GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER

THE GEORGIAN CHURCH
1908 VERDE STREET
BAKERSFIELD, CAL. 93304
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MAY 1984

BAKERSFIELD - All goes well as usual. A very pleasant Sabbat. Don started a couple days ahead of time working on the yard and outdoor Circle so it would be ready for use. The statues still need a new paint job but it did all look nice. The night before, Elizabeth and four others cleaned and straightened up the house and temple so all was in readiness.
Your editor was feeling pretty sick, so Don & Elizabeth conducted the Circle. I watched from inside and could see that all went very nicely. Of course Adrienne was here and Bobbie and Frieda and Julie, and we were happy to see Lady Mariah and Vurla made it up from down south. Ken dropped by for a short while but left early.
After the ritual, Julie insisted I should lie down. I did, and slept for about 4 hours. When I awakened, the house was all straightened up and everyone had gone.

Now we know why those gargles didn't solve the sore throat problem. Just after the last newsletter was mailed, I had such a bad weekend that I decided to go to the hospital for a checkup. Now four weeks later, after 3 doctors and dozens of x-rays and tests, I'll finally get started on radiation treatments about the time this goes in the mail.

When I checked in at the hospital, they asked for religious preference. I said Pagan. They couldn't find that in the computer, so I'm listed as "other". What could you expect...it's a Catholic hospital but the best one here.
The other day I told the radiologist I was going to ask some of my friends to work a little magick on this problem. I thought he'd laugh but he said, "Good! You need all the help you can get!"

I know some of you must be getting impatient waiting for replies to letters, lessons, etc. But now you know why. Mostly I've just felt too tired and weak to do anything but rest and sleep.

It does help so much when you mail early. We don't have this issue in the mail yet but we already have a half dozen pages ready for next month.

Somewhere in the newsletter is a note about looking for a male Himalayan cat. That should have mentioned it is needed for breeding with a female.

BEING A WITCH IS.....

....wondering why the best ones all seem to live so far apart.

....wondering how many neophytes get turned off by getting started with the wrong group.

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MERRY MEET from all at COTOR, OZ, N.S.W. Covenstead!
Heck, we seem to have longer & longer methods of address, do we not? We expect to collect our next Georgian tomorrow, Wednesday, as Laura tells us she received her copy yesterday. As we now live on the opposite side of the Harbour Bridge, we only empty the mail box on each Wednesday, when Kent does our banking and business.
What a week we have had! Phone calls from all over O_. Oh how I wish the world of Wicca in this country would stabilise! The first drama this week came from the publication of a new magazine. In its pages was to be found an article on Moon Diets. This particular one we devised in 1983, and have under copyright, as a method of natural weight reduction from our business, The Aromatherapy Institute. We don't need to tell you it was printed under another woman's name, purporting to be her work. So the start to this week was to have our copyright and work recognized, and an apology printed. Seeme now to be organized, time will tell.

Next messup, as per enclosed newspaper cutting, this woman shown and described as a Witch, is the one who used our work in the magazine mentioned, last para. She is not, and would never be accepted as an initiate or Church member, but insists on gaining publicity, and always classes herself as a Witch. As you will read from the latest blurb, this documentary? promises to be ghastly. She has stated in public that her intention is to make a million dollars from the occult world!
The next phone call, she, and some friends, who claim to be self-initiated eclectic Craft, are opening rooms to train instructors in TRADITIONAL CRAFT!!!
O boy, instant H.P.'s and H.P.S.'s Cotor W.A. are also distressed. As you know, they are Gardnerian, and they feel shocked at these latest attempts to use the Craft. No doubt, Lady Helena will write you about this problem. We all feel we are being attacked on every side Please, fellow Georgians, rally to our aid. Send some positive energy workings to help us combat this threat to COTOR, both N.S.W. and W.A.

If these people succeed, the work we have put into a positive approach to Wicca for so many years will all be lost. The blonde woman is also about to put on a ritual, The Descent of the Goddess, in which for public gaze, she will disrobe...cameras, general public and all! A concerted effort is needed to raise power to save us all. We learn that names of COTOR members and initiates will also be given to the press during her money-raising ceremonies. We all have strength, but those with young families are at risk. Oz is still not ready to accept our Craft. We still are considered as wierdos and as an outlandish cult. Please..light up your candles and incense for us, and through our joint efforts this trouble will, by the grace of The Old Ones, be turned from usall. There is much more planned by this self-initiated H.P. who gives himself such Craft rank, but we are so soul sick we will not go further. Enough to say, he calls his Coven? Dark Circle!

