

BAKERSFIELD - A really nice Lammas celebration. Kit & Les conducted the Pagan Way ritual. Bobbie & I did the Craft ritual. Everyone here busy with preparation for the mountain meeting including the rehearsals for the play. We recieved a card from Dierdre & John...still travelling. Nothing really new from Dean...just reading and wishing he was back home. Herbie has been transferred from Texas to Spain. No letter yet. Our yard sale at Bobbie's made a few dollars and everyone had fun.

So. Council Of C.O.G. - Athena & Phaedia visiting Greece. Christine & Dagda had hoped to go too but couldn't get off from work. Hope we hear more about that trip soon.

SEATTLE -TACOMA AREA - Donna & Jake's Handfasting went very well. Hope we get some photos of that. Donna planning to start a study group, and Stef promises to join them at least once a month to assist. Stef says there was excitement for the Stonehenge meeting: rain, thunder that shook the ground, and lightning like an explosion in a fireworks factory. Maybe the Gods just wanted to join in the celebration. Anyway, Stef has promised they will be here for the mountain meeting. The people, that is. Let's hope the Gods will, too, but with a little less exuberance.

HONOLULU - Adele & Judith will be here for the mountain meeting. Judith will be moving back to the L.A. area to start a new coven there. They should have had a visit from Joey by now. I guess he'll be joining them while he's stationed in Hawaii.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA - Joan was the only one to get here for the Sabbat. Joan was visiting a cousin in Washington but made it back in time to join us. Robert's car not in running order so she had to take a bus.

FLORIDA - Anthony has started on the pre-initiation material. He's 71 but doesn't believe it. He's now studying along with Donna. Janise & Dennis studying hard and doing very well. Since they live near one another, the four of them should have had a meeting by now. Dave has been sent north again for his operation. Let's hope he gets it over with this time.

GETTYSBURG - Susan & Lisa busy studying and reading all they can find. Does anyone know of a good occult book store in that area? Susan says temperatures there have been running 90 degrees lately. Wonder how she'd like it here. Our temperatures have been running above 100.

OXNARD - We expect Mary & Mark to join us when they return from vacation. Mary had her Wiccaning from Maxine Sanders in England.

DES MOINES - The Mirror Coven is changing its name...don't have new one yet. Revival and C.N.B. will start printing again as soon as they start getting the articles that were promised. Meanwhile subscribers are to recieve "The Mailing List". I'm not sure what that is. Sefa says baby Fauna gets into her little swimming pool with clothes, then gets out without clothes and tours the neighborhood. This upsets the "good Xtian neighbors". After all, isn't it obscene for a 2 yr. old to be seen without clothes? Surprising that she hasn't been arrested yet for indecent exposure. Sefa says she was recently contacted by a local (closed) Gardnerian coven she didn't know existed. It seems that lots of Crafters are coming from underground. Sefa has been very busy preparing for her Lammas Festival..Aug. 4-5-6, which may be past by the time you recieve this. She was expecting a large crowd.

LAKESWOOD, CAL.- Peggy Ellen has been trying to catch a photo of Mr. Slats and 3 cat friends as they have taken each morning to sitting, one on each, of the rocks that mark the 4 quarters of her Circle. Peggy Ellen has been busy working in her herb garden. She found one of the flats of seeds didn't come up...then discovered that Mr. Slats thought it made a very nice bed. She says there is not really any news from England at this time.

NEVADA - Barda busy giving swimming lessons to kids. Also keeping a neighbor's cat while he is away on vacation. Eats potatoes and carrots from a plate at the table...the cat, that is. Maybe he's one of the little people in disguise.

EL PASO - Isabel reports that some guy on a news program announced he was starting a local "Satanic Church". He told the viewers that Satanists never perform blood sacrifices or ritual murders...that only Witches do that. With kooks like that making such announcements, it is no wonder that the public doesn't understand us. Isabel took the family camping in New Mexico and everyone had a great time...including the family pets.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY - Marsha says the picnic didn't go as well as had been hoped. Not enough people knew about it in advance. That'll teach her to get publicity out early. Marsha says she is planning to move to a new apartment, hoping to get a new car, expects to meet with Walt soon, will probably be doing a Craft interview for the L.A. Times. Other than that she says nothing is happening. Marsha & Ted have applied for C.O.G. membership. We hope to see them at the mountain meeting.

