

THE GEORGIAN CHURCH
GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER 1908 VERDE STREET OCTOBER 1981
BAKERSFIELD, CAL. 93304
(805) 323-3309

BAKERSFIELD - The rituals this month went quite well though with not so many people from other places. September is usually light on visitors since everyone plans to be here for Hallows Always a good crowd. Midnight Hallows should see a well-filled Circle.

Judith & Puck conducted the Full Moon, and Cinda & Lord Vulcan the Sabbat ritual.

Puck won't let me forget that I didn't tell everyone that he and Julie were initiated a couple months ago...and Mike of Tulare also recieved his third degree. CONGRATULATIONS to all of you.

Now a few reminders: we sometimes get orders for subscriptions which say money or check enclosed... but it somehow has become invisible because it isn't there when we open the envelope.

DON'T FORGET to enclose your zip code. You will probably (maybe) recieve your mail anyway..but if so..it will take longer.

In order to get as much variety in each newsletter as possible... try to keep articles to a length that would fill about 2 of our pages or not more than 3. If your article must be much longer, divide it into parts so it will run for more than one month. Because of the way some things are written, it isn't always easy for us to divide it at a logical place. It is better if you write it that way.

Our thanks to those who offered to help with typing in other states. However, it just isn't practical for the newsletter material, and Lady Selene is doing a lot of that typing now. What I need most is someone to type letter replies from dictation, and that is difficult to do unless the person is here.

Those of you who come to the Sabbats: if you have any old silverware you don't need, bring it along and leave it. Works much better than using those plastic knives & forks we now use.

I've just seen the advance copy of a book every Witch should have: WITCHES by Erica Jong, illustrated by Jos. A. Smith, published by Harry N. Abrams, Inc. Publication date is Hallows '81. Cost will be \$19.95 until Dec. 31, then goes to \$25.

This is one of those books that is excellent for the coffee table. It is large, loaded with beautiful color art work. It is well worth the price just for the art. If you're thinking about a gift for a Craft friend, you could hardly find anything nicer.

And on the subject of gifts: if you have little witchlings on your gift list...KIND MAGAZINE, 2100 L St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. Published by the Humane Society, only \$4. a yr. for 6 issues. They will enclose a gift certificate if you request it.

Also nice gifts from ARCANES CRAFTS, POB 383, MASTIC BEACH, N.Y. 11951. Send S.A.S.E. for catalog.

And great PAGAN T SHIRTS from BLUE MOON, 235 Lake Shore Drive, Lake Secor, Mahopac, N.Y. 10541.

And you could send a gift sub to the Georgian Newsletter, \$6. U.S.A. \$12. foreign.

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FROM CATHERINE & KENT...THE AUSTRALIAN WICCAN...

CATHERINE sez: We are all worried about summer down under this year: we have a temp of 28 today (almost 82 F.) and it's only Sept. 9...2 brushfires burning only a few miles from us...little or no rain for the last year...and that bodes ill for the hotter months.

I think my aboriginal rain stones will be coming into play before long. I once had a pair of Kaditcha slippers to wear when I worked with them, but some years ago, someone, upon whom may the wrath of The Old Ones fall, stole them. They are made of feathers, lumps of fur, red clay and spittle. They are only worn by male tribal elders in most tribes, but were given to me as a mark of esteem many moons ago.

The way I got my claws on them is quite a story. You see, when I was a teenager (and please don't ask when that was) I accepted a position on a very remote station (you call them ranches). This particular place was about 150 miles west of Broken Hill. To get to it, one followed the old Cobb & Co. coach trail...just dirt and corrugations.

There is a half way house, a weatherboard bush pub, no ice, no sanitation, and plenty of bush flies. These folk sometimes do not go to town or a city from one year to another, but love to see the old mail van appear once a week as you could imagine. But I digress.

When I boarded the old station wagon (it had previously been used as the local hearse), I had for company on the 150 mile trip, the driver, one pig, two aboriginals from the Willcania mission, and two bags of fertilizer!! The good folk at the half way house quite forgot their hospitality when they smelled me!!

After arriving at my destination, which was a further 90 miles from where the Van dropped me, I asked to work in the kitchen with the evenings dinner wash up.

While there, I could sense people looking at me, and I finally walked out into the dark to find a group of 20 or so full-blooded aborigines staring at me. It appears they had never seen a white woman with red hair before, and mine is RED and long. Nor had they seen a woman in high-heeled shoes. The combination had them in fits of laughter!

A few days later they put on a corroboree to celebrate my arrival. Some of these events are never witnessed by white people, and some are played for tribal fun...and you guessed it...I was the subject of the joke!

I can still see these men, hair all covered with local red clay and red dust, to simulate mine, dancing around a circle of fire, pretending to teeter on high heels, and with their faces coated in flour to imitate my white skin.

It quite broke me up and I fell to laughing with them. That night I ate with them, and the goanna was beaut!!

To refuse special portions offered is insulting, and it is not often that a woman is offered such pieces. So, knowing that, little

CATHERINE & KENT continued

ol' brave me ate everything I was given. I never asked what else I ate...and what is more, to this day, I don't want to know. But at the end of the evening, I was handed the Kaditcha slippers ...about the greatest honor these simple people could bestow on a mere WOMAN.

So, Pat, you can imagine my distress when some mean person stole them, but I would not like the karma they have taken by doing it. These slippers are regarded as magickal and are the type used by the medicine man when he "sings" someone to death by pointing the bone.

Well, I guess I have chattered enough. Hope you get a laugh from this anecdote of my early life. By the way, I stayed in that position of Governess (teacher) to the piccannies for nearly a year without a sight of town, and the only contact being pedal radio and the Flying Doctor visits.

Flags, Flax Fodder and Frig to you all,
Love and Blessed Be
Catherine & Kent

P.S. Clipping enclosed re metrics.

METRICS ARE A FARMER'S RUIN

SIR, I notice the never-ending whingeing about metrics still going on. Well, I do have a genuine whinge; just bear in mind that I am a simple man-of-the-land.

All my troubles started when I had a property back of Bullamanka, and I can tell you the date, too. It was Feb. 14, 1966, the day they started the dollars 'n' cents business. Would you believe it: overnight my bank overdraft doubles. Next thing, they bring in kilograms, and I find that I have only half the wool clip I reckoned I had.

They started mucking about with the weather and Celsius, and we never got a decent fall of rain again. Not content with that, they brought in some new land measure called hectares, and I suddenly find the property has got only half the area it used to have. This was the time I decided to get out. What with this daylight saving time nonsense, I was working eight days a week... and for what?

So I went into town to the stock & station agent to put the joint on the market, and I find they have brought in kilometers, and I'm just about twice as far as I used to be out of town, and no one would be interested in the property that far out.

Whinge? I reckon I've got something to whinge about, but can you tell that mob down in Canberra?

Decimal currency and metrics. Bah!

RICHARD ALAN

July 20.

Livingstone Avenue, Pymble

STUFF & THINGS

GAIL in San Jose sez: Join me for a ritual footwash and bring a special friend!

WHEN - Oct. 31.

WHERE - 1908 Verde St.

TIME - 7:30 P.M.

\$3. donation per couple is requested (to cover cost of materials - extra to go to the church).

Please bring your own towels... recommend one for each foot.

FROM YOUR EDITOR: I forgot to mention the Hallows party precedes the ritual for Hallows as usual. Wear your favorite costume. Wonder how many will come as skylad Witches???

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HARAGANO (Seattle) sez: John Boardmant, editor of Anakreon, will have the newest verses of OLD TIME RELIGION in #12, Samhain edition. In issues 6, 8, & 10, he has compiled 305 verses... these for \$1. #12 for 2-18¢ stamps on legal size envelope. Address is 234 E. 19th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11226.

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ELLEN in No. Hollywood sez: I was on a panel with another Craft person, 2 psychics and 2 authors who use magic in their books, but not in real life. It was fun. The name of the panel was "Real Magic - the powers of the Mind."

The audience was about 50/50 as to whether they believed in magic or not. One girl in the audience said she didn't think magic was possible because Francis Bacon had believed in it and tried really hard to prove it was possible, and failed. I told her I believed in jet planes, too, but I didn't know how to fly one. That didn't mean they couldn't fly.

At one point we were accused of being anti-science. All of us denied it. The only thing we were against was the lack of responsibility so often found--when the discovery becomes more important than the results. Magic, however, has a built-in responsibility--you will be affected by its results, whether you like it or not! All in all, I enjoyed the experience. It was my first "public" appearance, and I'm just ham enough to have a great time.

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SOME MORE BAD NEWS

Now we hear of a character on the east coast who claims to be "King of the Witches." He does media interviews where he talks about initiating 4 year olds, dildos, and that he charges \$350 or \$375 for initiation. This character also claims to be a Gardnerian. Checking this out in the proper place, we find that NO Gardnerian High Priestess will claim the honor of having initiated him. In fact, the Gardnerians call him a "Gardenia."

BE CAREFUL WHO AND WHAT YOU GET INVOLVED WITH!!

BEING A WITCH IS.....

...remembering that undines are associated with water..
not undies.

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A Article By Karen in Colorado
October - Water

WATER is the element of love, intuition, emotion, fertility, sorrow, understanding, and imagination. It is considered passive. The direction and quarter of the Circle that corresponds to Water is the West. The season is autumn and in the foundations of magick, is imagination. Imagination begins in our dreams, the language of our subconscious minds, and without it our rituals would be dry and emotionless. Imagination is creativity, fertility, and change.

The tool of Water is the Chalice which is used to contain the water of exorcism, the ritual wine, and for scrying. The Chalice represents wisdom and receptivity. In the legends of ancient times, the grail of immortality was sought for its life-giving and regenerative powers, as well as for the knowledge it brings. The ritual cauldron is also of the element of Water, and the stories that surround it (as the cauldron of Dagda, and the cauldron of Cerridwen) reaffirm the theme of wisdom, life, and regeneration.

The Sabbat which corresponds to Water is Samhain/Hallowmas, the festival of death, change, and regeneration. Samhain falls in the fixed water sign of Scorpio, known for occult ability, psychic power, death, and regeneration.

The archangel of Water is Gabriel, known as the Prince of Change and Alteration. He can be seen on the Judgement Card of the Tarot, blowing his horn which represents fertility and authority. He is visualized in robes of clear blue and orange, holding a chalice from which torrents of water spill.