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COTOR continued

On to happier events. Lady Irena of THE SOURCE Craft magazine, myself, two of our neophytes, Laura and Veronica (Sam), plus Robine, and two of Lady Irena's group, all have Taurus birthdays. We have arranged a 10 course Cantonese banquet to be held at an oriental club in Sydney where Kent & I are members. Kelly, our son, is to be Master of Ceremonies and host, and we will have about 40 or more to celebrate! Should be a wow of a night. Will tell you about it next mail, which will be sent off about May 1st.

I am working hard to complete a children's book of short stories, fully illustrated in color by our neophyte, Laura, who in Oz has renown for her w ork in this field. When we finish it, we'll send you a copy, and maybe you would like to print a story or two for Junior Witches. Believe me, every story is about a bird or animal and nature fairies. And I know them, one and all, for I see them every day from the window of my ivory tower. Har Bibi, Witch Cat, stars in the book and she helps all the park inhabitants with her Wiccan spells. So wish us luck. We hope the book will teach little ones from Cowan families about our beloved Goddess and the glory of nature. So mote it be!

Margaret and Stella, our Irish-born students of the outer Circle, have just been the proud parents of Venus, a six month old, Cafe au lait, Siamese Queen. May the Gods show them mercy; anyone who has been privileged to share their home with a Siamese knows what it is like to be "broken in" by said cat!

Pat, the error on the new letterhead paper is the word "Business"... see the mispelling. I know in Oz we spell things a bit differently to you, but not that way!!

The weather is changing. It is late in the afternoon, the day is now bleak (lovely) a gentle rain is falling. Kelly just brought me a box of chocs and candies, and Kent took a batch of sausage rolls from the oven. With a bottle of our good red wine, it looks like a feast for tonight.

So my loves, until next mail, our love to you all, Flags, Flax, Fodder and Frig, Blessed Be.
Catherine, Kent & Kelly, COTOR N.S.W. OZ

ED. NOTE: Sorry you're having problems with the dinghats. Wish we could ship them all off to the moon for Mama to take care of-but looks like we're stuck with them...forever.
We wish you success with your book. I'm sure we'd be happy to print a story or two for the Witchlings.
Hope your banquet is a huge success.
Keep up the good work!

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ED. NOTE: We have a lemon tree, a grapefruit, a plum and a couple of orange trees here. When Lady Fauna was up from Long Beach for the last Sabbat, she took home some lemons.

LADY FAUNA sez: Dear Pat & Elizabeth,
My apologies for not typing. I bought an extension cord specifically to bring electricity to the typewriter, but the extension cord got appropriated to the TV set. Back to K-Mart.

Anyway, I thought I'd write a note and let you know what happened to your lemons. They got home too late to make lemon pie, but not too late for Dean to cut one open and eat it. Tuesday, six of them made it into lemon meringue pie. The remainder of the peels were grated and dried for future use. I put the pies in the refrigerator to finish cooling, and closed the door. This triggered a sound like someone hitting the jackpot at Reno. I had unpopped popcorn in a Ball jar in the refrigerator (no ring), it had fallen from its precarious perch on the top shelf and showered the contents of the refrigerator with little yellow kernels.
Unpopped popcorn does not remove from meringue. It is terminal. There isn't a reversal in the world to undo that one.

It turned out the crust was horrible, so we salvaged what we could of filling and meringue and mixed them in champagne glasses. It turned out pretty and the whole thing tastes like lemon meringue pie without crust. It's funny how things turn out sometimes.
I fiddlefarted the weekend away, casually letting the grocery store chore slip until 5:00 Sunday evening. And, when I least expected it, strawberries fell to $2.50 for twelve dry pints. (Those in less temperate climes, please forgive the proverbial rubbing it in).

So, six more lemons were juiced (and rinds grated, dried and stored away) and the juice got mixed with strawberries, pineapple and other goodies to make 20 jars of strawberry pineapple jam.
There are about a half dozen lemons left (another six went into two quarts of lemonade a la Elizabeth) and Dean looked so wistful after the jam that I think I'll save them for him to eat.

Thank you both.

Love and Blessed Be.

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ED. NOTE: We're happy to tell you that beginning with the June issue we'll be running a three part series on crystals by Tiffany St. Moonstar.
And from Dragonsmoke we find that Tiffany became the proud mama of a male Wytchling (7lbs. 14 oz.) back in September. Congratulations, little mama!

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DIDJA KNOW????

