their own pleasure and suffer inconvenience.

*

NAPA, CALIFORNIA - As an inferno steadily consumed houses in the Napa Valley, neighbors opened their doors to the homeless. A radio station became the voice of the community giving directions and instructions to residents who were missing loved ones.

The station even started a unique adopt-an-animal program in conjunction with the Napa Humane Society in an attempt to find homes for burned out animals.

Society President Darrell Patrick said he was amazed. In his words ... "People are wonderful."

Patrick says he had offers to house 102 dogs, 70 cats, 112 horses, 20 goats, 15 sheep, 40 cows, 10 small pets and 5 birds.

During the night..ranchhands & neighbors gathered at a 400-acre Quarterhorse ranch directly in the fire's route. A ranchhand said if need be the group would ride the horses out.

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

OUR CREEP OF THE MONTH AWARD GOES TO:

Robert Scott Geiger rescued a cat & 4 kittens from a garbage bin in Moncks Corner, South Carolina, as a good deed. A county official charged him with being a scavenger. Geiger pleaded guilty, but Magistrate Ira Grady Junior refused to punish him... saying he had done "Something of great value." Officer G-L Brown, who wrote the ticket against Geiger, said "I could have given him a ticket for scavenging and littering, but I only gave him one for scavenging."

FROM U.P.I. *

SALINAS, CAL. - Brothers John & Sam Maytar, who annually try to out-do each other in sending unique birthday gifts, may have reached new heights this year.

A few months ago, John Maytar of Chicago, gave his brother Sam of Chicago, a balloon ride with a pair of strippers along in the gondola for company.

So Sam sent his brother a gas-saving economy car. The car was sent in 73 pieces along with a pipe wrench and a picture of how the completed car was supposed to look.

*

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA - The F.C.C. warns that unless Broadcast Evangelist Jerry Falwell's new radio station in Virginia stops interfering with other station's broadcasts, it will not receive a permanent license.

J-J Freeman, engineer-in-charge of the Norfolk F.C.C. office, says station W-R-V-L FM, operated by Falwell's Liberty Baptist Church, is causing widespread interference to television audio signals.

-

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS - Madalyn Murray O'Hair, head of the "American Atheist" organization, has filed a federal court suit challenging the Arkansas Constitutional Requirement that officeholders and witnesses in court believe in God.

The suit filed in Little Rock by her organization names Governor Frank White & President Reagan among defendants.

The Arkansas constitution states - "No person who denies the being of God shall hold any office in the civil departments of this state nor be competent to testify as a witness in any court."

*

LOS ANGELES - A nudist group has filed a suit challenging Los Angeles County's ordinance against nude sunbathing. The group claims the law interferes with nudist's first amendment rights of freedom of expression.

The suit also contends the law is unconstitutional because it violates due process of law..by not providing fair notice of where nudity is banned in the county.

*

BEING A WITCH IS.....

....so often wishing the Goddess could just drop in for a short talk...or even a long one.

WE ARE WHAT WE THINK

By Lady Mariah

In Southern California

I am a very private person and keep my personal life to myself, but to only my very closest friends. But this time by sharing part of my teenage life, I feel may help some people that never encountered homosexuals but at a distance.

WHEN I was 14 years old, I had a 14 year old male living next door to me. He was the best looking boy in the school (said all the girls). He would make up and sing very tender songs. He helped me learn how to curl my hair. He helped me put on my make-up, but my mother made me remove it, cause she said that I was too young to look like a woman. He taught me how to dance.

We would lay up on the top of the haystack and watch the stars and talk about what we would do when we grow-up.

I told him that I would meet my Prince Charming and we would wed, and have a child and live happily ever after, like all the stories told us life would be. *

He told me he did not know what his life would be like, cause he felt like a girl; he liked boys also. He could not by societies standards marry a woman, have a child and live happily ever after. He told me that he loved me as a sister and very good friend.

Both of us didn't know what was happening to him. He made me promise to never tell anyone, cause he would be made fun of by the other kids. Bigger boys would beat him up and the girls would make fun of him by calling him names (the same girls that were chasing him). So we layed on the hay under the stars and talked as children on an adult subject.

As children, the best idea we could come up with was, I would be his girlfriend and we would go to the school dances, go to movies, and go to teen parties together and, I would wear his ring like all the other teens.

The reason for doing was to keep him from all the girls that were chasing him. He didn't want to put his arms around them and kiss them good night; he would be living a lie to them and himself, 'cause nothing could come of their relationship. Both of us stalling for more time until we could find out what was going on inside him. We had never heard of this happening to people before.

He was a comfort to be with as a teen. When he said that were going to the movies, went to the movies, but other boys wanted to park in the country, which I knew as a 14 yr. old what could happen. We would do fun things together as a boy and girl. *

My father could tell that he was different and would get mad everytime he knew that my friend was coming over for a hamburger and soda, or watch T.V.. My mother said that he was a nice young man.

WE ARE WHAT WE THINK cont.

My uncle said that he was going to pay some bigger boy to beat him up cause he walked funny.

My dear friend, and that was what we were, was from his own peers but not from the older generation.

As we grew older and I got interested in the opposit sex, I met a boy when I was 16 yrs. old and we had to part company as boyfriend and girlfriend, and I no longer wore his ring. By that time he had gotten stronger and put his energies into his music and painting.

Years passed, and when I was nineteen yrs. old, my new husband was in the Marine Corp and had to go kight the war in Viet Nam. I was left alone. Men were trying to take me out, and some men made my life uneasy. So I called my friend, who still lived next door to my mother's home, and told him how my life was going at that time. He next door to me in the same Apartment building, this time to help me.

We went out to dinner and to the movies and we went dancing. We both liked to paint so we spent days painting together. My life was easier to live.

As days passed we again talked about our future. My idea of life remained the same. His life was spent living a lie to please his mother so she would not be hurt by his actions.