Undines are the elementals of Water. They are extremely graceful and seductive. Undines are similar to humans in form and the majority of them are female. They will impart psychic knowledge and ability. If you work with them in this area, be sure to give them extravagant and appealing gifts in return, for they have feelings that are easily bruised. They relate to the human digestive system. Necksa is their king. Undines live in the oceans, the rivers, springs, creeks, and raindrops. Their most beloved scents are cool ones - camphor, cucumber, and citrus fruits such as lime. They delight in beautiful shells, silver jewelry, boxes for their treasures, and flutes.

Next Month - Earth

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STUFF & THINGS

We appreciate the offers from Pippin in Washington and Jeanne of BLUE MOON in N.Y. to help with typing. Wish we could think of a way to make that practical...but can't. Slow P.O. delivery back & forth wouldn't work for the newsletter...and I prefer to dictate replies to the mail.

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DOG DAYS & OTHER ANIMAL PEOPLE

ACCIPIITER in Pa. sez: Just got 2 beautiful kittens recently. They are just too cute for words. Named them Jason & Diana. Jason is a boy and is as golden as the "fleece." And Diana, well she fits the name perfectly. She is really a heavenly little kitten!

I lost my Labrador Retriever 2 months ago and I'm still getting over the shock. She was really more human than canine and we all loved her so very much. She was only 3 years old when her short life was terminated by a U.P.S. truck near my place of business. Apparently, she moved under the truck for shade from the hot sun. She did not suffer too long as she passed away in minutes.

She was really a very intelligent animal and so loving and kind. I always took her along when I would monitor my Bluebird Trail, and she would always go to the next bird house and wait for me in anticipation.

I loved being alone with that dog when on my Trail, but now when I go there it is just not the same and never will be! She can never be replaced and I would never even try. I'm sure that "Brandy" was ready to leave her earthly life as a canine and ready herself for a new life of a much further progression. Perhaps 3 years was all she need as a Labrador, and I do so hope that I will meet her soul again someday, whenever, wherever.

I feel such a tremendous loss but, by being a Witch, I can cope and understand the not so tragic transition of another you love. Most mundane people would think me ridiculous for such emotion over an animal, but I am so glad that I have been fortunate to understand and know that all life is equal and as important regardless of form. I'm sure that my association with my kittens will become ever so strong as that with Brandy.

Blessed

Accipter

ED. NOTE: Your feelings are not at all difficult to understand.. ..but I think you are wrong when you say . . . you would not try to replace Brandy. I personally believe that animals are also reincarnated. I have had experiences that indicate that they do survive after death, and I'm sure that at times dogs I've had before have returned in another dog form. I have one now that I am certain has been with me before.

Some time ago I lost two dogs within a few months that I had with me for 17 years. I insisted that I never wanted another dog..the loss hurts too much. But Manon insisted I should have another, and one day she brought me a Samoyed puppy..a little white fur ball. He was very destructive, and one day I decided I'd had enough, that next time Manon came I was going to tell her to take him back. But when I came home that day, I found him missing...kids had got him out of the yard. That's when I realized how much I really did

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DOG DAYS continued

want him. I offered a reward and ran ads on radio & in the papers. A few days later he was returned. Later, I got another dog to keep him from being lonely while I was at work. When the 2 males started fighting for leadership, I separated them and got a female to keep them from being lonely; she spends part of the day with each.

So now I have 3 dogs and I love them all. If I had stuck to the decision not to have another dog, I would have missed so much pleasure and happiness...and I would have missed that very special one that has returned.

And you might also think of all the beautiful animals at the shelters which will be destroyed because no one wants them. You might save one of them.

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From U.P.I.

SACRAMENTO - A man who claimed his German Shepherd as a dependant on his state income tax returns has been fined \$130, and placed on probation. He also has to repay \$597, he collected by listing the dog on his tax returns.

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PENNSYLVANIA dog owners are bristling at a law setting a fee of \$2.2. to license "productive" female dogs, but only \$1.20 for male dogs and spayed females.

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COMPTON, CAL. - Compton police say it was obvious to Kenny Watkins that if he didn't throw down his knife and surrender he could easily become the late Kenny Watkins. His decision brought 5 very large dogs to heel.

Police say Watkins was spotted sitting inside a closed hamburger stand munching a burger he apparently cooked himself. Police ordered him to surrender but he ignored them.

So, Sheriff's deputies and their dogs that had been practicing sniff-out-the-burglar techniques nearby, converged on the scene.

Caleb, a 110 lb. Rottweiler...Camelot, another 110 lb. Rottweiler...Erda Sue, a Rottweiler pup of 87 lbs....and German Shepherds; Marco, 97 lbs., and Mollie, 85 lbs...surrounded the burger stand. The officers hinted to Watkins that unless he surrendered, almost 500 pounds of dogs...carrying a total of 210 very sharp teeth.. would soon join him in the restaurant. Watkins surrendered & was booked on suspicion of burglary.

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A byproduct called "Zoo Poo" is being used in an experiment to see if it will keep small animals such as rabbits & squirrels away from plants in vegetable gardens. The Oklahoma City Zoo director thinks they may be deterred more effectively by the scent of African Lions, Asian Snow Leopards or American Grizzly bears.

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STUFF & THINGS

LADY PHOENIX in DALLAS sez: the Samhain/Hallowmas Meet of the Council of Mystic Arts is shaping up nicely..and we are looking forward to it.

Coven of the 13 Moons, Circle of the Unicorn, and Coven of the Silver Wheel are collaborating on a cyclopedia of Goddesses..hoping to have it ready to publish at Candlemas, 1983. Could we ask for some supportive thoughts & energies toward this goal? Each group is also fully occupied with the usual functions of family, community and earning livings...as well as Circle activities, classes, etc...we can use the loving support and a few extra thought energies.

Please don't forget to mention the Second Annual Women's Circle to be held next Feb. 13! It is not restricted to only Texas Women in the Craft! It is open to any & all women who wish to share it. We are planning to try to provide housing, depending on how many come in for it...so the major cost would be only their transportation. And those who really want to make it can plan now as to how they can manage the transportation by then. We'd love to have our sister priestesses from all over here to share it with us. Last year was beautiful.

BEING A WITCH IS...

...a challenge!

BEING A HIGH PRIESTESS IS...

...trying to live up to your students' opinion of you.

YOU FINALLY KNOW YOU ARE A HIGH PRIESTESS WHEN:

...a non-Craft mate of one of your students calls you to come help with some marital counselling because--
"You are the only person I can trust!"

AL & BONNIE * in Albuquerque, N.M. sez: I want to thank you and your folks for standing up for the Craft, the REAL CRAFT. If we work in Circles with people who we know to be negative and who do negative magic, curses, etc. , or even if we hang out with such trash, that reflects upon us directly... not only with the Christians and their camp but with other Witches & Pagans who are on the positive path, and who strive to live their lives in true worship, participation and love of the Gods. It gives us bad press, or should I say, continues the bad press that we've been given for hundreds of years. In this, our actions, magic and our lives speak much louder than all of our words. In my own life, I would rather trust the Gods to lead me to the right and positive people to be with rather than work with anyone that I don't trust 100%.

There are so many crazies and people on power trips just as you said. Each lifetime is far too short and precious to hang out with

STUFF & THINGS

AL & BONNIE continued: such short-circuited people. It's time that we all stopped pretending that everything is peachy-creamy in Ye Olde American Wicca...and take a deep look at ourselves and at those we choose to associate with. Pat, I didn't or don't mean to rant and rave but all of these things strike a deep responsive chord inside myself...and all are things that I've spent A LOT of time thinking on in the recent past.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, Bonnie is getting more pregnant (Fragrant) every day. We're expecting either a little Pisces or a little Aquarian baby, right on the cusp. With me being a Scorpio and pretty high-strung myself, I kind of hope the baby is an Aquarian like his mom...but, if not, thank the Gods anyway! Thanks for the positive energy..we love your newsletter!
 Love & Blessed Be.
 Al & Bonnie

ED. NOTE: I hope your Witchling is whatever you want. Scorpios (I'm one) don't have to be high-strung. You can control anything with your thinking...and a lot of work.

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VICKI in Sulphur, Ok. sez she is still happy about her initiation and is busy getting things for her altar. Also sez she has been having problems with neighbors interfering with her mail. Very nice letter...but that's all for the newsletter.

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I recently had a phone call from a woman who wanted info about our church. When I told her that we are Pagans, she said "Anything that isn't Christian is Satanic." Then I had to phone a P.O. official about our overseas mail. He had the same opinion. When I told him he had a closed mind and should read some about other religions, he said "I don't have a closed mind. I have all the answers. I know the truth. I don't need to know anything about other religions." Too bad all these "Jesus Freaks" can't join that minister who wants everyone to float off to heaven like balloons. I really wish they would float away. Plenty of room in their empty heads for a lot of helium.

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LESTER in TIGARD, OR. sez: wish people from here would write so I could contact. LESTER H. ALLYN, 12145 S.W. LINCOLN, TIGARD, OR. 97223.

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ALEX IN N.M. asks how to get more material on Wicca, but mentions contact with Janice & Dennis in his own town. Don't understand, Alex. Janice & Dennis are Georgians. Why don't you go to them? If there is something I don't understand, write again.

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Apology to Haragano in Seattle. Sorry we said "he" in writing something of yours. Let there be no mistake. I have since talked to Haragano on the phone. Haragano is definitely "a li'l ole female gal." Okay, Haragano. Am I forgiven?????

A ROSE BY ANY NAME.... from your editor

I have never understood the use of titles in the Craft. In fact, I find them rather childish. The Georgians from the beginning had no intention of using titles, and I hear that they don't use them in Australia either. Why isn't High Priestess, High Priest or a simple name like Apollo or Aphrodite good enough? Ane remember, this country started off without titles...Mr. President.

The way some people use titles makes it difficult not to laugh. They don't say this, but you get the impression that they are thinking..."Look at me, I am the great Muckity Wump. You may now bow 3 times to my butt, and kiss my big toe." Seems like everyone has become title-conscious...the janitor is now a "maintenance engineer"...a salesman is an "account executive"..etc.

Some educated idiot writes an asinine article, signs his name, then a lot of silly letters after his name which are intended to impress readers and make them believe he knows what he is writing about. How many times have you seen B.A., BSc, B.S. (there's a lot of BS) MS, PhD, etc.???