Florida became the Union's 27th state 139 years ago. Its oldest city, St. Augustine, is also the nation's oldest city. The seaport in northeast Florida was founded by the Spanish in 1565.

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From Tiffany St. Moonstar
P.O.Box 65
Mt. View, CA 94042

THE DRAGON KING

In a mewlip shrinking meadow of mist and mire,
Flanked by gargoyles atop molding, crumbling towers of rock,
Walks a wizardess cloaked darkly to hide inner fire,
Sea-green lioness eyes choose a way daintily among the raven flock,
Soft, silent, secret, she moves, her glowing crystal lights the gloom,
Traveling the river of immortal Chronos, she works rites of doom,
Her vision quest aeons ago god-born, nearing now, forbidden fruit,
She nears the place of mystery meeting, signaled by the white owl hoot
Wise were those who taught her the sacred moon goddess ways,
Circling ancient druidic oak, her powers are seeking root,
Dragon blessed Dragon Quest, Dragon might and magicke!

Long ivory columns, bones of the ancestors, form a hoary path,
Lead the murky way to the enchanted Dragon King's lair,
A place where Berzerkers dare not pass, even basilisks flee serpent wrath,
Linger still skeletons of sacrificial maidens, bleached skulls with satin hair,
None dare now approach the dragon throne of starry space gold,
Coveted lizard lore entombed within the icy walls of death flame cold,
Occult legends are truth in reptile world, entwined in laws mystic,
Waiting for the One to wrest them from Dragon King cabalistic,
Secrets of the Planet Lords hers if she breaks the batrachian maze,
Human flesh and serpent scale in the wizardress merge monistic,
Dragon blessed Dragon Quest, Dragon might and magicke!

At the foot of the thundering mountain stands the maid in ring of flame,
Sorceress with thurible, sword, athamae, working now hidden rites,
Chanting spells and incantations from beyond time to tame,
Long have her wise ones taught her how the flaming saurian fights,
Jealously he guards his arcane learning of times before,
Each work of ensorcell the lizard god does lovingly hoard,
But come has she to challenge, she seeks to share the throne,
She sings a song of dragon lust to lure him down, her woman poem,
His ears hear the music in the fog, his eyes search the dark haze,
He flaps his wings and screams, now dragon sing becomes the sole beating tome,
Dragon blessed Dragon Quest, Dragon might and magicke!

Spiral sails the stained glass wings, as jewel encrusted form falls,
Snorting, blasting, searing flames erupt from bowels of dragon belly,
Explode to scorch the seeking searcher of holy cockatrice halls,
Dragon King's desire to reduce the fool to molten protoplasmic jelly,

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The Dragon King (cont.)

He soars to meet the infidel, then hurtles downwards to destroy,
Pities does he the doomed mortal below, soon to be dragon toy,
But no mere foe, this strange maiden of courage greater,
She stands tall to boldly face him, fiery angel of reptile creator,
In love with her blood spirit he senses more, his head on her lap lays,
She is dragon mixed with mortal, he knows now she is no traitor,
Dragon blessed Dragon Quest, Dragon might and magicke!

With whispering sinous dragon rhymes she wins his salamander love,
Lonely and long have been his years with destruction and death,
Under her gentle female strokes he croons, calm as sleeping dove,
And remembers hatchling time of mothers meat scented breath,
She climbs upon his bejeweled back to make the airy trip,
As amethyst wings flutter fast and strong, she makes secure her grip,
And up on dragon aerie he places her in cave lined with spider silk,
They sup on wedding feast of honey and butterfly's tender milk,
His hypnotic yellow eyes caress her with adoring reptilian gaze,
His nostrils steam fragrant incense, her trust he will never bilk,
Dragon blessed Dragon Quest, Dragon might and magicke!

All eternal wisdom, from what is now and what will be,
Fated quest fulfilled, all learning now is hers to see,
Skulking wizard reptile king's long forgotten lore,
Belong now to her, Dragon King's secrets no more,
Eternal now paces wizardress on Dragon's mountain, during all moon phase,
Because of Dragon King's blood she spilt, she will never again be free,
Dragon blessed, Dragon Quest, Dragon might and magicke!