L.A. AREA - Gwen & Annie got here for the Sabbat. Georgia planning to move to Oklahoma. Mimi, after her attendance at the last Sabbat says of our people, "they remind me of forest nymphs enjoying the summer".

ATLANTA - Rhea attended the Indiana meet and she says it was great...close to 200 people there. She'll have more details in Cymruy Wicca Newsletter. Rhea has been having some camping trip Circles in the mountains lately. She says each time they go they find a new place even better than the last. Wish she could get here for our mountain meeting. She's busy with preparations for the Pagan Leadership Conference. Rhea keeps the door to her temple room locked, and has a "No Admittance To Anyone" sign on the door. Recently she returned home to find that the maintenance man had apparently unlocked the door to peek in. Since then he averts his eyes whenever he sees her. Maybe he's afraid of the "evil eye". Rhea..why not paint a big eye on the door? That should stop him...but you probably won't get any maintenance work done. Anyway, Rhea is still trying to find that super big house she wants.

BALTIMORE - Morgana reports that K.A.M. had a TV interview to explain the Summer Solstice, etc. She says it was very well-handled, and everyone was pleased. Ayeisha took her coven and her Pagans to the ocean for a sea ritual. Lucky people! Bethanie Sybil is now in nursery school. She did two drawings for her teacher.. "Witchdog Doing Pink Magicks" and "The Circle Where You Do The Dance". I'll bet the teacher is still trying to figure that out. Morgana's daughter, Donna, will be moving to California this month to work for her master's in music. We hope she comes to visit. Morgana is busy making "potpourri, sachets and such". She says she may sell some but she didn't give a price.

HESPERIA, CAL. - Marion is tied up with loads of house guests and other things. She says she is sorry she can't make it to the mountain meeting. Maybe we should turn her into a toad.

HERBS

MERLE SEZ - Mandrake (Mandragora) Native to the Near East, the European mandrake, whose narcotic roots often fork and branch to resemble a human figure, has been considered a mystic plant since primitive times. One of the earliest records of the use of mandrake is found in Genesis 30:14-16, where Rachel agrees to let Leah sleep with Jacob one night in exchange for some mandrake root. So it's plain to see it has something going for it. The Greeks also highly valued it as an aphrodisiac, and the Romans used it as an anesthetic for surgery. A belief dating from the second century A.D. held that pulling a mandrake root out of the ground would cause death because the root

was (or contained) a demon whose shrieks would kill the uprooter. In France, figures were carved from the root in the likeness of an elf named Mandeglorie, and were believed to bring wealth. Possessing one of these mannikins could be risky however, because if the owner didn't keep the charm in secret, he could be accused of practicing Witchcraft. Indeed, the mandrake was the medieval Witch's most potent herb, capable of working every spell.

LETTERS TO MERLE - From Susan & Jesse (Albuquerque)...Mother Earth Tea: Take equal portions of raspberry leaf, nettle (can substitute strawberry leaf), yarrow, scullcap, matte, sage, alfalfa or dandelion, parsley, chickweed, marjoram. Makes a refreshing tonic tea to keep everything flowing right.

BOOKS

Jeff says his book is coming along fine. He's making lots of good contacts for info for the book. Jeff also reports that the best collection of Witchcraft material in Europe, that of Johann Kruse, has been transferred to the Hamburgisches Museum fur Volkskunde.

Castle Rising, 9728 E. Colfax Ave., Aurora, Colo. 80010. A Pagan Renaissance... quarterly magazine...\$6. yr. Aimed at beginners. You'll like it.

We hear that Doreen Valiente has a new book out "Witchcraft For Tomorrow". We haven't been able to find a copy yet.

We recieved a book from Pocket Books...Positive Magick by Marion Weinstein... \$2.25. Definitely worth reading. Especially recommended for people new to the Craft and anyone who wants to know more of what the Craft is all about.

Some good news. There has been some confusion over who and if any future publication of The Witches' Almanac. Latest news from K.A.M. about it is that Elizabeth Pepper will be publishing it. For more info write "The Witches' Almanac", POB 740, Newport, R.I. 02840.

Morgana recommends a book called "Earth Magick". All about natural mounds and power places. Unfortunately, she forgot to tell us the author or publisher.