Some people are much like little kids with a club or secret society..."I'm the Grand Poo-Pooch of the Great Whopper Whales. You can tell by the water spout coming out of my hat."

I have to laugh when I get letters, and following the signature ...Grand Exalted Supreme Magus of Exeter of the Emperor of the Purple Toilet!" And I've seen some just about that silly.

Titles?? For what purpose? Does it change the person? Does it give more knowledge? Or is it like some character wearing a sign.. "Now look at me. Ain't I the greatest you ever met?"

It's one thing to call someone by a title as a sign of respect, but those who demand that you use the title, more often than not, are not worthy of the respect it implies.

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FROM U.P.I.

Should you buy a service contract along with your new washer, TV or other large appliance? Chances are the company, not the buyer, will come out ahead on such contracts, says Consumer Reporter Betty Furness. She cites an M.I.T. study that priced the cost of owning a color TV for 6 years both with & without a service contract. The cost of the contract, plus repairs not covered by the contract, came to almost 10 times the expected cost for out-of-pocket repairs. Refrigerator service contracts are even worse..16 times the expected repair cost. AND..the contract may not cover the appliance if you move to another house.

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BEING A WITCH IS....

...learning to like yourself & learning to enjoy life.

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Commentary to Part 1 of "HP: The Power Behind the Crone"

In reference to "Take THIS ritual"(and shove.) or how did I ever get into this position and how much is the bill?

May I say that the New Moon ritual given to our mentors, was expressly written for this purpose. I felt "Fair is Fair", maybe it might have been better to keep my mouth shut. The main part of NEW MOON, is the smoking of the Mistletoe, and has been a way of marking the time for centuries in DRUIDIC traditions. The sequence, and invocations were what We put together as a little prize package for our mentors. You see, I have ALWAYS been an IRREVERENT Student.

Yes, if they hadn't taken this in good humor we WOULD have used every ritual they gave us. I'm also terribly lazy. By the way, I'd NEVER tolerate such behavior from any student of MINE!! (I ENCOURAGE it!!) Blessings, Shadowack.

THE CASE OF THE FLING ATHAME

From Lady Phoenix in Dallas

I'd been invited to share in an initiation, rite of passage and moon rite with a coven in Huston this past weekend...and it was a delight--such beautiful people and devotion to the Lady...and a new High Priestess who just glowed Goddess! But, too soon, the weekend was over and it was time to catch the 10:50 flight back home, as I had our beginner's class at 12:00 and a class for myself that night. Unfortunately, we took a wrong turn and arrived just as they closed the doors on my flight and started to taxi!

One airline could get me home at 7:30 p.m., another at 10:40 p.m. Others were either only first class or standby...so I flew good ol' Southwest. Now, I've carried my athame in my purse on such flights for the last 5-6 years...on Brannif, Frounier, Southwest, Delta, American...etc...and never a question about it. Well, not this time! The lady scanned the bag...and stopped the machine, pulled out my purse and opened it--bringing out my athame. With an accuring look...she told me I'd have to go back up to the front desk and check it...as I could not carry it on the plane. I asked why...as I'd done so on numerous flights and it had never been questioned in at least five years or more.

Nothing would do it, though, but back I'd go. So, I talked with the ticket people who suddenly changed from the warm friendly people they had been when I purchased my ticket to extremely suspicious! Finally--the only thing they'd permit was to put the athame in the shoulder bag and check it...I could pick it up from baggage in Dallas. I was furious, because I was already going to be late and didn't want to have to go through baggage--that's why I'd packed everything I'd need in the shoulder bag or in my purse... both

THE CASE OF THE FLYING ATHAME
Cont.

carry-ons, so I could ignore the stampede and press about the luggage carouels.

I stalked, indignantly down the walkway again, slung my purse in position at the X-ray machine (quite forcibly) and strode through the scanner. The lady who had checked it before was intently scanning it once again...as if I'd leave one bag sitting somewhere and still bring the athame back in with me! I was so angry...and I asked her in a quite clear, carrying tone if she'd like for me to dump it all out on the counter for her...maxi-pads and all! The second lady came over with the tomes one uses on backward children..."I don't understand why you are getting so upset, ma'am; we are just following regulations."

I told her, "I'm upset because you are creating a problem for me... and because a consecrated religious object is being relegated to baggage like some common item or a rabied animal!"

Of course she didn't understand that, and I went down the walk-way-- probably leaving a clear trail of bright red aura streaming behind me. Of course I knew what the athame looked like....but one...it was obviously, on inspection, not a weapon, and two: the total inconvenience was going to be a bitch.

Well, It was an hour or so before the flight, so I sat there, fuming and suddenly the poor little ticket girl showed up to open her ticket drawers and set out boarding passes, etc...(I decided that they weren't going to do this to a Wician!) She looked up to see a tall woman standing in front of her...her hair not pulled back or fastened up, but loose to just above her hips, wearing a denim jumpsuit with a mummybead ikon of Isis with the lunar crown and flanked by scarabs. She looked a bit startled when I cleared my throat and said, "I'm Reverend Ford. Is there by any chance a manager of customer service in this backward location?" (Huston!) Her response was, "Of course... is there a problem?"

I told her that there very definitely was, and I'd appreciate being able to talk with the manager...and would she ask him or her to come down to the gate area. By standard procedures she of course asked if there was something she might be able to do...and still seething, I told her I didn't think so, as it would require a person with some authority to be of any assistance.

Finally, a young girl in her mid or late twenties came up, and identified herself as the consumer services manager, and asked whether she could help. I told her that I certainly hoped so, and asked her: "If you had a Roman Catholic priest perparing to board the plane, would you ask him to remove his crucifix before he was allowed on board?"

THE CASE OF THE FLYING ATHAME
Cont,

Of course her answer was a horrified "Of course not!"

"Then may I ask why that kind of request was made of me?"

Thank heavens for a life-long habit of dealing with words because I was icy angry by this time. I explained that I was returning home from a church conference, and that I had never, in over five years of travel on church business, been asked to check my religious symbol of office or not be allowed to travel on that flight!

She asked me to describe it. (My athame is an "ordinary" Pier one letteropener..with an Egyptian look to it, fluted handle, and inscribed with a deity name and my name) I told her the head of it was an Egyptian god, with the wings of truth and spirit as the brace, and the remainder was inscribed with god names.(sounded good to me).

She was horrified that something like this was done. I told her that I understood why someone might think that it was a weapon...because it symbolized my position, as a minister, as guardian of the truth and spirit, for the people in my "congregation". I emphasized that I could understand their position, but was appalled by the ignorance indicated by the security personnel! Adding that it was a pity to be in a nation founded for religious freedom, and having to realize that the freedom did not exist unless one was of the "acceptable" Judeo-Christian religions. She agreed that the freedom didn't really exist in America...and we walked back to the front of the bldg. to see what she could do.

As we walked, she asked what religion I was, and continued asking questions. When I told her I was a Priestess of Wicca...she of course, had never heard of it. I mentioned that it was really a shame to be serving in the Priestesshood of the old religions which predated Christianity by thousands and thousands of years...yet not be recognized as a valid religion when it was the oldest. She asked if we felt that say, Roman Catholics were wrong...and I had to respond, "No, unless that religion is not meeting their spiritual needs and they remain in it anyway. In that case it is wrong...but not from my viewpoint, from their own spirituality!" That what was right for one person would be wrong for another, and vice versa...that each person has to discover his or her own link with the Supreme Deity...whatever they called it, her, or him. She asked many other questions, and in the conversation on the long concourse, we talked about the fact that there are really only three principles in our religion. One was to live in perfect Love and Perfect Trust with all children of the Deity, Two to come one with all life as sacred, and that we could not harm another, whether actually physically harm them, or to do so in our minds...that we must even guard our thoughts so that not even the thought of harm could be enacted...that we were each responsible to the Deity for all that

THE CASE OF THE FLYING ATHAME
Cont.

we did, and that all would return to us, whether good or otherwise.

She asked if the women at the security area would remember me, and I wryly told her I rather thought so, as I had been a bit upset, and had lost my composure. She talked with them, and with the people at the front counter, and was a bit at a loss, as from all that was being said, I was trying to bring a definite weapon on board!

Other than the first statement that I was a Priestess of Wicca...I never referred to the word Wicca again...and never qualified it as "What you could consider Witchcraft". Any further reference was merely as Priestess of Isis.

Continued next month!

THE HIGH PRIESTESS
VICTORIAN FLOWER LANGUAGE CONTINUED
Shadowhawk of Elevenhearth

In an earlier article on this subject I explained the theories pertaining to the language, and, how we can use it magically. I'd like to restate the latter for those who may have missed the first article.

These definitions refer only to the Flower in bloom, in arrangement. The meanings/uses given in this article series have nothing to do with a flowers magical use, property, medicinal use or incense use.

The flowers would be arranged on the alter, or offered as a mood setter, but not used as an offering.

The Victorian meanings are somewhat obscure, and do not mesh with planetary vibrations and/or magic symbology. Hence, if you've been following the HPS cols. there may appear to be conflict.

Also, different things had differing meanings at different times, and in other cultures. I generally take a Magical meaning/use from its most common base. That is, the ones I am giving were used in at least two different cultures, preferably at the same time, and are still in use today, in at least one. The uses given here for VFL are not and were not.

So OK, lets get to VICTORIAN FLOWER LANGUAGE:

INCONSISTANCY...Evening Primrose	
INCORRUPTABLE... Burdock	INSINCERITY...Foxglove
INDEPENDANCE... WILD plum tree, white oak	INSINUATION...Great bindw
INDIFFERENCE... Everflowering candytrufft	weed
INDISCRETION... split reed	INSTABILITY...Angelica buds

THE HIGH PRIESTESS cont.

INDUSTRY... Red clover	INSTABILITY... Dahlia
INDUSTRY, DOMESTIC... Flax	INTELLECT... Walnut
INGENIOUSNESS... White Pink	INTOXICATION... Vine
INGENUITY... Penciled Geranium	IRONY... Sardony
INGRATITUDE... Crowfoot	JELOULY... French marigold & yellow rose (faded)
INNOCENCE... Daisy	JEST... Southernwood
	JOY... Wood sorrel

A NEW SOURCE OF MEAT
From Rik in Tucson

It is difficult to pick up a Craft newlsetter now-a-days without coming across an article on how to survive the 'coming destruction of society' (our version of the x-ian rapture) or how to home-stead a pagan community. Many of these articles deal with methods of food preparation, raising animals and growing plants, but few take into consideration the most abundant source of meat of all. Those of you who are veggies may move on to the next article, the rest of us omnivores please continue reading.