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FROM YOUR EDITOR: Since so many have been trying to find "WHAT WITCHES DO" , which has been out of print for long, we were happy to mention in the last issue that it is again available from Phoenix Publishing Co., POB 10, Custer, Washington 98240 for $9.95 including postage.
This month we received The Cosmic Awareness Crystal, a combination newsletter and catalog available from POB 1144, Aurora, Col. 80040-1144...12 issues $12. in the U.S.
Included in the newsletter was a review of the book by someone called Dark Thunder who seems to have a real hatred for Alex Sanders,... possibly an Alexandrian reject. Dark Thunder says (he/she/it?) would take What Witches Do, tear it up and flush it down the toilet.
Well, your editor still recommends the book, especially for neophytes. This review (?) is obviously a personal attack on Alex Sanders rather than on What Witches Do and its author, Stewart Farrar.
I think it might be of more benefit to the Craft to flush Dark Thunder down the toilet. All in favor.....

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GAIL in San Jose sez: thank you for continuing to send the newsletter even though my sub ran out a bit ago. Enclosed is my renewal and a little bit extra for the land fund. Next year I plan to send more.
I have recently rejoined the ranks of the employed having reached the limit of my endurance (and resources) as a self (un)employed professional. I'm working for a temporary agency and, so far, enjoying it. It seems to be a great way of re-entering the mundane reality of corporate employment.

My studies, varied as they are, are continuing. There is a small group of folk that I join for study on a somewhat regular basis. We've just started, and that with the Tarot. Very helpful in deepening my involvement with the cards. My studies/experiences (though limited) with herbs leads me to wonder if perhaps what's been causing your cough to linger is that it's neither virus nor bacteria, but fungus. There's a lot of that around - at least up here.

I've had especially good results clearing up fungus infections with an herb called Thuja. Black Walnut hulls (ground, of course) are also supposed to be good, but I find them most appropriate when working with smaller bodies (children, cats) as they seem to be more mild. Both of these herbs can cause cleansing symtoms as they act in the body. If you're interested in trying one or both, call me or write to get a recommended dose. NOT recommended that you just take a handful.

I have one or two people in my life who are interested in pursuing the Craft as they've experienced it through me. When they have completed their responses to the questionaires, I will forward them... (the questionaires) to you for approval/appraisal/comments (heaven protect us from rejection - but that too if appropriate). I doubt that I'd send these before Beltaine.

Well, that's all I'm writing now - I think of you often and of the special folk I met there once or twice. So much has happened in my life since our "first" meeting that I sometimes wonder which is the dream.
My love to all. My regrets that I can't write more often now.
My Blessings in the Lady's names!
Gail

ED. NOTE: Gail sent along a little folder about her work as a "Practitioner of Alternative Health Forms". Not clear if she wanted that listed. I do wish people wouldn't expect me to read their minds.
No cough - a very sore throat.
I'll know the answer for certain on the 16th. Since the first and last pages are the last things written, you probably read about it on the first page. Hopefully, it will be over with by that time.
Don't give up your business. Work it part time if necessary!

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MORE THOUGHTS ON CASTING A CIRCLE

Now that we've gotten everyone shaken up by saying that you can improvise when casting your Circle, let's take a closer look at the basic 'rules' and muse a bit upon them.

KNOW WHERE YOUR CIRCLE BOUNDARY IS AND MARK IT PHYSICALLY OR PSYCHICALLY. Now, if you are one of those fortunate enough to have a permanent Circle site, this one is not too difficult. You probably have it well marked, even physically marked out. If not, then one of the first things to do is to fix the Circle boundary firmly in your mind before you do anything else. It helps to actually walk the Circle boundary several times. Open up your sensing centers, and while fixing the boundary firmly in your mind by walking it, feel what energies may be encompassed within the area you have set. This will ease the task of purifying the area later on. This walking of the Circle boundary is a good step to take whether your boundary is physically or ppsychically marked, for it assists in attuning you to the Circle.

LOCATE AND MARK THE CORNERS/WATCHTOWERS. This one can be important and is easy enough to do. Almost everyone can afford a simple compass, and it can save you a lot of confusion! Ever get causht in the mad scramble when you have set the watchtowers in the wrong spots and then called the Guardians, and they are trying to find their correct spot? Most witches place a candle at each of the corners, which is lit during the actual casting of the Circle. Some also place a symbol of the element represented by the quadrant at each watchtower. However you choose to do it, do mark the corners and ensure that you have them correct.