13 months later my husband returned home and thanked my friend for being my male companion so that part of my life would be fulfilled whild he had to be away.

Two months later my friend called me to meet him at the hospital. I got there just in time to talk to his mother before she died. Both of us were standing in the hall of the hospital holding each other and crying. We both knew that his life was going to change 'cause his mother had died. Now he had no one else to hurt by the he felt.

While looking in my eyes and holding my hands he said, "Well, I won't be seeing you again in this life time. I don't want you to see how my life will change; and I hope I never live to see 30yrs. old".

I have never heard from my friend to this day.

A few years ago when I turned 30 I thought about my friend. My life still is the way books tell us it should be, His life is learning how to survive in a world that never took the time to understand him as just a human being. His is a understanding gentle man, sings beautiful songs and paints beautiful bright colors in his paintings. He is a child of the universe, nothing more and nothing less.

Where ever he is today I only hope the world is friendler and nicer to him then it was when he was a child, teenager and young man,

WE ARE WHAT WE THINK cont.

but the chances are very slim.

Some people may say what we did about our relationship was wrong. But we saw it as helping another human being, understand ourselves, and helping a friend.

Now as an adult I see that the same feelings that are in our subconscious that called some Crafters in to the Craft, even though they had to go against societies standards by being a witch, is calling homosexuals down another path. All the problems Witches encounter, but double..

If they are brave enough or stupid enough, which ever way you look at it, say they are a Witch plus a homosexual, do they get the raised eye brows. People talk mean about them, and some stay away from them cause "other" people may think they are homosexual also.

I still don't really understand how they feel 'cause my way is down another path, but they may not understand my path.

But I do know that they think, hurt, cry, have hopes, dreams and feel love, just like I do. And that is what makes us human.

Merry Part and Blessed Be,
Lady Mariah

Karen in Colorade Sez'-

We're not going to any festivals this year, a mixture of realistic economic and time factors. However, for the first time ever there's going to be something that is happening here in Denver. I've enclosed information on it. I think Denver will welcome this kind of activity with open arms. There's been several more people in the area who are working toward public education. They've said response was positive and receptive. Good climate here, despite the Moral Mongoloids.

Regarding some of the debate in the newsletter about whether or not to come out of the closet: Being a public representative on one of the most maligned minority religions is not a good position for everyone, but some of us have to do it for the good of all of us. As you know, I am very active in the area of Craft PR in the rockies and I have yet to have an adverse or negative thing happen. Growing up Pagan in Tulsa, OK. was difficult spiritually, both because of lack of input and support by the community, and because of the ostracism I encountered at school. When I had my daughter, Rain, I determined that I had to do something active and positive. Hopefully as she grows up there will be more understanding and acceptance through my efforts and others who are committed to public education. I don't think, however, that anyone who must be a 'closet witch' for whatever their reasons is wrong - we all know what is best for ourselves to do.

Karen Sezs - Cont.

I thought Marriah's article on paranoia in the June issue was very good. I have seen some cases of true psychic attack, but the number is extremely small in comparison to the number of accidents self-inflicted through paranoia.

We had a lovely Summer Solstice. We went up to the mountains onto some acreage that we share with another coven. We have made a large stone altar and cleared space for the Circle in a small grove of trees surrounded by a running stream on both sides. It was reeat to get out there in the sun, skyclad, and dance, dance, dance! The ceremony was shared with another group here and dedications were performed for three of the students. No one got sunburned, which is surprising.

Rain and Gary are both doing very well. Rain is now starting to join us for special Circles and is enjoying herself considerably. In the fall she will begin 1st grade at her new school. Last weekend she got to ride on an elephant at our local Renaissance Festival, and decided that she wanted to live in the jungle with the rest of the wildlife.

Tell Ruthi her information on Symbology is good. She's put together information on one of the most important aspects to ritual magick, and in a way that is understandable and helpful. I've enclosed some information about the four elements which you can print if you like, that hopefully will also be helpful. The information is taken from a booklet I've written called the Fundamentals of Magick. If you'll be patient, I'll get you a copy of it, along with some others I'm selling through Moon Magick.

Been real busy doing talks around here on Wicca. Last weekend I was a speaker at the annual Symposium put on by the Whole Life Learning Center here. My lecture was very well attended and we ended up going half an hour over due to questions.

Well, I'll let you go. Hope that everything is great for you and yours. Oh! I forgot to tell you. I've finally screwed up my courage and am going to get a tatoo tonight. I'm having a small MoonFire symbol put on my ankle. I'll send you a pic after it's healed.

Love and Blessed Be.