Consider the possibilities inherent in canniblaism... As a potential source of meat it is amazing the variety of meat on the hoof. You have four races available, a number of age groups and because of the diverse eating habits that we have, each subgroup will have a different taste. Like pizza and other Italian food? Eat an Italian for pasta flavored meat. Veggies, I am told by one of my... woman friends, are extremely delicious. Or possibly an Irishman for unflavored meat. We Irish tend towards bland foods so there is no flavoring involved.

The best part of cannibalism, other than the numbers of the potential steaks, is that we are already acculturated towards cannibalism. Consider, if I may commit heresy, the catholic mass: vitural cannibalism in its purest form. They eat the body (meat and drink the blood (drink) of their god. And also consider the comment made in a bar or other such meeting place, "I'd love to eat you up." As you can see, we are already prepared for this eventuality.

Now the question may be asked, HOW? Simply such. Among cannibals, the delicacies of the human body are the brains, palms and the meaty parts of the thumbs. As humans are relatively free from parasites and most deseases (unless you don't go to a doctor), we have little fear of anthrax or tricinosis or other such deseases. We do, however, pump into our systems all sorts of junk.

BEING A WITCH IS.....

....wondering why there are always so few to do the work when there is so much that needs to be done.

A new source of meat cont.

For obvious reasons, do not eat the lungs. If the victim was a heavy drinker, also avoid the liver. The breasts are a nice source of D.D.T. and Strontium 90, so also avoid these. And try to allow your victim to detox before you eat him. It is too easy for those drugs within the system of the victim to be passed into yours.

I would suggest that you concentrate on healthy, well built people who are health nuts and non-drug or alcohol abusers. I would also venture to suggest that you concentrate on the muscle tissues. After all, there is a lot of meat on a drumstick so don't be greedy. As a parting thought, I have it on good authority that white people taste like chicken, and black people taste like grouse. Enjoy.

HP: THE POWER BEHIND THE CRONE

#2

For anybody who has worked on a circle that meets regularly, there are many things they will experience that a solitary worker will not. This month we will look at some of them and how they effect the circle as a whole, the circle members, and the Craft.

The way in which a circle is structured has a lot to do with what that circle can do and what types of people it attracts. If there is no set person to get a certain job done, anyone can be called upon to do it and all must be careful to be wise in the distribution of tasks so that the work is done correctly. It may also happen that the work will not get done and that too is something that must be dealt with under a loose structure. Of course, there is always the problem of making sure the work is done properly, but it is easier to miss something vital in a working if the tasks are not defined well and assigned well. There is at least one very big advantage to a loose structuring of a circle, and that is the fact that the circle can often bounce back easily from some things that might fracture a more rigidly structured group. If a circle is just starting out and its members don't have a very clear cut idea of exactly what they wish the group personality to be like, probably the way to do things is by sort of letting it slowly form in a natural way without putting too heavy a burden of rules and methods into the works.

But as time goes on and the group gains experience (and hopefully insight) methods that seem good are slowly evolved. These should be adopted whenever they seem to be forming a pattern. But be careful that the pattern they form is not self destructive in the long run and be ever ready to change the pattern if need be. Rigidity is not beneficial under any circumstances and only will lead to a breakup

BEING A WITCH IS....

... wishing we had Jerry Falwell's income without his religion.

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HP: THE POWER BEHIND THE CRONE cont.

The most commonly is some structure even at first. Someone is probably going to take the role of top of the heap. This should be the wisest person available, but it is almost impossible to know who that is to begin with. Who ever it is, that person must be able of getting the others to work together in harmony and with dedication. They will be the scape goat for any problems that may come up, so they should prepare themselves for the emotional flare ups that will most surely occure.

If the circle centers around a magical team, such as a HPs and a HP, then the work load for running the circle must be distributed in such a way that they can always know who is the person responsible in any given area. Our circle is structured like this and I have dominion over the logistics area. But HPs is the one who decides what needs are to be taken care of and in what times. It is my job to provide the artifacts and energies that will get these things done with a minimum of waisted effort. I can advise her as to problems and perhaps have input on the subject, but it is her worry to decide to what use these energies will be made.

We also have other people who act as support personel for various parts of the pattern that have become well established. Whatever seems to be the path that your circle is taking should be the criterion maker for whatever "offices" are created in your work. It does no good, in fact it could cause trouble, if you have an automatic dishwasher but always use paper plates and there fore never use it.

Some kind of system should be decided upon concerning classifying circle members. Often this will run something like ours: there are members, who can be at any one of three initiation levels, and there are non members who can either be initiates but not belong to the circle, non-initiates who don't know or care, and people who are not initiated but are considering the situation. Students who are not initiated don't come on circle and are not told the circle rituals, but are shown part of the laws and secrecy and fedelity are sworn. They are the direct responsibility of the person who is teaching them and that person is held liable for any actions of the student that effect any other magical initiate. That's a heavy duty karma and sudents are not taken on by anybody unless it is felt that they can be worth the effort.

The three levels within our tradition work like this: the first level is a new initiate and is not expected to do much. They are only there to experience the workings and not mess them up. We do not expect them to know how to do something unless they have been told or shown.

BEING A WITCH IS....

....REMEMBERING TO SEND YOUR ZIP CODE WITH YOUR ADDRESS.

* * * * *

HP: The Power Behind The Crone Cont.

We DO expect them to have enough sense to not foul things up by trying some innovation in the middle of a prepared work. And they ARE required to attend all circle meetings that they are asked to. They are initiated to second level when the circle decides that they can lend energy in a way that is consistent with the goals and methods of the circle. This has to do with how much they reflect what they have learned by working both in the circle and on their own for some period of time. The usual minimum time is 13 full moons before they are considered. Third level is given when the third level members (our Council of Elders) decide that the person knows what they are doing, they are holding themselves responsible for all of their actions, nobody else has to clean up after them on any plane, and their path has led them to a point where they must be free to do as they will even if that causes them to go in a different direction. Then the recommendation is given to the HPs, who looks at the work/that has been done to give the person the tradition. If that person knows all the rituals and laws and has them recorded, and if they have attended these rituals (in order for them to have them recorded, they must have attended them according to our rules), then the person can be allowed to pass the tradition on to anybody who undergoes the initiation that the prospective third level candidate went through to get the ritual. Then the offer is made to the second level initiate that we see them as ready for third. Strange as it may seem, every time this has been offered, the person has said they felt they were not ready yet, and has refused initiation at that time. But they later came back and said that they had re-considered. I wonder if this is just the way it works for those who are third level material!?!?

The structure of a circle is what holds it together. The people within that structure are what holds the circle up. Both the structure and the people must be constantly bettered or the circle will crumble with age and decay. The co-operation needed to do these things moon after moon, sun after sun is built with Love and Trust.

Next month we'll look at taking on a student, what it can do to and for you, and what it will cause to happen within the Craft.

Until then: Blessed Be
Blacksun

MUSE-INGS FROM THE CRONE
(Commentaries on HP #2)

In reference to "Someone is going to take the role of TOP OF THE HEAP") A.K.A. the newest layer of COMPOST

My first rule of thumb is duck out of the job as long as possible, There are lots of excuses, time tested, guaranteed to work, at least for a while, I'M NOT READY!!! is always good for a couple of weeks.

(Commentaries on HP #2) cont.

"HAVE YOU READ.....(fill in blank) or "YOU HAVE TO READ.....(fill in blank with something dry and boring) will chase away prospective students for at least a couple more weeks. The beauty of this excuse is that it can be used more than once. AND, any dedicated would be student who does read the books will be teaching THEMSELVES, BUT THE BEST OF ALL, is they'll eventually get discouraged and go away.

OK, enough jokes,, BEING at the top of the heap, carries a BIG responsibility, YOU get to FOOT THE BILL!!!!!!.

When we were running our group with three meetings a month, the actual \$\$\$cost was about a hundred dollars a month. We bought the candles, We bought the ritual paraphanailia, We provided the Feasts, we did all the organizing, (around everyonescheduals) We wrote the rituals and We werè being run ragged!!!

The whole point of this, is that if you are going to be a leader, it is IMPORTANT to assing jobs, and to ACCEPT the work of others for the good of the circle. If you don't YOU'LL be sorrrrrrryyyyyy, (and so will your students.)

THE ANCIENT MANTIC ARTS

Submitted by HARAGANO in Seattle, Wash.

AEROMANCY Divination by atmospheric conditions, sometimes known as Chaomancy, probably originated with the Etruscans.

ALECTRYOMANCY Practised in ancient Rome where sacred chickens were kept to provide omens for the emperors. A circle is divided into sections for the alphabet which are sprinkled with grain. A hen or cock is placed in the center, & the order of the letters he or she pecks at are taken down. Another method is to recite the alphabet making note of those letters at which the cock crows.

ALEUROMANCY From the Greek for flour. Slips of paper with answers to specific questions are baked in small balls, one would then be drawn to probide the augury. The practice continues in the "Fort-unt Cookie" & the "Twelfth Night Cake".

ALOMANCY Also known as Halomancy, divination by salt either thrown into a fire or cast onto a flat surface.

ALPHITOMANCY The use of special cakes made from wheat or barley flour to discover a dishonest or untruthful person. The cake will stick in the mouth causing him to choke.

BEING A WITCH IS

...tripping while dancing and trying not to fall out of the Circle.

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THE ANCIENT MANTIC ARTS cont.