PURIFY/CONSECRATE THE CIRCLE AREA. "But," you say, "that's what I do when I cast the Circle." Is it? Many witches find it best to do a bit of preliminary work before casting the Circle...cleaning the area. There are many ways of doing this--Go over the area carefully and remove any objects which don't belong there. It isn't too pleasant to have a covener (or yourself) step on a tack, or some such object in the middle of the ritual (unplanned blood sacrifice!). So, eliminate as many hazards as possible. If outdoors, sweep the area a bit (you can make a broom from a few weeds or branches). Indoors, vacumm the carpet or sweep the floor. Some traditions require that the entire Circle area be 'scrubbed' with a cleansing solution, usually salt and hyssop solution (there are others, however, such as rosemary). No matter which way you choose, do clean and cleanse the area as thoroughly as possible beforehand.

CAST THE CIRCLE. Not sure I want to get into this one! There are too many variations on the 'right' way to do so. General steps are to exorcise/consecrate each element; go around the Circle with each of them a given number of times; seal the Circle with blade (athame or sword) (or finger)--power. You may reverse these steps--different

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More Thoughts On Casting A Circle (cont.)

witches use a different sequence. The important thing is to incorporate all five elements into the actual casting, thereby building the 'walls' of the Circle.

INVOKE THE GUARDIANS. Again, there are many variations on how this is done. Use the method which you have been taught, or which you find is the best way for you. (And don't forget to dismiss them when you are through!)

Now--begin your rite....

Ima Non

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From: The Kitchen Witch's House Mouse

So you've run out of cabinet/drawer/shelf space, huh? Doesn't everybody? Almost every house I've scurried into, I hear the same wail from the lady or lord of the house: "Oh where will I put these?" Then I moved in with a new lady, and after quickly scampering through the house, noting the lack of storage (hiding, for me!) places, expected to hear the same cry from her. But I never did. How very strange!
So, one day, while she was out, I decided to investigate this strange phenomenon. Out I crept, making sure Kitty was outside.
Now, this is one smart lady! I see all these strange round poles, sitting in corners...whatever can they be? They're too slick for me to climb, so I eye them from the floor...Of all things, planter poles! But instead of plant baskets hanging on them, each pole had 2 or 3 sets of wire tier baskets hanging on it.
In the kitchen the baskets held such things as potatoes, onions, fruit, candy, herbs, all sorts of goodies! In the bathroom, soap, tissues, wash cloths, magazines, other odds and ends. In the bedroom, my lady's colorful unmentionables, stockings, books, makeup, and even a plant on this one, made such a pleasing picture.
All this storage space, everything handy! All tucked neatly into a corner, taking up hardly any space at all.....
Hmmmm, wonder if K-Mart carries poles expandable from about 3 inches up.....

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We've just received a copy of DRAGONSMOKE, the new annual edited by Tiffany Yvonne St. Moonstar. This is a limited edition of 500 copies at $13. including postage. Check or M.O. to Tiffany St. Moonstar, POB 65, Mt. View, Cal. 94042. All proceeds go to a Pagan Solidarity fund.
This little book should be a welcome addition to any Craft/Pagan library. Excellent articles and art work. Wish they'd make posters of pages 50 and 60. Cartoons, poetry, letters, listings...a little bit of everything that make this an interesting and worthwhile book. You'll love it!

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LADY DEMETER in Florida sez: advice for Adrienne in Bakersfield about being recognized. As a bookstore owner, I may sometimes be unwittingly guilty of a slip up...but the fact of the matter is all my books are metaphyical.
Nevertheless, as a HPs who taught many neophytes who were "gung-ho" to clear up the reputation of the Craft, I recommend a few "cover stories."
"I am doing a report for school." (so many people have gone back to school).
"I am researching Witchcraft (or magic or E.S.P.) and this is what I've read so far."
"I'm writing a gothic novel (that's impressive) and need some background information."

I can understand uneasiness but uneasiness makes people more suspicious than a confident "I'm ok" attitude. Humor and light heartedness aren't bad. "My husband calls me an "Ole Witch" all the time so I may as well check it out."
Now, Adrienne, magick isn't the same as Witchcraft although we use it. Read Napoleon Hills "Think & Grow Rich with Peace of Mind" and you will discover an accepted writer who talks about the Watchtowers (he calls them the Prince of Peace of Mind, The Prince of Hope & Faith, The Prince of Love & Romance, etc.) who stand guard at the portals of his mind and guard him from the negative thoughts of others. In his book he talks about the Law of Compensation, and you will discover he's discussing Karma. He discusses ESP and group working he calls "The Master Mind Group" and even Spirit Guides.
There are many non-Witch writers who tackle the same things we do. Do not limit yourself in reading solely magickal & Craft books. You can find helpful quotes from Emerson, Thoreau and many others.