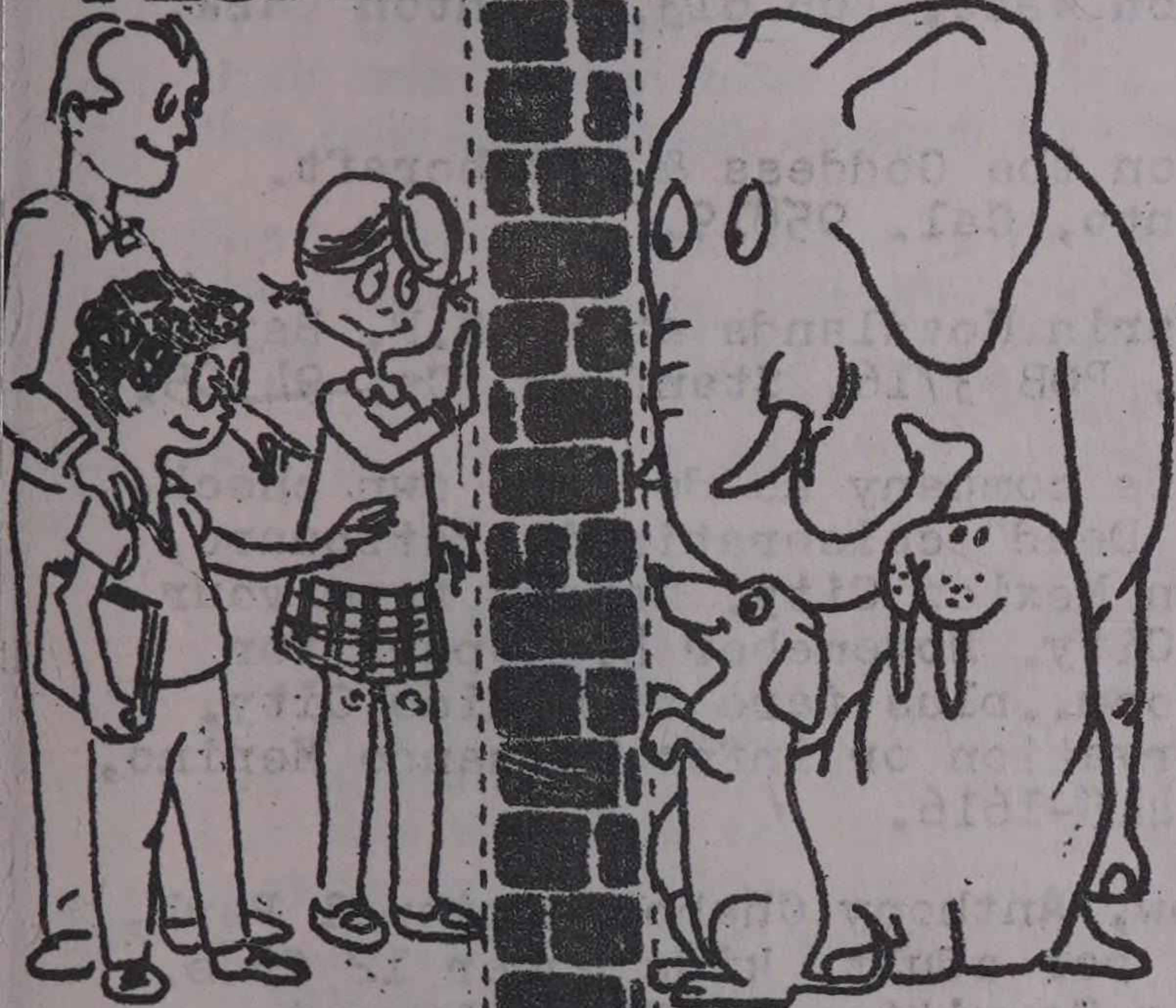
COSMIC DANCER

By Dana in Kalamazoo, Mi.

I dance for you the Cosmic Dance	The dreams of the seagull
Birthpain and Lifejoy	The joy of windcurrents touch.
To bend and flow and stretch	Effortless soar, limitless glide,
In the Universal rhythm.	Graceful in work, perfection in moti-
Of freedom, of joy, of life	on.
Do I dance.	Of the harmony of the Universe
The song of the eagle	Do I fashion my rhythm.
	Of the love in my soul
	Do I give you my Dance.

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TEAR-DOWN THE WALL BETWEEN PEOPLE AND ANIMALS



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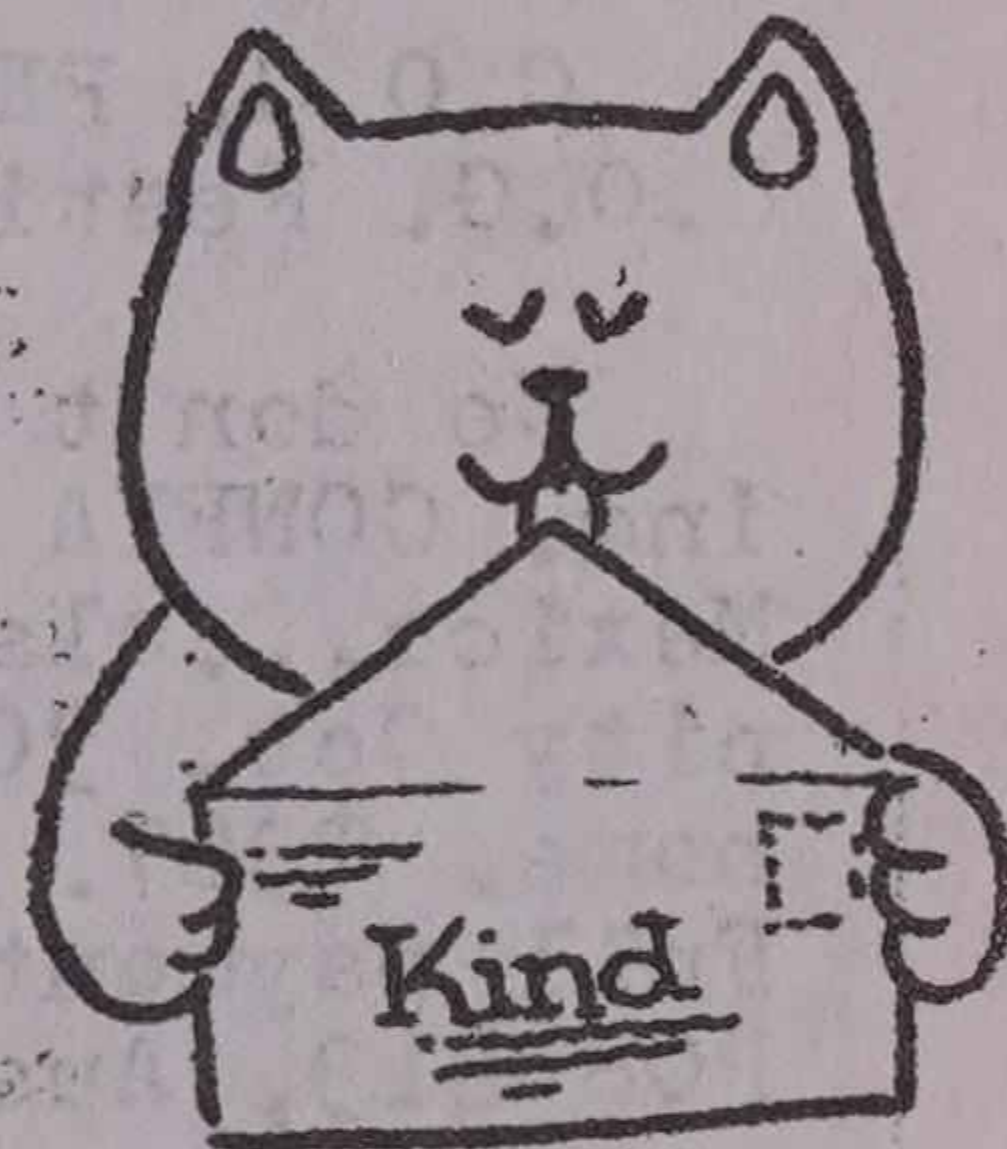
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They will enclose a gift certificate if you request it.