- APANTOMANCY** Omens taken from unexpected meetings with animals, birds, insects etc. a classical example being the founding of Mexico City on the spot where an ancient Aztec augur saw an eagle flying from a cactus with a live snake in its bill.
- ARITHMANCY OR ARITHOMANCY** The ancient form of numerology used for divination.
- ASTRAGALOMANCY OR ASTRAGYROMANCY** Divination by small bones often the vertebrae or ankle bones of sheep marked with letters or numbers, called satragals, the art was originally practiced in ancient Greece & Rome but was developed into the modern fortune telling with dice.
- ASTROLOGY** Possible the oldest of the mantic arts, based on the notion that the universe is a unity & a law operating in one part will apply elsewhere. The heavens can reflect the affairs of mankind.
- AUGURY** The general art of divination applying to many forms of it but usually concerned with predictions based on signs & omens.
- AUSTROMANCY** Divinations by the study of winds.
- AXINOMANCY OR AXIOMANCY** An axe or hatchet was balanced on its head & used to answer specific questions or provide omens by the direction of fall, to the right, yes & good; left, no & bad.
- BELOMANCY** Practiced by the Babylonians, later by the Arabs & involved arrows marked with predictions which were drawn from a container to give omens.
- BIBLIOMANCY** Divination by means of a book, in antiquity works by various poets were used like, Homer, or Virgil today the Bible is commonly used.
- BOTANOMANCY** The burning of leaves & trees branches in search of an omen.
- CAPOMANCY** Divination by the interpretation of smoke principally from burnt offerings of sacrifices, if the fumes were thin & wafted straight upwards the sign was favourable.
- CARTOMANCY** Fortune telling with cards.

BEING A WITCH IS... from Lord Vulcan

....remembering that AKASHA is NOT a Japanese motorcycle.

* * * * *

The Ancient Mantic Arts cont.

CATOPTROMANCY Foretelling the future by mirrors or a shining surface. Usually performed by starting at the reflection of moonlight in a looking glass. The Greeks lowered mirrors into the sacred fountain at the temple of Ceres to predict the outcome of an illness. It was at its height of popularity at the end of the Middle Ages in Europe.

CERAUNOSCOPY Omens drawn from the observation of lightning.

CHAOMANCY see AEROMANCY.

CHEIROGNOMY Reading character in hand.

CLAIRAUDIENCE "Clear Hearing," esp enabling a person to hear what is not audible to others, or hearing it ahead of time.

cont. next Month.

Forth Article on Poisonous Houseplants and Poison Prevention
By Lady Selent

Drug & Chemical Toxins:

Acetaminophen-- is the most commonly used alternative antipyretic/analgesic to aspirin. It is found in such common products as Tylenol, Datril, Tempra Liquiprin, and others. Over doses cause damage to the liver and could cause liver failure. Because of the manifestations of toxic effects generally are delayed 2 to 3 days, an overdose of this type of poison is often difficult to deal with.

Antihistamines-- are found in cold preparations, decongestants, sleep preparations and drugs used to decrease itching. While they are principally nervous system sedatives they may produce seizures and cardiac irregularities.

Aspirin-- is still a common problem, especially serious when given in too large of doses for too long of a time to small children. Aspirin stimulates the respiratory center in the brain and interferes with the body's metabolic processes. The result is the development of metabolic derangements and dehydration. The most common symptoms are nausea, vomiting, rapid breathing and ringing in the ears.

Caustics-- include chemicals such as potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, and strong acids. They are commonly used as drain or oven cleaners or for heavy-duty cleaning tasks. These chemicals are strong irritants of tissues and will cause serious burns of exposed surfaces.

More Next Month!! Blessed Be.

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The Georgian Church
1908 Verde Street
Bakersfield, Ca. 93304
(805) 329-3909

PART OF THE
COVEN OF
WINDSTAR IN
FLORIDA.

FROM LEFT:

PROTEUS,
PERSEPHONE,
JIM,
MORGANA,
LADY THEA,
FAFNER,
BRANDYE.



Pla
Sta
He

The Honorable
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

ABOVE: CAT IN A LABORATORY CAGE AWAITING WHO KNOWS WHAT SUFFERING.
BY TAKING A FEW MINUTES TO WRITE ASKING FOR LEGISLATION AGAINST
THIS PRACTICE, YOU MAY HELP PUT AN END TO SUCH NEEDLESS CRUELTY.

FEATHERY PEOPLE from U.P.I.

A duck owned by a trainer with the improbable name of Robert Duck swept the 2nd annual Great American Duck Race in Deming, New Mexico ...waddling off with \$1500. 450 ducks raced over a 2 day period on an 8 lane, 16 foot track.

*

SAN FRANCISCO - An elderly man angered his neighbors by feeding a flock of pigeons & sparrows. Municipal Court Judge Phillip Moscone warned the 77 year old man that if he continues to feed birds outside designated bird-feeding areas he could be fined up to \$500 and 5 days in jail for each incident.

*

A tipsy sea gull with a fishing lure caught in his beak out-waddled a dozen people trying to capture him at an Oregon reservoir. Nicknamed Chester by his pursuers, he ate the whiskey-soaked bread it was hoped would slow him down..but it failed to do the trick.

*

Forest Service wildlife biologists, in cooperation with the Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Group, have released 2 male Peregrine Falcon chicks in the Los Padres National Forest in an attempt to increase the Peregrine populations by establishing new nesting pairs.

*

U.P.I.'s VICKI O'HARA in Chicago sez: Alex, an African Gray Parrot, is trying hard to become teacher's pet. In his efforts to impress Purdue University researcher Irene Pepperberg, Alex has learned to distinguish between a triangle, a square and a pentagon...something that is beyond some first-year geometry students. He's also learned to identify 5 colors...to say "Wanna go gym" when he's ready for a workout on his exercise stand...and if he asks for a cracker and you offer him water, he'll say "NO."

Obviously, Alex is no birdbrain, but Pepperberg says his talents probably aren't anything to crow about either.

She explains that previous inability to establish two-way communication with so-called "talking birds" may have been the fault of teaching methods.

Pepperberg taught Alex his skills by having 5 student assistants take turns acting as the classroom genius while Alex watched. Each time the student gave the response desired from the parrot, the student was highly praised by the teacher.

Alex, jealous of all the attention being given to someone else, soon got the idea.

*

In London, Royal Parks officials tell of 2 pelicans in St. James's Park that acquired a taste for pigeons...sometimes ducks. As a result, they were exiled temporarily to the London Zoo, but picked up their old habit when they were returned to the park. Officials say the problem apparently resulted from the habit of visitors of feeding the pelicans.

The greedy pigeons could not resist trying to snatch part of the food.....and the pelicans began to snatch the pigeons...developing a taste for them.

*

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush..if you want messy hands.

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

The Coven of Windstar is prospering. We have 2 new students. In Sept. at the Full Moon, Fafner will recieve his 2nd. Also during Sept., three children will be dedicated to the God & Goddess. We did have some trouble..someone stole some lanterns from our outside Circle. They had prepared to take everything but we got there first. Our outside Circle is hidden and well into the woods, so it took some doing to get what they got. Also..our summoner & maiden's home was flooded out...2 feet of water ran through it. They're getting things cleaned & dried so there seems to be no permanent damage. I found another good book on making things with herbs: MAKING THINGS WITH HERBS by Elizabeth Walker, Keats Pub. Inc. We made some regular mead and some made with rose petals; I'm anxious to try the rose flavor. Another good book is: CENTERING YOUR GUIDE TO INNER GROWTH by Sanders G. Laurie & Melvin J. Tucker, a Warner Destiny Book. I'm enclosing a photo of part of the coven as we were bringing altar tools in from outside.

Blessed Be Everyone!
Lady Thea (Florida)

*

The F.B.I. says the Bakersfield area has the second highest crime rate in the state, and 11 th in the country. I didn't know that! Wonder if they count all the gals that get busted. First thing on the police news each morning is how many hookers they got the previous night. Less important news like murders, rapes, holdups are secondary.

*

DIDJA KNOW??? from HARAGANO in Seattle

Smokey the Bear is the only individual in the U.S. to have his own private Zip Code # 20252. He recieves 400 letters per day.

The British Broadcasting Corp. says the theme music for the series ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL" is entitles "Piano Parchment" and is part of an album called "If You Leave Me Now" by Johnny Pearson's Orchestra. It's on the Penny Farthing Label. BBC suggests directly contacting the record firm at 4 Tilney St., London W.I. England.

COSTLY SAFFRON CAN BE GROWN! Saffron crocus bulbs can be purchased from Rosemary House, 120 S. Market St., Mechanicsburg, Pa. 17055. Phone 1-717-766-6581. The bulbs are on sale in the fall. A catalog will be sent on request.

In the U.S. more money is spent on the prevention of cruelty to animals than to prevent child abuse.

Nationally 70 % of all young prostitutes & 80% of all female drug users were found to have been sexually assaulted in childhood by a family member.

WELL, NOW YA KNOW!

* * * * *

RELIGION IN THE NEWS from U.P.I.

A priest in Nashville, Tenn., complains that sin has come right to the steps of his church, and he finds it pretty embarrassing. The Reverend Bernard Niedergeses, pastor of Assumption Catholic Church, says prostitutes are soliciting on the very steps of his North Nashville Church, which is on the National Historic Register and attracts a lot of tourists. Police Chief, Joe Casey, is sympathetic, but says there isn't too much he can do. He says his officers keep arresting the prostitutes ...but they post bond and go right back to church.

*

AZUSA, CAL. - Three people were arrested in Azusa on suspicion of murder in the beating death of an old man reputed to have been a warlock who practiced the Black Arts. The body of 73-year-old Anselmo Covarrubias was found in the backyard of his home. Investigators arrested 21-year-old Maria Suarez, who lived with Covarrubias...and two neighbors, 23-year-old Rene Soto and 22-year-old Felipa Soto. Police said it appeared that the motives for the slaying were financial gain and because he was a reputed warlock.

*

18 years ago, Bill Murray was the plaintiff in the supreme court case that banned mandatory prayer and Bible readings in Public Schools. Now, Officials in Amarillo, Texas, have prohibited him from distributing religious materials at a Junior High School. Murray, son of activist atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair, apparently has "seen the light" and is working a revival ministry.

Maybe the "light" he saw was Falwell's bank account.

*

A group was here in Bakersfield recently called "The Oral Majority"...apparently formed to oppose Jerry Falwell's "Moral Majority". Unfortunately, I didn't hear about it until after they had left, so I got no address, but I believe they are based in Florida. It seems they are travelling around the country trying to form new groups. If you have more info, let us know.

*

Roman Catholic Schools --Diocesan, Parish or Independant with all-secular boards & staff--stand to benefit if the tuition tax Credit Plan becomes law during the 1981-82 school year. So do other non-public schools, including independant private ones. The National Center for Education statistics says 5.1 million American students go to elementary and secondary non-public schools. Some 2.2 million of those go to Catholic elementary schools--837 thousand go to Catholic high schools. Not all are Catholic.