"I've got a secret" attitude or composure will increase the curiosity of others. When you lay it out in the open - people do not see the obvious 3/4 of the time.
Here's another point to keep in mind - those who mill around the occult-ESP section of a bookstore will probably be already versed in that area - for sure curious about expanding their knowledge, and in fact, if you hadn't gotten up tight you may have made a friend of the curious stranger. Birds of a feather flock together - like attracts like - great minds think alike!

Remember, a little humor always helps. If someone says you are a Witch you can answer back with the quote "They call me that because they are too polite to say Bitch." This doesn't mean you are "bitchy" but what does a stranger know about your personality?
Hope this helps. Remember, when it comes to being, as you put it, disturbed, you cannot control other people's actions or words. All you have control of is YOUR REACTIONS.

Love
Demeter

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From Rik in Tucson

THE ADVENTURES OF...SUMMERLANDS SALAMANDERS:
BIKER COVEN

THE INCIDENT OF THE BIKER WAR

Last episode, you will recall (and if you don't, too bad) our heroes had narrowly escaped the lustful clutches of a hoard of New Wavers who were heavily into degenerate sex. (I never said that our heroes were smart, just our heroes.)

Our intropid heroes were arguing over the proper spell that would fill their gas tanks when the sound of mo-peds filled the air.

Yami leaped into Suzi's lap and screamed, "Run For Your Lives!!! It's the Preppies!"

The others quickly gathered their weapons and prepared for battle, knowing full well that this could be their last day on earth. It isn't nice to see what the Preppies do to their victims. As usual, the Preppies attacked first to gain the advantage.

"Look guys," remarked Biff as he fondled the alligator embroidered upon the breast of his custom taylored riding suit. "See that tacky motorcycle seat with the torn vinyl? How plebian."

Honda screamed and fell to the ground, the first casualty in the rumble. But Davidson, the High Priestess reacted with her skills in many a fight... "I thought that designer jeans went out with Brooke Shields!"

The Preppies fell back at this but responded thus: "Muffy, have you ever seen such tacky leather robes? Why they don't even match their saddlebags."

Indian and Harley collapsed at this dirty blow but Suzi saved them from further injury by saying, "Isn't that Chip over there? I hear he wears Underoos with the Dukes on the front".

With that Chip fell, mortally humiliated and crawled off the road muttering, "I could just die".

"I say there, don't you 'people', and I use the term in it's most general meaning, ever wash and wax your...scooters!"

Two bikes suddenly developed flats and the paint peeled off another. The surviving Salamanders held a quick war council and deciding to fight dirty against such horribly stylish people, they pulled out their cords and bike-chain scourges. Before the Preppies knew what had happened, they were stripped, bound and scourged not so tenderly until the demons of culture and good taste had been exorcised from

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Summerlands Salamanders (cont.)

their style-conscious bodies.

"I know the pains of freedom," exclaimed Muffy as she fell to her knees before the Coven. "Please forgive our sins and allow us to join your faith!"

"No!" Said Harley, the High Priestess of the Biker Coven. "First you must be purified. And the only way to do that is to burn those hideous Vespas and buy some decent bikes."

With that they kicked over their bikes and with the war cry of "Blessed Be" ringing in the air, they teleported across the state.

Be with us next time when we seek the answers to the following questions: Will Honda buy a seatcover for his bike? Will Muffy realize that Biff is a jerk? Will Beemer ever get a decent all-over tan?

Join us someday for the further adventures of....
SUMMERLANDS SALAMANDERS-BIKER COVEN!!!

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FROM U.P.I. - Two animal rights groups have sued the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. They say they want to free 50-thousand laboratory animals from what they feel are negligent and illegal conditions at The University of California-Berkeley. The federal court suit seeks to force the department to take action against U-C for alleged violations of The Animal Welfare Act.
According to Elliot Katz, a veterinarian and director of Californians for Responsible Research, the university was recently denied accreditation by an influential national inspection organization that checks the level of research animal care.

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More U.P.I. - A new birth control pill more closely geared to a woman's hormone cycle was introduced by doctors who believe it will reduce side effects.
The Food & Drug Administration approved the new "Tri-phasic" oral contraceptive for prescription use in the U.S.
The new pill provides fluctuating levels of progesterone to more closely imitate a woman's natural menstrual cycle.

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A man called police after watching Gerry Parks drill holes in a neighbor's house and stuff mice in the holes. A brief car chase ensued. Police say when they stopped Parks'car, dozens of mice poured out.
Police say they weren't sure what Parks was up to with his rodents. But one observer says Parks ought to be charged with
"CRIMINAL MOUSECHIEF!"