BELOW: cartoon by RUS of
ARCANE CRAFTS, POB 383
MASTIC BEACH, N.Y. 11951

Being a Witch is:

A CATHOLIC BISHOP RECENTLY SUGGESTED THAT CLOSER CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE CHURCH AND THE PAGAN MOVEMENT MAY SOMEDAY BECOME A REALITY, ESPECIALLY IN THE FACE OF A COMMON ENEMY...



MEETINGS

GEORGIAN MOUNTAIN MEET - AUG. 14-16. About 50 miles from Bak-
ersfield. Send \$10. for camping space. Info and instructions by
return mail.

SOUTHWEST PAGAN FESTIVAL (Ethkay-Nah-Ashi) in northern mount-
ains of New Mexico. Sept. 11-13. \$13. adults, kids under 13 free.
Contact OZ (505) 256-1631 or POB 4014, Albuquerque, N.M. 87196.

TREE OF LIFE SEMINAR, Sept. 4-7, Northglenn Holiday Inn, Denver,
Colorado. Lots of things going on. For info write: 11343 Corona Dr.
Northglenn, Colorado 80233. (303) 457-8224.

PAN-PAGAN FESTIVAL, Aug. 6-9, Buchanan, Mich. Registration will
be late but you can try. Adults \$18.50, kids 5-12 \$9. each.
Midwest Pagan Council, c/o Parthenon West, POB 613, Richton Park,
Ill. 60471.

March 26-28, 1982. Conference on the Goddess & Witchcraft.
Goddess Rising, POB 19241, Sacramento, Cal. 95819.

C.O.G. FESTIVAL, Sept. 10-13, Marin Headlands above S.F. Bay.
C.O.G. Festival, c/o Alison Harlow, POB 3716, Stanford, Ca. 94305.

We don't know anything about this company so do your own check-
ing. CONFIA TOURS. See "Day of the Dead" celebratin in Patzcuaro,
Mexico...also the Witches Market in Mexico City. Depart from your
city Oct. 30 and arrive in Mexico City. Novemeber 4, depart for
home. \$367. per person in double room..plus fare to Mexico City.
Full payment by Sept. 30. For reservation or info: Hernando Merino,
POB 413, Austin, TX. 78767. (512) 445-1616.

ALTHING at Joseph P. Bort Meadow, Anthony Chabot Regional Park,
Oakland, Calif. August 28-31. \$25. per adult, kids under 12 free.
Asatru Free Assembly, Attn: Althing Committee, 3400 Village Ave.
Denair, Cal. 95316.

* * *

AGING IS WHEN... from Don in Lomita

The best part of your day is over when your alarm clock goes
off.

You burn the midnight oil until 9 P.M.

Your back goes out more often than you do.

A fortune teller offers to read your face.

* * *

You know this country is in damned bad shape when....

...the president of the U.S. thinks it necessary to phone
Jerry Falwell to approve a Supreme Court appointment.

* * * * *

PUSSY CAT CORNER

ELLEN IN NO. HOLLYWOOD SEZ: Chris & I have had a change in our fuzzy-friend population. We got a sweet little black kitten, Lando, and Samantha was so jealous that she left home. We saw her around, but she would not come in the house even to eat. She just gave us dirty looks and walked away. She seemed to be getting food somewhere so we just accepted her right to live elsewhere, although we missed her.

We didn't want Lando to be alone, though, so we got another little kitten. She is tiny, black, with white paws and whiskers and bib, --so delicate and feminine, that we named her Melissa. That was her name for the first 24 hours, anyway.

By the next evening, she was running Lando ragged, attacking Chris with no fear whatsoever (he's 6'2") and generally letting us know that her looks were deceiving. So we re-named her Callisto--since she has her nymph stages and her she-bear stages. Cally for short.

Then Samantha re-appeared, running up to us, looking for affection. She didn't stay, though...she shows up outside now and then, will come in for awhile, but stays near her cat-door. Don't know what to think about that. Cally is only about 6 weeks old--and she nurses on Lando sometimes. Does this mean he's a mommy?

ED. NOTE: Interesting how we can observe jealousy in an animal and find it amusing and pointless..but sometimes can't see the same thing in ourselves. We can often learn much from observing animals. About Cally & Lando..reminds of my father telling me that when he was a small boy he was taken to a farm for the first time. He saw the men milking the cows, so he wanted to help. They gave him a bucket and a stool, and he picked out a cow. Couldn't understand why he didn't get any milk or why the men were laughing at him. Later it was explained to him that he had picked a bull.

Sandra's letter-tape (Cleveland) also had some things on it about cat people. But it has been recorded over and on the way back to Sandra, so I can't recall which cat was which or which belongs to Sandra and which to her mother.