If the Tuition Tax Credit Plan passes, parents paying tuition will get tax credit for a portion of the school bill. This is better than a straight deduction--it is subtracted from the tax bill. John Esty Jr., N.A.I.S President, said in a recent report --"Much of the opposition to Tuition Tax Credits...obscures a more serious issue, the deterioration of public education."

* * * * *

PUSSY CAT CORNER

ELLEN in North Hollywood sez: I told you about the two kitten-people who came to live with us. Well, we now have 3. One Sunday I looked out the window to see one of the kids next door kicking a kitten. I yelled at Chris to stop him, and I went to throw on some clothes.

It is a beautiful little calico with light brown eyes. She didn't move when we approached her...didn't seem able to. I didn't know if she was sick or what. We gently got her into a little box, and hid her where the kids wouldn't find her. We had an appointment to keep, and I asked the Goddess to take care of her.

When we got back, she greeted us with purrs, rubs and little love kneads of the paws. Well, Chris sat there and looked at me..and we had another friend. We call her Maya. Lando & Callisto have accepted her happily.

Poor Lando! He developed an abcess on his back, and had to have surgery. He had most of his back shaved and a long jagged incision across it. He looked like we had sewn two cats together. He felt 100% better, and has been growing like mad.

*

GREG & TANYA (L.A. area) sez: Pliny the cat has taken to watching soap operas. When I leave the house, I always leave the TV on for noise to deter burglars. I've come home several times in the middle of the day to find him glued to the screen. It's funny but kind of strange. Apparently the plots are good enough to hold the attention of a cat.

*

Lucky the cat went back home in stle after he made a surprise trip inside a sealed shipping container from England to Texas. Lucky is a fat, black & white female who wandered away from her home in Morecambe, England...and wandered into a cargo box of antique furniture being loaded outside a warehouse. Lucky got out when the box was opened in Texas...after 52 days in the box without food, water, fresh air or sand box.

Lucky was flown home free of charge by British Caledonian Airways. But Lucky is not all the way home to Linda Sinclair. British law requires a six-month quarantine of all imported animals. Anyway, Linda is happy that her cat will be coming back.

*

A 300 pound lion sleeps anywhere he wants to. Spike sleeps on a wrecked Thunderbird at Fred Wroblewski's abandoned farmhouse in Rice County, Minnesota. Wroblewski says he's had trouble with vandalism. He says he's called the sheriff 7 or 8 times but "they never do anything." So he got Spike.

The big cat has been castrated, declawed and defanged...and is on a 30 foot steel chain. He eats dog food and meat scraps...and has the run of the house. Wroblewski says Spike is real gentle.."I wrestle with him all the time."

Spike is a bit of a celebrity now..but the neighbors are not among his fans.

The county sheriff says he's looked into the law and..."There's absolutely nothing that says you can't have a lion."

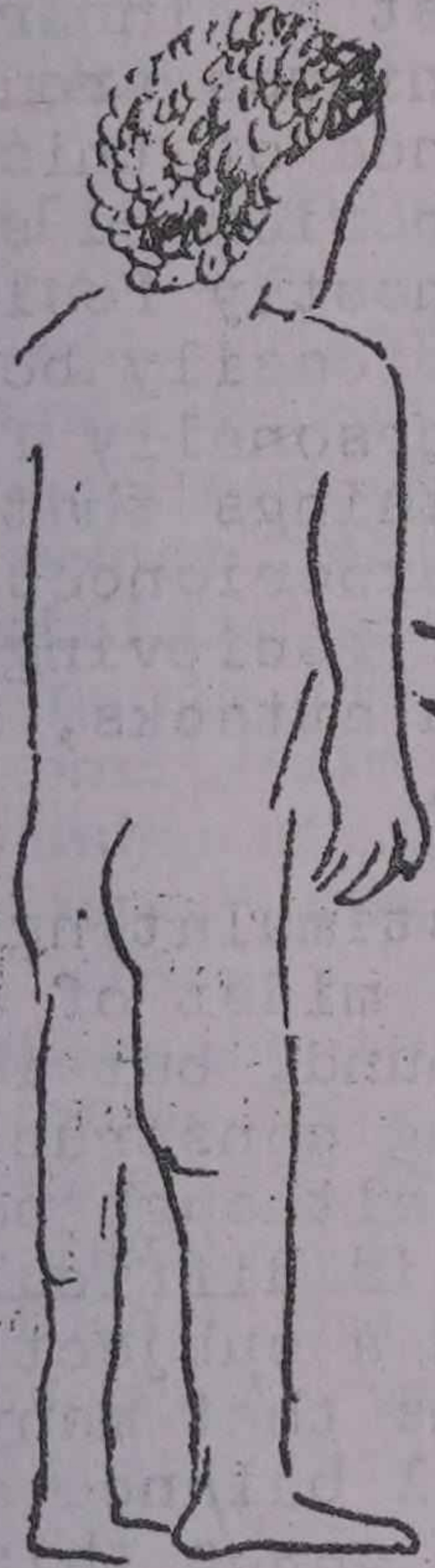
* * * * *

The Georgian Church
1908 Verde Street
Bakersfield, Ca. 93304
(805) 323-3300

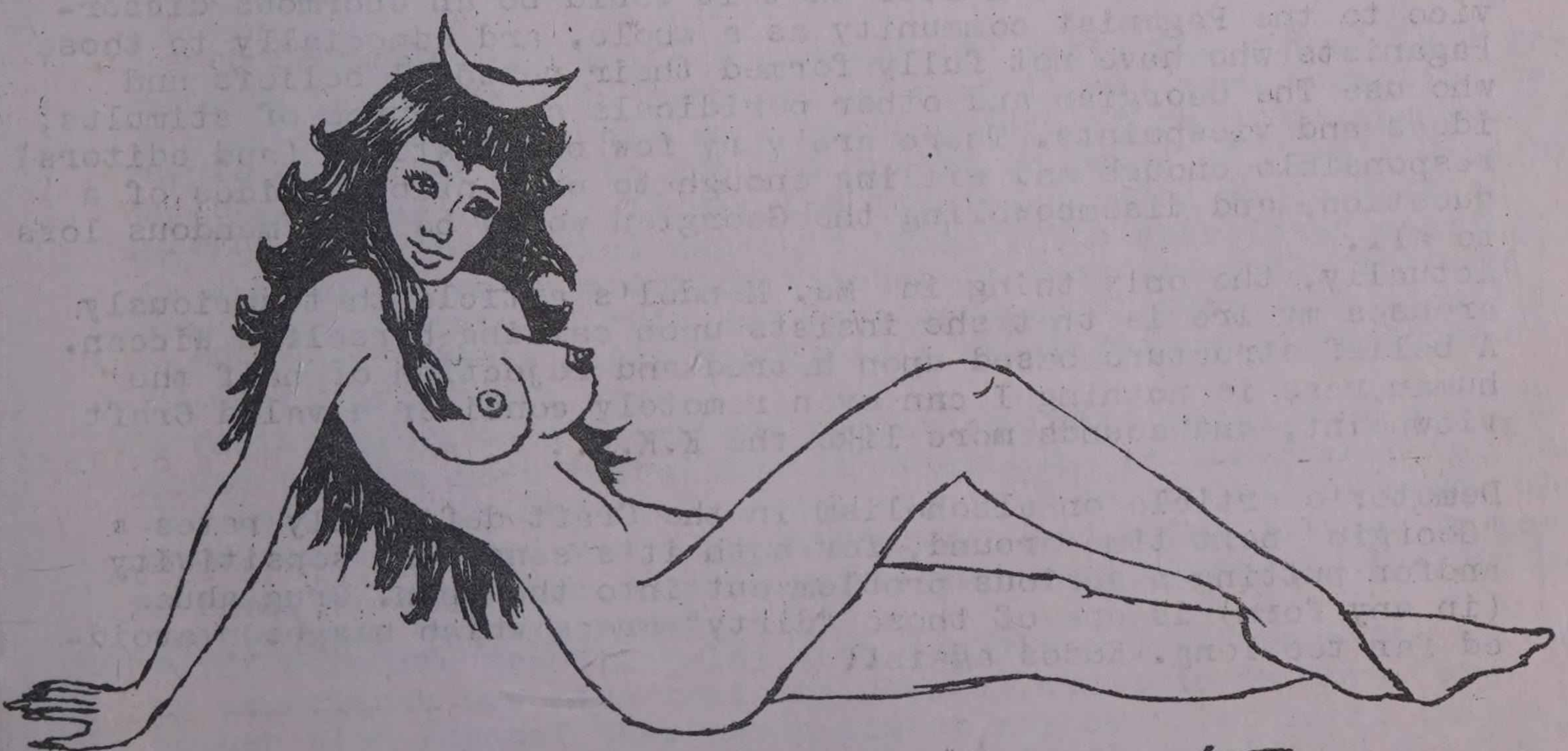
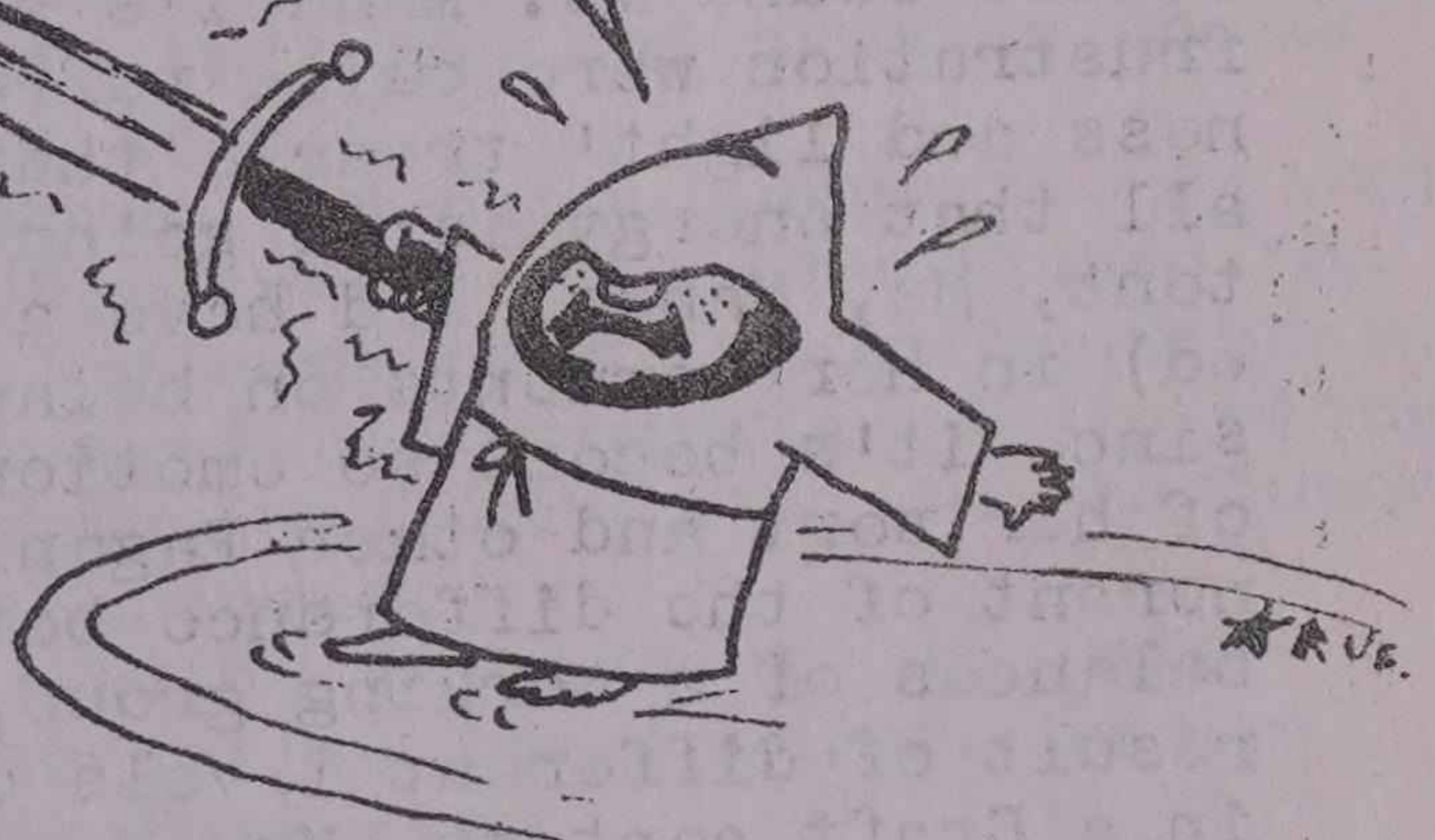
RIGHT: CARTOON
BY RUS OF
ARCANE CRAFTS,
POB 383,
MASTIC BEACH,
N.Y. 11951.