K.A.M. Newsletter 2nd edition is out. I'd call it more of a magazine format than a newsletter, but whatever, it's very nice. Present plans are to publish it twice a yr. at the Solstices. No price has been set yet but \$1. per copy to cover costs would be appreciated. Write to: Lady Ayeisha, c/o Carolyn Kassa, 5626A Northwood Drive, Baltimore, Md. 21212.

THOUGHTS OF A PAGAN by Bacchus (Luke)

Christians think their God's the King
Muslims think they are supreme
But Pagan folks don't think it right
To call a blood God King

We don't kill in our God's name
To set up temples in his name
Because we know we are all
children of the Lord and Lady.

STUFF & THINGS - We're happy to say Janice is back in town and back with us. We missed her. Bobbie & Shawn (he didn't like the way I spelled it last time) have been busy writing & re-writing the play for the mountains. Now they keep everyone else busy rehearsing.

MEETINGS

HONOLULU - The covens are planning a Pan*Pagan Festival the latter part of August. Anyone vacationing at that time is welcome to attend. For more info, write Adele Jacobson, 2835 Kolowalu St., Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

ALBUQUERQUE - Star Of Enchantment Church Of Wicca planning for the annual Samhain Seminar, Nov. 10, 11, 12 at the Holiday Inn. Mostly open to the public. Lectures are free but donations appreciated. For info, write to P.O.B. 26810, Albuquerque, N.M. 87125.

GEORGIA - Pagan Leadership Conference, Sept. 10-14. This should be a big one with lots of activity. For info, write Assoc. Of Cymmyr Wicca, P.O.B. 1514, Smyrna, Georgia 30081.

BAKERSFIELD - We're all busy preparing for our annual mountain meeting...about 50 miles from Bakersfield at Panorama Heights. Dates are August 12 & 13 although some of our people will be going up there on the 11 th. If you haven't made a reservation, call 805-536-8816. No reservation or charge for the campgrounds. Bring your camper, tent, sleeping bag or whatever. If you don't have a cabin or a room there will be \$1. charge for use of the swimming pool. Bar-B-Q steak dinner available Saturday night for \$4.75. Sunday morning breakfast available to order. There is a restaurant and bar on the premises but NO grocery store. If you plan to do your own cooking, take food with you. If you plan to cook on the campgrounds, bring a camp stove if you have one because fire burning regulations vary according to the weather, etc. Be sure to check your gas and oil before leaving Bakersfield. There is only one filling station between Bakersfield and Panorama. If you think you'll want coffee early Sunday morning, be sure to take some with you because the restaurant usually isn't open until 9 A.M. or so.

We won't tell you that you can't bring the kids...but if you do..THEY ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. No one is going to give up their fun to baby sit for you. If you bring 'em..YOU take care of them. It is also not a good idea to bring pets. They may decide to chase and catch a sick squirrel...and you could find your pet covered with fleas.

Some of the things scheduled so far: a rap on herbs with Merle and anyone else who cares to participate. Lee will do a presentation on foot readings. Shirley on palm reading, Bobbie on biorythm, Shirley Ann on runes. Stef will do a thing on dances to alter consciousness (and we hope she'll do some belly dancing). Luke will do a bit on numerology. Adele and Judith from Honolulu will do some Hula dances and also teach an easy one. They will also be doing a presentation on Hawaiian Gods, folklore, and Huna Science.

Saturday night there will be a dance at the bar, but we'll be having a group sing-along on the campgrounds.

Of course we will be doing a Pagan ritual which will be open to everyone. Most of the action will be on Saturday. Sunday morning after breakfast will be a get acquainted time until noon. At noon will be the Passion Play (a pantomime with narration) on the campgrounds. After that...you're on your own.

I won't be leaving here until early Saturday morning in case anyone wants to follow me. Finding my house is easy. Take hiway 99 (I-5) to Bakersfield. At Bakersfield, take hiway 58 East (toward Mojave). Take the first off ramp. At the top is H Street. Turn left about 3 blocks to Verde. Turn left on Verde (only goes left) and stop at 1908.

If you're driving straight through, follow the directions on the next page.