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Lady Phoenix in Dallas sez: Are we not doing the Being a Witch is...anymore..last issue didn't have as many as usual. Just in case.

BEING A WITCH IS...

...hesitating when the B.A.C. (Born Again) from the next office stops to ask if you have something to go to the P.O... and the big stack in front of you is ready to go..but all addressed to this coven, or that.

...throwing up a circle, crossing your fingers, and smiling when you say, "Sure".

...reading the joke in the June Georgian Newsletter about the boat with the protestant, catholic, wiccan & satanist...and cracking up. Then having to call someone to share it, and realize that there are only a few numbers you can call that would appreciate it.

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

SHADOWHAWK (Elvenhearth) sez: There is a great new album out. It's by Charlie Murphy, called "CATCH THE FIRE" (Charlie just finished doing a promo tour). The LP is put out by Good Fairy Productions, and has two beautiful Pagan songs containing a God and a Goddess chant (one each). There's also a couple of ecology songs, and a couple of gay songs. If I can find time and a blank tape together, I'll send a copy. If not, I'll be bringing a copy to the Mountain Meet.

So Dungeons and Dragons comes "straight from hell"? Teaches demonology they say? I can see where someone just reading the rules would get that idea. It talks about MAGIC. But the object of the game is to defeat evil. Also, Wizard characters are the worst to play. They don't wear protection (armor) and have the lowest amount of hit points (they die easy). My personal belief is that to ban something gives it a tremendous energy boost. There is no way better to insure popularity.

I run a D & D game once a week. I have found it a useful (in its proper perspective) way to develop a person's capabilities to think. Perhaps that is what they mean by EVIL. After all, one should let the proper authorities think for them! (hope you realize just how I really mean that.)

Blessings

Shadowhawk

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The Australian Wiccan is now the Official Paper Of The Church Of The Old Religion.

Catherine & Kent sez: We recieved your note yesterday, advising of our acceptance and approval by the board. Please accept our thanks and appreciation to all board members. As you will see above, TAW now becomes the first Church paper of our Craft in OZ, and we hope this in itself will help to allay the fears and rumours constantly spread by the ill informed. This news has come to us at a very oportune time. We have been, once more, under personal attack.

You will remember the painting of the Cross episode recently, and the praying under our balcony, (sort of reminds one of Romeo & Juliet), but not as beautiful.

This week, some poor demented woman phoned us before we had even arisen for the day. Kent took the call, and was greeted by wild ravings about Devil worship, and that she (the caller) had seen us on TV and in the newspapers, and was aware that we were Witches. She went on to demand entry to our apartment so she could see exactly what we are up to. She stated she is concerned for her children with such as we living here. We have lived here for 10 years, and no bother until she arrived about 4 years ago. She raved at Kent in an abusive manner for about 10 minutes, until she stopped to draw breath, and he managed to speak to her.

Being fed up with her antics, he suggested very calmly that she

(continued next page)

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CATHERINE & KENT (AUSTRALIA) continued

consult with her minister or priest, that we are not devil worshippers, and also suggested she have medical advice as soon as possible. He also advised, or I should say, demanded she never phone our number again.

An hour later she was back on the phone with a repeat performance, so we taped the call and handed it to the committee in charge of care in our apartments. Thank be to the Goddess they are very understanding, and will be advising her to stop her antics or action will be taken. They are not Pagan, but seem to understand that we are not going to harm anyone.

To follow up the funnies, Kent went shopping later in the day, and ran into the silly woman. She took one look at him, screamed, and ran down the street as if the hounds of hell were on her trail. Very embarrassing for Kent!

The news of our new status and the forming of the Church may be just the thing to put a stop to her. Will keep you posted on developments, which we hope will be none.

Further to the Dingo story we wrote you about. The whole matter was left as we last informed you. No further action will be taken. But since then, there have been several dingo attacks on small children and babies. These have occurred because people here will not understand that the dingo is a feral dog and cannot be kept in captivity and treated as a pet. It is a totally wild creature, beautiful in its natural habitat, where it should be left.

Several of the latest attacks have necessitated surgery and sutures. As the Dingo hunts and kills small animals like sheep, rabbits, etc. it is obvious that babies and small children would be stalked, so we can only blame the idiots who will insist that the Dingo can be tamed, after growing up in the middle of our wildest brush. I do feel that I can speak with authority; I have seen sheep mutilated and half eaten and so forth. My father taught me of OZ bush lore from the time I could walk & ride with him. Fortunately for me, he also taught me a true love of all aspects of the wild, and I never heard him condemn any wild creature. His understanding of their habits and life was beyond many bushmen of his time.

Well, I guess time has come to his Merry part. Again, Pat, our thanks for all you are doing to help us here in OZ.

Blessed Be.

Catherine & Kent

ED. NOTE: We are happy that you are glad to join us, and we are happy to have The Church of the Old Religion become a branch of the Georgian Church.

Sorry to hear you're still having problems with the crackpots, but they are everywhere.

I'm glad you have so much understanding of animals. Each is beautiful in its own way, in its own place. It is most unfortunate that man continues to take all the wilderness that once belonged only to the wild ones.

FEATHERED PEOPLE

From U.P.I. MERCED -- When Debbie Soars nurses back to health yet another injured bird, her main concern is to cultivate their natural fear of the enemy -- MAN.

Soars devotes most of her time and money to helping birds of prey that have fallen victim to shotguns, power poles and disease. The aim is to turn birds of prey, called RAPTORS, loose so they can reclaim their freedom as untouched by humans as possible. Soars and veterinarian Barbara Sawyer founded the San Joaquin Raptor Rescue Center 8 years ago to help such birds.

The center has sprouted a volunteer corps of nearly 200 people, and currently handles more than 200 birds.