BELOW: WE RAN
THIS A YEAR OR
SO AGO... BUT
IT'S SO NICE
WE THOUGHT WE'D
USE IT AGAIN.

Gwenkin, the littlest Witch.



"... FOR VERILY I SAY: 'TWOULD BE BETTER TO RUSH UPON MY SWORD AN' PERISH, THAN TA ENTER DA SOICLE WIT FEAR IN DY HEART...' AN YA BETTER MAKE UP YER MIND FAST, CAUSE DIS DANG T'ING AIN'T NO FEATHER!!!"



Thorin

SOME COMMENTS from WYNDEL in New Jersey

Demeter's comments on psychic attack (July) closely paralleled my own first experiences with that sort of thing, by we were fortunate in only having lost a tank of tropical fish before we figured it out. I guess the general malaise/sick pets thing is your basic "type A" attack and probably the most common since any nasty little twit can fire it off. Again, this is just beginner's stuff, but some of the advance magical attack techniques are really fascinating....and lethal. My own worst experience of this sort occurred several years ago when my wife and I experienced simultaneous heart attacks at the ripe old age of 24. I honestly feel that at the time it was just a warning, but it could have easily been fatal to us both had the other party so chosen. I personally feel that the attacks I have experienced and similar things that I have seen done to others must be regarded as learning experiences; not pleasant, but valuable. Only by having been on the receiving end can one learn to recognise and defend against such attacks, as the techniques become apparent with the experience.

I also found Ms. Mandel's article most stimulating. Her anger and frustration were quite refreshing in the midst of all this 'sweetness and light' treacle that's going around, but it's a pity that all that energy isn't going for something constructive. As to content, Ms. Mandel did have a good point (although poorly developed) in her comments on balance. Balance is difficult to discuss since it's become so emotionally charged a subject between Dianics of her sort and other Paganists. It seems that many people are ignorant of the difference between personal balance and the dynamic balances of a working group, but in most cases this is simply the result of different levels of understanding of magical practice in a Craft context. Ms. Mandel's suggestion of terminating further discussion of God/Goddess worship is one to which I am diametrically opposed however. I feel that it would be an enormous disservice to the Paganist community as a whole, and especially to those Paganists who have not fully formed their personal beliefs and who use The Georgian and other periodicals as a source of stimulus, ideas and viewpoints. There are very few publications (and editors) responsible enough and willing enough to present both sides of a question, and disemboweling the Georgian would be a tremendous loss to all.

Actually, the only thing in Ms. Mandel's article that seriously arouses my ire is that she insists upon calling herself a Wiccan. A belief structure based upon hatred and rejection of half the human race is nothing I can even remotely consider a valid Craft viewpoint, and sounds more like the K.K.K..

Demeter's article on alcoholism in the Craft definitely rates a "Georgie" next time around, for both it's sense and sensitivity and for putting a serious problem out into the open. Drug abuse (in any form) is one of those "dirty" areas which has been avoided far too long. Kudos again!!

Some Comments from Wyndel Cont.

Ruthi's article on Archetypal Symbols has also been excellent, and the best I've seen in print to date. I genuinely hope there will be much more coming.

Haragano's article in the August Georgian really hits the mark on several points, and each point is certainly worthy of discussion. S

Since I've already gone up the tree on this area, I guess I may as well step out on one of it's limbs and add a few thoughts from a thoroughly biased viewpoint.

Point 1 (balancing Judeo-Christian God worship) seems to me to be just plain fuzzy and superficial thinking, but I also feel that the reasons behind this statement may go much deeper into an avoidance of examining and understanding one's own subconscious motivations and needs. The statement itself implies a rejection of current societal values and a desire for radical change in society. I think that some of the material which has been published of late as well as some of the bizarre behavior observed at various Pagan festivals is closely related to this attitude, and must be considered in reference to the statement itself.

Point 2 (blurring of sabbats and esbats) is quite accurate. My own researches (paralleled by Brother Cyprian's work as published in Robin Hood's Barn and Nine Apples) indicate that the eight Sabbats are the result of the superimposition of two separate yearly ritual cycles on the basic yearly solar cycle, and unrelated to the lunation cycle except through mythic references.

Point 3 (insufficient training) should be expanded to include authors with no training and only an active imagination. Several of the Paganist publications fall in here also.

Point 4 (a Goddess worshipped out of context) is rather self-evident, but would seem to be a resultant rather than a causative factor.

Point 5 (Ceremonial Magic for men/Craft magic for women) is a genuinely fascinating in concept, in that it has some semantic loading which gives it a bit more meaning than it seems on the surface. "Witchcraft" is used in the old Christian sense of "magic done by Witches", and as the old meaning implies baneful magic it also implies that Ceremonial Magic is 'good'. The associated meaning is that since women practice Witchcraft they are evil, but men are good! Certainly, this may be a good solid Christian viewpoint, but I don't quite see it as a valid reason for Goddess emphasis in a Craft group;

A variation on this (women are better at Craft magic than men because they're more intuitive) is often used as the reason for the HPS being the leader of a coven, and in this context it makes much more sense. Men and women are different, and women do seem to have a level of intuitive comprehension that runs closer to the surface and is more easily tapped.

Point 6 (quite traditionals) gets a right on, although I'm afraid my experience has been that the general attitude is more "why bother with Pagans? They never listen anyhow." (at least that's what I was told a few years ago when I first considered writing and more recently when I actually started.)

Some Comments from Wyndel cont.

I think perhaps that point 6 might be more accurately expressed as a general failure on the part of the Traditional Craft to acknowledge and support the need and desire for Craft in the Paganist community. While part of this can be written off as an inability to cope with the sheer numbers of people involved, a good portion of this is due to elitism, mental inertia, laziness, and a touch of stupidity. (Mea culpa!)

I also feel that a Point 7 should be added to the list; The difficulty in expressing the multiple roles of the God in a convenient archetypal sequence.

Where the Goddess can be easily perceived in the Maiden/Mother/Crone aspect cycle, there is no equivalent cycle for the God. The archetypal perception of All Father is relatively comprehensible, as are the individual archetypes of Hunter, Warrior, Sage, Progenitor, Lord of the Underworld, etc.; but they are not comprehensible as an ongoing sequence.

Women can relate to the Maiden/Mother/Crone sequence as a part of their own life and the physiological changes they experience, but when does a boy become a man?

Now that I've probably offended everyone with a Dianic orientation, let me say this--that all of the above in no way invalidates honest worship of the Goddess or the Old Gods.

The Gods reach each of us in Their own way, and each of us expresses his love for the Gods in his own way. A gaganist religion begun this morning can be just as valid as a thousand year old Hereditary Craft tradition.

Above the doors of an ancient temple were the words "Man, know thyself", and one application of this to the Craft is that each of us must examine our personal motivations, needs, and desires with respect to the Craft. I have heard and seen a variety of reasons for worship of the Old Gods, but it has been very seldom that I have heard anyone honestly say; "I have felt a need all my life, and when I found the Old Ones I finally understood that need. Now I worship them because I love Them and have felt Their love in return."

*

Legislation has been introduced in Sacramento to allow the elderly to keep their pets when living in public housing...because many of them have no relatives or friends...and their pets are the only family they have. Let's hope that one passes.

*

FROM LORD VULCAN...Did you hear about the Witch who was given the opportunity to live her life over again...but couldn't make up her mind which one????

BEING A WITCH IS...

...knowing that a faux pas is not a part of a southern dog's foreleg.

* * * * *

* * * * *

DOG DAYS & OTHER ANIMAL PEOPLE

FROM AL & BONNIE in Albuquerque...We have some bad news. Our dog, a Sheltie named Joshua, was hit by a car and killed. I had Josh for 11 years, and he's been with Bonnie and me for the 3 years of our marriage. We really miss him and cried a lot at first although we are feeling some better now. We both still feel his spirit around the house, but we miss his constant barks and his kisses. We buried his body at a really beautiful place in the Sandia Mountains where we like to camp, near where the Pagan Beltane Festival was held this past May.