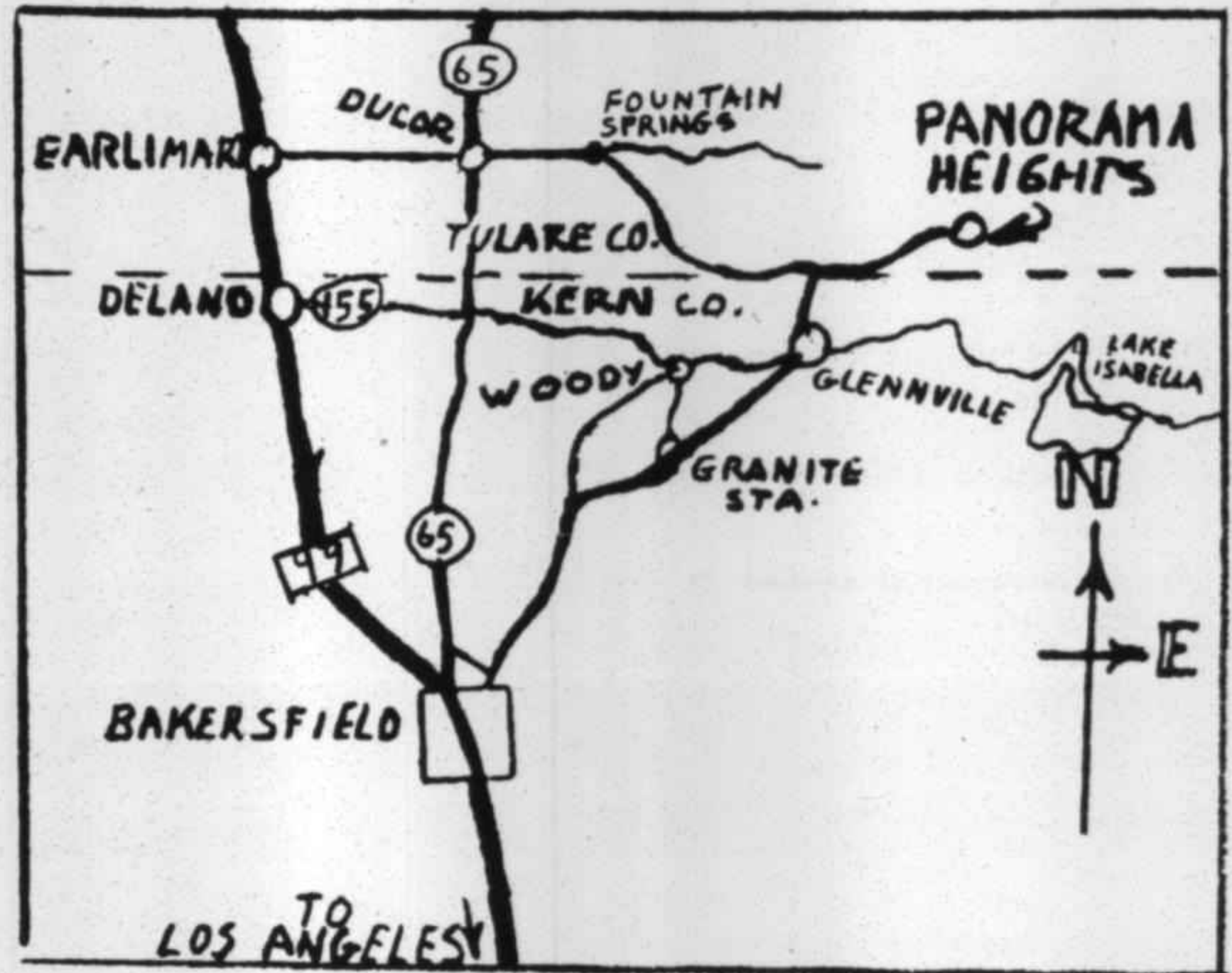
That's all, folks.

Love and Blessed Be.



Panorama Heights

The Mile High Resort



HOW TO GET HERE

Panorama Heights is located in Southeastern Tulare County, 52 miles N.E. of Bakersfield and 40 Miles S.E. of Porterville.