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From Black Hart Circle, c/o POB 9494, San Jose, CA 95157

We are writing in response to the article entitled 'Feminist Wicca vs Real Wicca' which appeared in the April 1984 issue of the GN. We are an elders' circle including holders of two tridtional Wiccan lineages, and shared the writiers' concerns for the values of the traditional Craft.

We feel that the authors of that article made some excellent points. We also saw some serious problems in the article, both in the underlying assumptions and in the conclusions.

Many of those who write about matriarchy owe their underlying assumptions whether or not they are aware of it, to the 19th century German writers on the subject. These philosophers , including Engels and Bachofen, were part of the movement commonly coiled Social Darwinism. Social Darwinists extended Darwinian evolutionism from the biological to the social realm positing a rigid evolutionary process for human society. 'Primitive materiarchy' was seen as one of the lower stages in that process.

These writers based their conclusion on extremely scanty and misinterpreted evidence and very active imaginations. Bachofen in particular was not attacking patriarchy with his theory of Mother Right, but rather seeking to validate it. His vision of matriarchal society was a vision of a society run as 19th century Prussian men imagined 19th century Prussian women would run it.

Bachofen's book MUTTERRECHT was reworked into English at the turn of the century by Robert Briffault, who titled his version THE MOTHERS. Most of the 'matriarchy books' written in English derive in large part from the above works. These include MOTHERS AND AMAZONS by Helen Diner and THE FIRST SEX by Elizabeth Gould Davis, both of which, like Bachofen, mingle half-truth, misrepresentation, and outright lies, and are virtually useless as sources. Other books which draw largely on these and related texts are WHEN GOD WAS A WOMAN by Merlin Stone and to a lesser extent THE HOLY BOOK OF WOMEN'S MYSTERIES by Z Budapest.

The underlying assumptions in the article seem to be that patriarchy values the 'one and only rightness' of the unique individual, exalting individualism, while matriarchy is marked by 'the almost complete denial of the unique and creative individual the psychological growth and independence of indiviauals and the community as a whole'. These assumptions are both taken straight from the 19th century, and are simply incorrect.

Consider the institutions of patriarchy: surely such patriarchal institutions as the Jesuits, the Communist Party, or the United States Marines represent the ultimate in unfettered individuality. Don't they?

Let us now consider the cultures suffering under the supposed stultifying straightjacket of matriarchy. Dr. Marija Gimbutas describes them in GODDESSES AND GODS OF OLD EUROPE, and whose shadows may be seen in Wolkstein and Kramer's INNANNA: QUEEN OF HEAVEN AND EARTH. Matriarchy so inhibited these cultures from advancement that they made the transition to urban living, and developed agriculture,

(Continued next page)

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Black Hart Circle (cont.)

settled (as opposed to nomadic) animal husbandry, the wheel, metallurgy, pottery, and writing.

The writers seem to be suggesting that patriarchy is an angry reaction to the repression of individuality by matriarchy, and that that rebellion is halfway justified. This is the same conclusion reached by the 19th century writers, to whom patriarchy represented a definite evolutionary leap forward over matriarchy.

One question we have not yet addressed is the nature of 'matriarchy'. No serious scholar now takes the conceptions of Bachofen, Briffault, et. al. seriously. It is rather felt that the pre-patriarchal period was matrifocal, or female-centered. To describe that culture, one can do no better than to quote from the introduction to the second edition of GODDESSES AND GODS OF OLD EUROPE by Prof. Marija Gimbutas, Curator of Old World Archaeology at the UCLA Museum of Cultural History. Those cultures were 'characterized by a dominance of women in society and worship of a Goddess incarnating the creative principle as Source and Giver of All. In this culture the male element ... represented spontaneous and life stimulating - but not life giving - powers. (That culture was) matrifocal and probably matrilineal, agricultural and sedentary, egalitarian and peaceful. It contrasted sharply with the ensuing proto-Indo European culture, which was patriarchal, stratified, pastoral, mobile, and war-oriented! Remarkable statements, the archaeological evidence for which she examines in considerable detail.

It is worthy to note that the transition to patriarchy was not the result of evolutionary pressure within a culture, but the result of the destruction of a peaceful agricultural society by a group of nomadic, warlike tribes.