Veterinarian Sawyer treats incoming raptors, often performing lengthy surgery. Most birds are given physical therapy until they are healthy enough to be moved into a flight cage.

When they appear to be hunting for themselves and flying well, they are taken to a hacking station to be released.

A hacking station is a small cage in an isolated wilderness location abundant with prey species. They are then fed for about 1½ weeks by people they can't see so they associate the cage with food and not people. When the bird becomes oriented and has its bearings, the cage is opened and the raptor is free to go. They can come back to the cage if they need help.

*

A shortage of eagle feathers has hit Shoshone and Arapahoe Indians in Fort Washakie, Wyoming. The tribes say they can't make new headresses for their Sun Dance ceremonies this year, and may have to use the ones from previous rituals.

U-S Fish & Wildlife officials say there are more than 300 unfilled orders for Golden and Bald Eagle feathers at the agency's supply depot in Pocatello, Idaho.

Indians who can show that the eagle feathers and other body parts are used for religious ceremonies are exempt from a federal law that prohibits possession of eagle carcasses.

*

TULARE - Tulare pet shop owners, Julie & Philip LaPlante, have been fined for possession of 2 illegal Mynah birds. Mrs. LaPlante was given a suspended \$100. fine...but her husband was ordered to pay \$140. Both were also placed on 1 year's probation. They contended they didn't know the birds were illegal since they had bought them from a licensed pet distributor.

*

Feeders are only one way of attracting song & Hummingbirds to your yard. Certain flowers, shrubs & trees do the same thing and beautify your property at the same time. Horticulturist Jeannette Lowe recommends, among others, cosmos, sunflowers, coreopsis, marigolds, rudbeckia and gloriosa daisies. She says hummingbirds go for columbine, delphinium, larkspur, lilies, honeysuckle, morning glories, petunias, phlox and zinnias. For shrubs & trees..barberry, american highbush cranberry, firethorn, elderberry, privet and trumpet vines.

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FROM HARAGANO in Seattle

I have given much thought to comments about the prominence of the Goddess in Wiccan worship. Granted this situation is not true in all traditions, yet in most sources it appears that the Goddess is the central focus. What follows are some of the possible reasons for that prominence. These reasons are offered more as a springboard for group discussion than as an outline or condemnation of a specific dogma.

- 1- The Goddess is prominent in our worship to cosmically balance out the xtian patriarchal system.
- 2- The distinction between the Sabbats (Solar/God Festivals) and the Esbats (Lunar/Goddess Festivals) has become blurred in their tradition.
- 3- The initiate is usually introduced to the aspects of the Goddess before those of the God. Some of the less reputable books out, in the do-it-yourself Craft field, are written by people who have not completed their training and are only expanding upon those things that they learned as a first level initiate.
- 4- A Goddess is picked out from the historical context and worshipped outside of its pantheon.
- 5- Witchcraft is primarily a female oriented form of magic while ceremonial magik (sic) is the male oriented form of magic.
- 6- The pro-Goddess movement in the Craft speaks out more often and more loudly while the pro-Goddess/God practitioners keep their oaths of silence.

I have heard all these ideas put forth as 'gospel' in one form or another.

In the heat of argument we seem to forget that most Craft traditions do not proselytize; that we are called to this religion by the High Ones. If we remembered this, we would be better practitioners.

If we feel in union with the diety who called us by name by practicing solitarily, so be it. If we experience that union in an all female or all male group, so be it. It is when we do not experience this union that we should look elsewhere.

The neo-Pagan movement has many degrees of Goddess, Goddess/God and God worship. If the group you are working with does not satisfy your inner need, go elsewhere. If your group leader is not an Empire Builder, you will be allowed to go elsewhere with their blessing.

In the Names of Those Who Guide Us,
Haragano

*

BEING A WITCH IS
.....sometimes frustrating.

* * * * *

FROM U.P.I.

SACRAMENTO - The High Priestess of a Sacramento Witchcraft group says critics of the nationally popular "Dungeons And Dragons" game have given her religion a bad name. So she's filed a 610-thousand-dollar libel suit against the critics.. who include a radio preacher. Janice Freeman says her group is..as she puts it.."Tired of the Christian Witch Myth." In her words..."We've been victims for 500 years and enough is enough."

In the suit filed recently..Freeman contends her religion of Witchcraft was attacked by people who said the "Dungeons And Dragons" game is perverse, derived from Witchcraft and advocates demon worship. Freeman says the criticism exposed her to hatred, contempt and ridicule...and may cause her religion to lose members.

A Sacramento radio preacher..the Reverend John Torell..and others complained last month that the Dungeons & Dragons game teaches children Witchcraft and demon worship. That, in turn, prompted the Cordova Park & Recreation District in suburban Sacramento to ban the popular game in 2 summer school classes. The game, marketed since 1973, casts players in the roles of dwarfs, magicians, elves and hobbits. They fight and try to outwit each other in elaborate conflicts flavored with medievalism. Manufacturers estimate 3-million enthusiasts in the U.S. play the game.

*

Two Roman Catholic researchers conclude that marriages involving Catholics & non-Catholic are increasing, but that divorce is more likely for them than for couples of the same faith. About 4 of every 10 Catholic marriages involve interfaith couples. Dr. Dean Hoge & Kathleen Ferry of the Boys Town Center For the study of Youth Development at Catholic University, said the rate of interfaith marriages & positive attitudes toward them are growing. They said, "Increasing similarity in culture, socioeconomic status and education between the religious groups is probably a cause of the increasing rate of intermarriage."

The 2 researchers say the 40 percent level for interfaith marriages among Catholics represented a 12 to 15 percent increase since 1947. They said the rate of increase over a period of time is the same for Catholics & Protestants, but Catholics marry out of their faith more often than either Protestants or Jews.