*

FROM MARLENE in Odessa, Texas...I have lost Asmodeus. He went away on one of his outings and never came home. I hope he is with a loving family if he is still alive...or that he is playing with our Lady in Summerland if he is not. I shall look forward to seeing him again someday. He was a truly unusual animal.

*

FROM JIM in NEW JERSEY: There's nothing exciting going on around here except a skunk invasion in the neighborhood caused by construction a couple miles away. That wouldn't have been exciting at all except that my dog (a Heinz Terrier) tried to catch a couple of them, and we're still trying to get the stench out of the house. Tomato juice does work on skunk stink, but spaghetti sauce with mushrooms and sausage should be avoided except as an absolute last resort, as the oil in it picks up the odor and is rather hard to remove from fur.

Also, a couple handfuls of moth balls will get rid of a skunk that has taken up residence under your porch. It seems they can't stand the smell.

*

HARAGANO in Seattle sez: The Seattle Veterinary Medical Assoc. was quoted recently as saying that there is a potential danger in giving yeast products (often represented debatably as flea repellants) to certain dogs. It was pointed out that since yeast is a gas forming substance, it could cause "bloat" or "torsion", a dread, swift & most often fatal ailment which strikes some members of large breeds particularly & dogs that are prone to gastro intestinal problems. Brewers yeast tablets, or the more potent powder, may be harmless to the majority of animals, but to these others they are literally poison!

*

SUSA P. in San Francisco sez: The Covenant of the Goddess Grand Council, held in Marin County, Calif. this September, was a huge success. Along with getting all sorts of business done, and amendments amended, the members and delegates at the festival donated \$100. to adopt a Diana Monkey at the San Francisco Zoo. The Zoo's "Adopt an Animal Program" funds animal habitat improvements, making the animal's enclosures as close to their natural habitats as possible. The Covenant of the Goddess will have its name posted on the "Wild and Wonderful Parents" billboard at the Zoo, for all to see!

*

The talents of Vicki in Oklahoma are improving. She sent a great drawing...but not for the newsletter.

* * * * *

TO KNOW FALLWELL IS TO KNOW FULL WELL

by Anon E. Mouse

A man named Jerry Falwell,
financially does quite well.
From TV he takes in a million a week,
supposed to help the needy and meek.

But much goes back to buy TV time;
the needy can wait in the Welfare line.
For Jerry must work to spread "the word",
which all for years have so often heard.

Falwell then started the Moral Majority,
which gave him power over two million or three.
Force Jerry's opinion on everyone,
or lock them all in a dungeon.

Falwell now hopes to be president;
the White House he could put up for rent.
No need for the house that money could bring,
and Jerry could hire more Xians to sing.

The country is sick with Falwell-itis,
as Jerry says, "A fire we will light us.
We'll burn all those who disagree,
and dance 'round the fire in joyful glee!"

*

Well, some of you are not happy that we no longer print photos. I explained some time ago that the cost of printing color photos just got too expensive. A page or two of color photos costs as much as all the rest of the newsletter. The printer must make a new photo of each photo we supply, then maybe a couple of some to get proper balance of black & white, then transfer to a metal plate, then do the printing. We will try to print black & white photos if there is sufficient contrast of dark & light. A good black & white can come out fairly well on an electronic stencil which doesn't cost so much, and we can do our own printing. If the photo is too "washed out" with light or too dark, it will not print well. That's the problem with color photos...all colors come out black and show no contrast. Also, someone asked if we no longer use the BEING A WITCH. Yes, but we can only use them if you send them. I can't write all of them.

BEING A WITCH EDITOR IS.....

...sometimes wondering why I ever started this thing.

BEING A WITCH IS....

...hating the necessity of working at a job to be able to afford working for the Craft.

... wondering how to get money out of a Pagan.

* * * * *

HOUSE CLEARING

From Marlene in Odessa, Tx.

The Rituals are as follows: tools, purified water, athame, salt, bell and incense.

On the night of the new moon, extinguish all lights and light a blue candle in his and/or/her names. Begin in the centermost part of the house and face the North window or door. Draw a pentagram in the air over the door/window and say: In the names of (GOD) and (GODDESS) I close and seal this portal against all who would cause harm to any in this house. Now dip forefinger in purified water and draw pentagram over the window/door. Ring bell three times and sprinkle salt in each corner.

Do this for every room working outward in a clockwise direction as much as possible. Remember to do every door, window, and mirror in the rooms don't forget the attic or cellar doors. Do also the garage. After all rooms are done, go outside and draw a circle with the pentagram around the entire house. Repeat with the salt leaving a fine unbroken circle of salt. This clearing will remain effective for 6-8 months and then will need to be repeated.

TO BLESS A MEMBER IN THE CIRCLE

After circle has been cast and all are ready to begin, the HPS (If the males are to be first) takes purified oil and touches the forehead, right breast, left breast, and forehead and says: I consecrate thee with oil.

HPS takes candle and repeats the motions and words. This is repeated using the consecrated water, the incense and finally a kiss from the HPS as above.

This is a powerful ritual and is always included at the beginning of our circles.

*

FROM U.P.I. The cosmetics industry, responding to pressures from animal welfare groups, has given Johns Hopkins University one million dollars to develop means other than animals to test perfumes, toiletries and other commercial cosmetics.

James Merritt, President of the Cosmetic, Toiletry & Fragrance Ass. said, "The grant is a major initiative of industry in response to both public and industry interest in finding alternatives to product safety tests which involve animals."

Merritt, whose trade association represents Revlon, Max Factor, Helena Rubenstein and other firms accounting for 90% of the nation's cosmetic sales, acknowledged the industry recently has suffered from bad publicity because of its testing procedures.

The Humane Society of the U.S. for the past 2 years has sought actively to ban the Draize Test, a procedure in which cosmetics are put in the sensitive eyes of Albino rabbits to test for possible irritation to human eyes and skin. The society's leaders have charged the test can cause severe pain & even blindness in the rabbits.

* * * * *

STUFF & THINGS

GRACE in Florida sent a long letter regarding The Moral Majority and all the things they are trying to do to enforce their beliefs on everyone. I don't think we need repeat them all; certainly everyone should now be familiar with what they stand for. I'm sure we all are aware that this organization is certainly a threat to all Pagans. It would seem important for Pagans to get involved with any groups who hope to stop them. This is not a political issue; it is a matter of religious freedom. Grace recommends the following organizations for combatting the Moral Majority and the religious beliefs they hope to force on everyone.

American Civil Liberties Union
132 West 43 rd St.
N.Y., N.Y. 10036

The People For The American Way
c/o Norman Lear
ABC Network
c/o your local ABC station
or
N.Y., N.Y. 10000

Americans United For Separation
of Church & State
Fenton Rd.
Silver Springs, Md.

Grace says Norman Lear has spent \$300,000 to organize the above.

* * *

MARLENE in Odessa, Tx. sez: We are plugging along. We met with 2 students in a small town centrally located, and had one of the best Circles I have ever been in. It was by a river, and the night was so clear and beautiful. It felt like we could touch the stars. We are planning to meet in September for the harvest.

It would be great if you could attend a Nexus meeting. There is so much we can learn from each other. I wish we were all in contact more often. It would benefit the Craft so much. We have access to some land in East Texas, and plan to build a retreat there as soon as we can get it into shape. Maybe you can attend one of these meetings. It would be a pleasure to have you and yours there to celebrate with us. Maybe the Gods will see a way to make it possible for us to meet some day. I hope so.

Here is a little funny we came up with the other night when we were discussing death:

BEING A WITCH IS:...

...knowing that death is the ultimate vacation.

BLESSED BE

MARLENE

* * *

WORDS OF WISDOM from Lady Alusha

Insight and intuition are the inward perceptions.

Keep all things in life in proportion.

To know, to dare, to will, to keep silence!

Consciousness determines reality.

* * * * *

From Hummingbird in San Diego

For some time, we of Coven Pleiades have been meaning to write concerning the role of men in the Craft and the role of the God in relationship to the Goddess. After reading L. Mandel's letter in the July Newsletter, we could put it off no longer. First, we do not in any way, intend to tell anyone else how to think, much less how to believe. The following reflects the teaching of the Coven Pleiades.

We believe that one major goal of the Craft is to become harmonious with the Universe. All living organisms partake of both male and female essences. To deny one's own nature is to choose dissonance and imbalance with the Universe, which is the God. Again, meaning no abuse, but to state our view, we would like to reply to L. Mandel's article in the July issue. We are distressed by her need to meet a God-like man before accepting the importance of the God. Ideally such a man should be as close as the nearest priest. We don't know where her seeking has taken her, but we know at least one priest who is extremely God-like, gentle, powerful, and secure in his masculinity, A Goddess-like women should be as close as the nearest priestess, but they are, likewise, shamefully rare.

The ideal is to manifest the God's/Goddess' qualities; some of us are more successful than others. However, seeking the Divine Reality through reading alone is fruitless. Reading is an academic, and therefore rational pursuit. Our experiences with the Divine come through our hearts and souls along with our minds. The Pan of mythology is, as she says, an unimpressive god to some in this urban society where fertility of flocks and fields is not a priority. As the God, Consort of the Lady, He is the Universe born of the Goddess. In our view, Magic's highest goal is union with Divinity. The God's relationship to the Goddess mirrors our own relationship to the Divine. We are like Him, of one substance with Her. We therefore choose to participate in the Cosmic Dance of Union with Goddess. Since we have this view of the God, it follows that male witches have positions of honor in our Circle, as His representatives.

All humans have a spark of Divinity. The male represents the God and the female represents the Goddess; because of our human frailties, the image is often imperfect. The roles of HP and HPs are complimentary, not one above the other. Final decisions on spiritual matters in our Coven are decided by the HPs and administrative ones by the HP. In council, all third degree initiates have equal votes. Again, these are the views of our group; this system works for us. We try to teach respect for all our Brothers and Sisters of the Craft, knowing we are all joined to one another.

*

Don't forget...deadline for newsletter material is that it must BE HERE no later than the 20 th.

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS.

LOVE AND BLESSED BE.
PAT & ALL THE GEORGIANS