From the South: Come to Bakersfield on Highway 99; leave Freeway 99 at Airport Drive, Oildale exit. Follow Airport Drive to Norris Road (2nd stop sign); turn RIGHT and proceed to Chester Avenue (a main thoroughfare). Turn LEFT (North). Follow signs for Glennville, Granite Station, Poso Creek Recreation Area and Panorama Heights. **From the North:** Leave Freeway 99 at Earlimart, or leave Highway 65 at Ducor. Turn LEFT (East) to FOUNTAIN SPRINGS and take the RIGHT fork. Follow the signs for Poso Creek Recreation Area and Panorama Heights.

WHAT TO WEAR

Summer: Summer temperatures range from a night time 50° to a day time 85°. Dress is informal with slacks or blue jeans and sport shirts appropriate for both men and women for all occasions. Bring a sweater or light jacket for night time wear. Do not bring fancy dresses, high heels or suits; you won't need them.

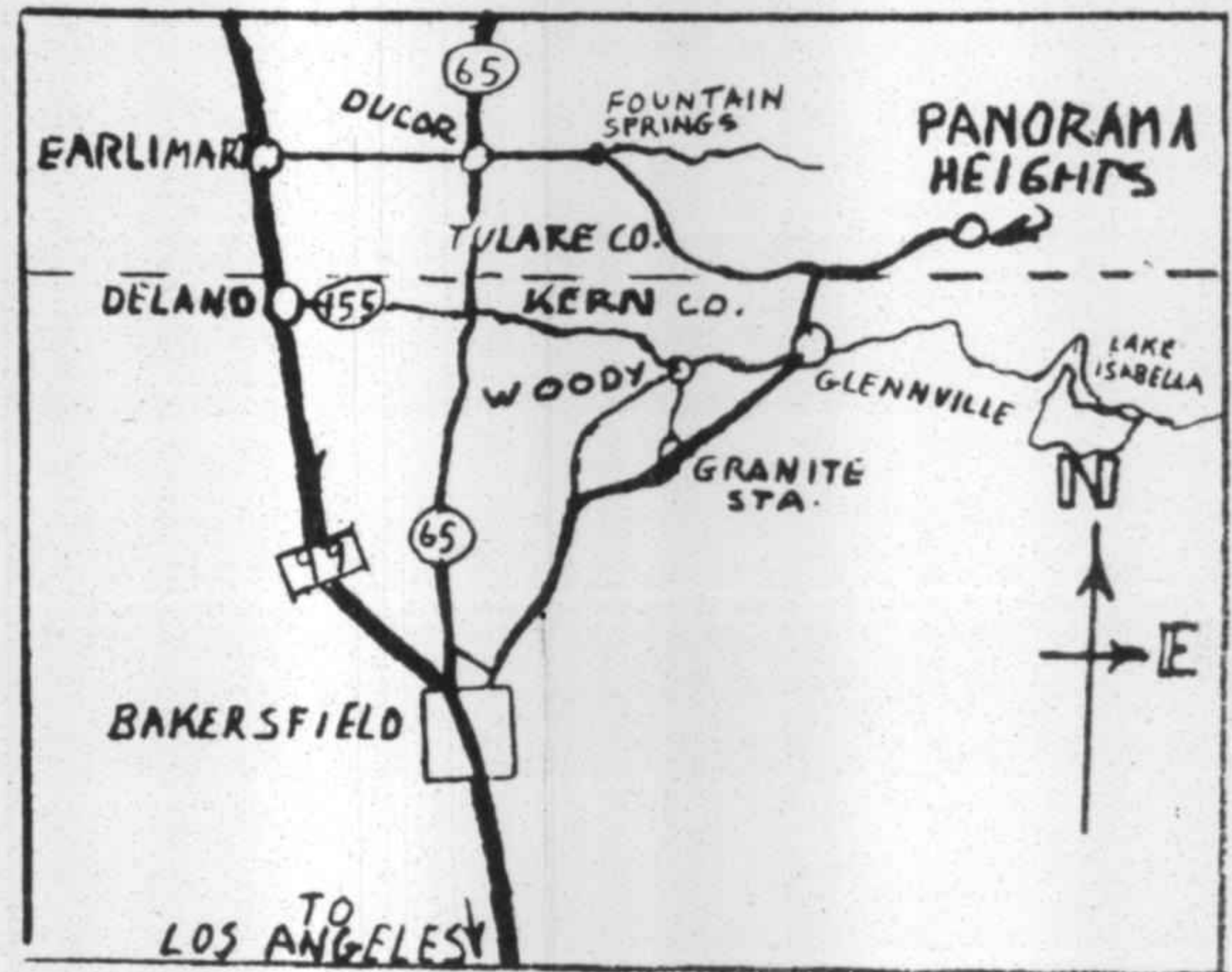
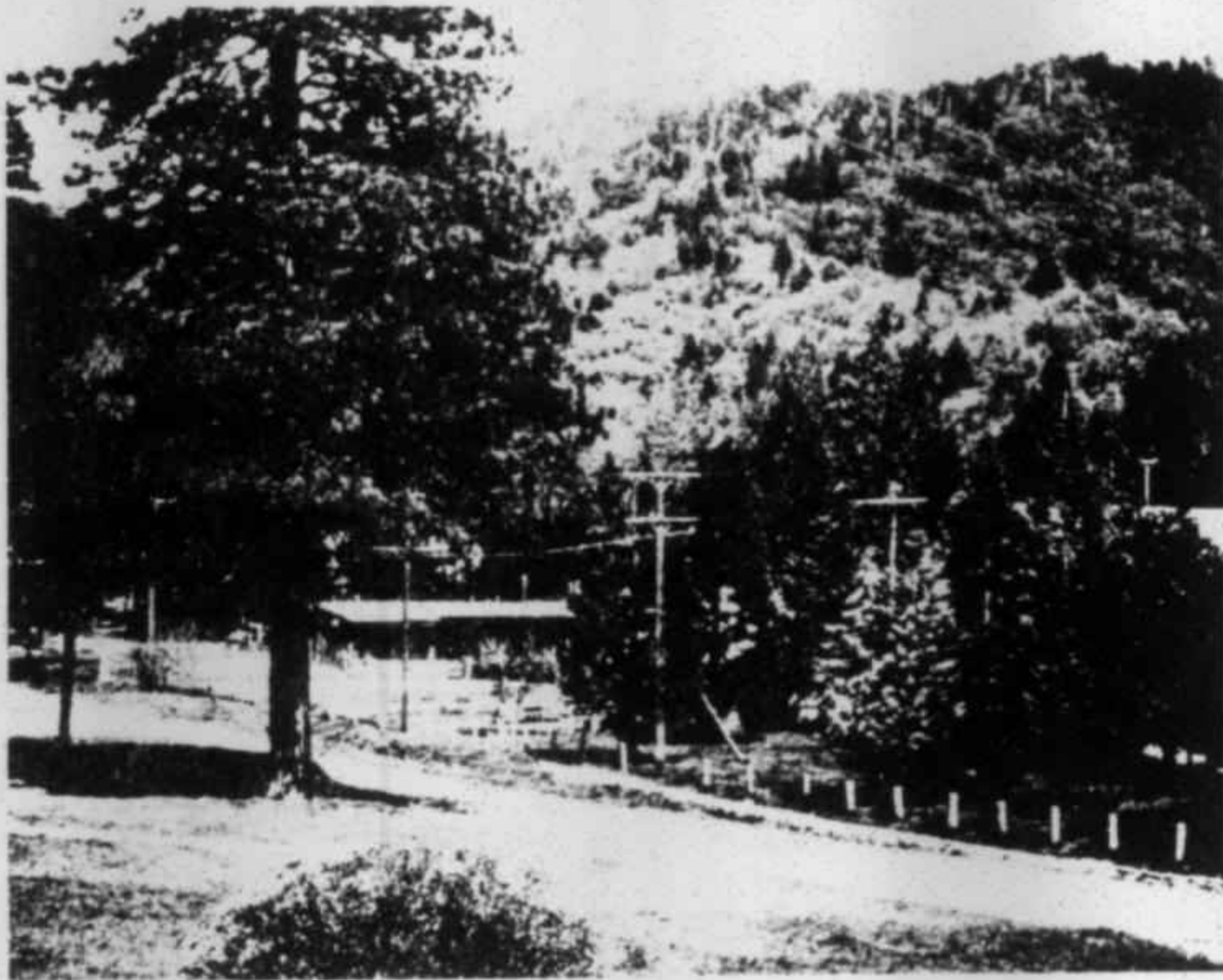
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a drawing by Isabel in
El Paso.



Pan the Youth of Spring

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