Data on divorce examined by the 2 researchers indicate mixed Protestant-Catholic marriages are more likely to end in divorce than intrafaith marriages of Protestants or Catholics. They said, "It is unclear whether mixing religions is a cause of instability or just another characteristic of people who are less likely to have stable marriage of any kind."

The researchers' conclusions were based on an examination of more than 70 studies published during the past 40 years.

* * * * *

DOG DAYS & OTHER ANIMAL PEOPLE

We recently sent a letter of appreciation to the Bakersfield Fire Department. After putting out a fire, the firemen found the family cat unconscious from the smoke. They used their equipment and knowledge to revive it.

FROM U.P.I.

A Swiss Animal Protection organization charges that 600 Canadian Brown Bears have been slaughtered for the wedding of Britain's Prince Charles. The Swiss group says the bear skins were used to spruce up the helmets of the Royal Cavalry. The Swiss group made its complaint in a letter to Charles' father, Prince Phillip, who is president of the World Wildlife Fund...which says the pelts did not come from endangered species.

ED. NOTE: There are man-made imitation fur materials that would look better and avoid such senseless slaughter.

*

Humane Society officials in Sacramento have joined a San Francisco Bay Area coalition offering a 10 thousand dollar reward for information about dogfighting.

The illegal activity is thought to be prevalent in the Bay Area. Dogfighting is a felony offense subject to fines of 50 thousand dollars and a prison term.

Humane Society Official, Eric Sakach, said the reward is for those providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of dogfight handlers.

ED. NOTE: Too bad it isn't legal to exterminate the scum involved in this practice. They train dogs to kill by having them practice first on defenseless puppies and kittens, then to smaller dogs. When they have been conditioned into becoming a vicious killer, they are matched against other dogs. Even the ones that survive a fight are often severely crippled and then killed because they are no longer of value to the owner...if they don't die anyway from their wounds. It is difficult to imagine what kind of depraved creeps pay admission to watch this "sport".

*

The Dog Days of summer are just that for the dog catcher in East Providence, Rhode Island. According to Avis Prior, the local animal control officer, there are no dogs to chase because it's so hot they're all hiding out in the shade. But Prior has great respect for her canine prey. She says no dog in his right mind wants to be trotting around on hot cement. In her words, "Dogs are smarter than people. They don't go out."

*

Three Peregrine Falcons, highly prized and among the world's fastest birds, are alive & well atop L.A.'s 21 story Westwood Center...where they're showing scientists they can call a skyscraper home. Only 39 pairs of Peregrines are known to be in California, where for years the birds fed on prey that was loaded with D-D-T. They began to flourish again after the pesticide was banned in 1972.

*

Fish & Game officials are trying to figure out what to do with 21 de-scented baby skunks...bought in Iowa to be sold as pets in Calif. Officials seized the animals because skunks can carry rabies and are illegal to keep as pets in California.

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STUFF & THINGS

Some of you may remember that Lady Fauna (Stargazer) and Dean were originally from a Coven in Washington state. They moved to Long Beach for awhile for some special courses of study they wanted. Then they planned to return to Washington. However, on the way back, they found a place in Oregon that they really like. Actually, they're not too far north of the California border which makes it nice since Lady Fauna (Church Secretary) will have an easier time of getting to Bakersfield for board meetings.

Lady Fauna sez: We share 2½ acres with our landlord..have a pot-bellied stove for heat in the winter...it is more than gorgeous here...deer are plentiful; I don't think a day has gone by that we haven't seen at least one...there is no doubt in my mind that this is the Lady's country, and that she intended for us to be here.

As soon as the moon changed we planted sunflowers, lima beans, snap beans, corn, lettuce, parsley, spaghetti squash, dill, lavender, anise, ornamental corn, and we have 8 tomato plants.

ED. NOTE: Sounds great. When do we all head that way for vacation?

*

LE ANN in Columbus, Mo. sez: wondering how much of a battle ground is going to develop from Lady Mandel's letter? Whatever happened to tolerance or "Perfect Love & Perfect Trust"? Neither side seems to be tolerant.

I joined the study group but quit after the first meeting. The leader is a Dianic Witch who had quite a few strange & crazy ideas concerning the Craft. The rest knew nothing at all about the Craft but had very feminist ideas; some I can believe and relate to but I feel they go to the extreme in most cases. I also wasn't thrilled by the remark Lady... made implying that the God was just a male stud to serve the Goddess. I thought they both served one another. I guess if most feminists had their way we would have lots of cloning going on.

ED. NOTE: Your remarks are interesting Le Ann. Though I have heard from Dianics who claim not to be anti-male, most of those I've run into seem to be more interested in the gay thing or in the women's lib thing than they are in the Craft.

About "Perfect Love & Perfect Trust"..see my comments in a recent newsletter. If we don't like what others stand for, we don't have to fight with them...nor do we have to associate with them. The government has had enough fun playing the game of trying to force people to associate whether they want to or not. If anything, it has only created a lot more bad feelings though they don't always show on the surface.

It is always good to listen and give thought to the ideas of others but if we dislike the ideas or the people, it is far better to avoid them rather than fight with them. Some people are like some Xtians..trying to force their beliefs on others.

I have never really cared whether or not anyone agrees with my thinking or not. If they don't like me or my thinking, they certainly are not forced to associate with me.

Just BE YOURSELF!

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

NORTHWEST MEDICINE WHEEL GATHERING - August 28-30, Snoqualmie Falls Forest Theater in Fall City, 22 miles east of Seattle. \$55. , 11-17 \$35. Send for info on accomodation cost, etc. THE BEAR TRIBE, POB 4155, Seattle, Wash. 98104 or call (206) 382-9412 or (206) 725-2521.

BAY AREA MEDICINE WHEEL GATHERING - October 23-24, Camp Royaneah, Cazadero, Ca. approx. 1 hr. from San Francisco. Info from THE BEAR TRIBE, POB 443, Valley Ford, Ca. 94972.

*

GAIL in San Jose sez: Tell Elizabeth Pepper that hair clippings around the plant are reputed to work in repelling slugs & snails. Seems the ends of the hair shafts poke their sensitive little bellies as they try to slither over them and they decide it ain't worth it.

*

The nationwide federally sponsored Adopt-A-Horse Program, which finds homes for excess wild horse and burros removed from western public rangelands, will undergo a major change this fall to make the operation more self-sustaining.

Robert Burford, Director of the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) said that starting Oct. 1, BLM will charge a fixed fee of \$200 for a wild horse and \$75. for a burro. Transportation costs, if any, will be additional.

BLM placed the first wild horses (23) in 1973. To date, more than 29,000 wild horses and burros have been placed with adopters in 48 states. Applications requesting more than 35,000 animals are currently on file with BLM.

An estimated 70,000 wild horses and burros roam the public rangelands in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming.

Check your phone book for addresses.

*

FROM U.P.I.

A Florida State University Psychologist says he & an associate have discovered something that could make a lot of parents very happy -- how to quiet a crying baby.

According to Dr. Russell Clark, all you have to do is play a recording of the baby's own cries, and he or she will become quiet. The psychologist says in order to work, it must be a recording of the infant's own voice. The sound of another crying baby, he explains, only seems to increase the infant's distress.

Clark says experts have not discovered how babies -- even when only 20 hours old -- can distinguish their own cries from those of other babies -- but they do. And that's pretty incredible, he says, considering many adults can't recognize their own voices on tape.

*

BEING A WITCH IS... from Lady Phoenix in Dallas

...having to work at a regular job to earn the salary for you to do your real work with..

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

Just recieved a copy of CHILDREN OF THE EARTH, newsletter for Pagan parents & children. It's very nice but we think the editor should go to the doghouse. They now have a P.O. Box and should have fewer problems recieving mail. They request that you send checks and not cash...but no mention of the subscription rate. Anyway, address is now P.O.B. 584, Petersburg, W.V. 26847.

*

Janice & Dennis are now living in Gallop, New Mexico...they do get around. They say they plan to start a Pagan Way group and later a coven.

Dennis says they went to check out a new commune Pagan thing in another state. He says the people were nice, the location ideal, and the country beautiful...but the people were busy growing pot. With all the federal activity in that area looking for pot groves, they didn't want to get involved with that.

That's all we need...the whole group getting arrested for that! More great publicity for Pagans! Wonder where their brains are???

Dennis sent me something he is making now (sometimes his British accent is easier to understand than his writing).. it's called a bolo or colo or golo..I think. Anyway, it looks very Indian. I guess you wear it like a necklace or tie. A looped cord with beadwork on the ends. The round gadget that slides is also beadwork with a pentagram. Very colorful. Dennis says he expects to soon be making them for sale. They are \$20. each because they are made of cut glass beads imported from Czechoslovakia. (Poland is easier to spell).

*

MARLENE in Odessa, Tx. sez: We attended the annual Nexus Meeting. Several different traditions there, a truly beautiful meet. While everyone was in the Circle the sheriff showed up. Someone had seen all the people in robes and had reported the KKK having a meeting. The owner of the land explained that it was a religious group having a prayer meeting...so there was no problem. Really kind of funny. The children enjoyed the meet as much as we did.

BEING A STUDENT WITCH IS... from an ex-student

...misunderstanding your HPs when she says the Circle is to be 9 feet, thinking it was 9 feet AROUND...and wondering how to fit 13 people in such a small (3 foot) Circle. (Maybe shrink them with magic??)

**

BOBBI in Pittsburgh sez: The baby wasn't doing so well for awhile & always running to the doctor with him. Did a couple of healing rituals, too. He's pretty good now.

I was going to go to the Starwood Festival but with Eric not feeling well, I'm not. I'm kinda disappointed but...

Zeus discovered how to dig holes under the fence and get out. He ran away twice but he came home safe, thank the Lady. He loves the baby but he thinks Eric should share his toys! Miffy is also protective of baby.

*

BEING A WITCH IS from Bobbi in Bakersfield

...wondering why it took you so long to find the right path...WICCA.

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

WOLVES & WOLFMEN, an hour documentary about those beautiful, misunderstood animals and the people who live with them and study them. The Soviet Union has most wolves but is trying to wipe them out. They are on the endangered list in the U.S. except Alaska where there is still a bounty...and nuts who think it is fun to kill. Don't miss it.

*
FROM UPI - The Moral Majority of Texas sees no humor in the play "The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas." About 75 protesters marched with black armbands outside a San Antonio theater where the production opened. One banner read -- "Would you think 'The Best Little Whorehouse' was funny if your daughter was a prostitute?"
Meanwhile, the Moral whatevers have called off their boycott of TV sponsors and say they'll be quiet until January. Wish they had made it January 2081.

*
Approximately 34 million households are growing vegetables this year, and a lot of the harvest will be frozen or canned for later eating. If you're new to home canning, the U.S.D.A. reminds you that one of the most important things to remember for the sake of food safety is that most vegetables are low acid, which means you have to process them under pressure at 240 degrees F. Vegetables that are low acid include: asparagus, beans, beets, carrots, corn, okra, peas, potatoes, pumpkin, squash, spinach and other greens, and sweet potatoes. The reason for processing these vegetables in a steam pressure canner is to avoid any risk of botulism. Certain produce is considered high-acid and may be processed safely in boiling water at 212 degrees F. Some high-acid foods include: apples, berries, cherries, peaches, pears, plums, pineapple, rhubarb, tomatoes and pickled vegetables.

*
Well, guess that's about it for this time. We're looking forward to meeting some of you at the Mountain Meet.

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS.

LOVE AND BLESSED BE.

PAT AND ALL THE GEORGIANS

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