It is the essential nature of patriarchy to organize things (and people) in rigid geometrical hierarchies of power, using a system of rewards and punishments in which sexual access to one or more women is the prime reward for successful obedience to the dictates of the system. On the other hand, the hierarchical structure of matrifocal societies tends to be less linear than organic: what Alan Watts called 'squiggly' and life-like.

We find it a trifle galling to see the myth of the murder of Tiamat by Marduk cited by Witches as a proper example of the emergence of the individual from the smothering embrace of the parents, as it was in the article in question. The origin of the myth is the overthrow of the gender-egalitarian Sumerians by the very patriarchal Semites, and the establishment of the pre-eminence of Babylon, the city of Marduk.

The moral is: Never cite a myth without examining its context.

We are pleased to note that the writers acknowledge the fundamental fact of human androgyny, which is a basic teaching at our Traditions of the Craft. We also applaud their presentation of evil as arising essentially from misunderstanding of the Good.

To Be Continued In A Future Issue

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I am seeking members of a Long Beach Coven from 1956-1957. I was initiated by their former High Priestess. She was my patient and my teacher until her death. My grief was so sever that I was hypnotized to forget her and my Craft until time could heal. I moved from the state the same week.

When memories began returning I looked for the Covenstead. It is no longer there. That had been my only contact with the others except when we would meet at the rest home.

I have messages for the others from the past. There is a word that identifies me as 'one in distress' but I can't remember it.

If you know of any Long Beach area group from that time period, PLEASE have them contact me.

Blessed Be
Jenden Witha
P.O. Box 90162
Long Beach, CA 90809

***

A 3 mo. old puppy is recovering from injuries allegedly caused when she was tied to a car and dragged a mile down a paved road.

"We still don't know if she is going to lose the paw that's most seriously hurt," Effie Evans said of the black and brown German shepherd-mixed puppy.

Carol Evans was working at the Cawelo Mini-Mart when she first saw the dog and the car dragging it. The dog was tied to the back of the car by twine noosed around its neck. "A man named Bevo and an old man and a little boy got out of the car," Miss Evans told investigating humane officers.

"The little boy ran to the puppy but Bevo jerked him away," according to reports. "Bevo went into the market and got a six-pack of beer...the older man asked for beer on credit."

"Bevo just stood there and looked at the pup." "It's not my dog," he said. The old man looked at the pup and said "Me dog, me dog," but then both men got in the car and left the area.

The Evans family, having rescued the dog, rushed it to the Kern Animal Emergency Clinic.

Sheriff's deputies tracked the car to the Kern Housing Project. Reports indicate the dog had been dragged from that area to the mini-mart, about a mile.

The man called Bevo was identified as Genevevo Alaniz Jr., and the older man was identified as Luis Pimentel.

Both men were arrested on misdemeanor charges of animal cruelty and abandonment and were jailed in lieu of $2500 bail.

Each could face a year in the county jail on the charges if convicted.

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Reviewed by Tiller, New Wiccan Church of Washington

Review: WHAT WITCHES DO by Stewart Farrar

I first read WHAT WITCHES DO about six years ago shortly after I had been initiated as amember of a Traditional Coven. Reading it for the first time in six years, I find it no less relevent.

Stewart Farrar opens the book by describing an initiation which, although doubtless autobiographical, I think captures the feelings and thoughts experienced by all who go through an initiation. He then presents a concise, objective history of the roots of Wicca, followed by descriptions of what witches believe, training, the coven, the great rite and seasonal festivals. He also includes a good deal of basic material on such topics as healing, the elements, clairvoyance and astral projection.

This book does an excellent job of introducing the reader to Traditional Craft. The book is well-ordered, objective, and may be given to someone with no previous Craft background as a first text. For those who are unfamiliar with the terms used, there is a very good glossary in the back.

WHAT WITCHES DO was first published in 1971. Little has changed in the text other than a few minor corrections. The original, though out of print for a number of years, is still very popular, and it is very nice to see Phoenix Publishing re-issuing it in an attractive softcover edition.

All in all, I am very pleased that WHAT WITCHES DO is back in print, I recomment that, even if you already have a copy of the original edition, you buy a copy of the second edition for your library.

WHAT WITCHES DO by Stewart Farrar, from Phoenix Publishing Co., P.O. Box 10, Custer, WA, 98240. (604)584-7684. $8.95 softcover, perfect-bound, 5½ x 8½, bibliography, glossary, photographs, illustrations, 184 pages. $9.95 mail order.

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ED. NOTE: OVERSIGHT - THE CREEP OF THE MONTH STORY on page 15 was written by Michael Trihey of The Bakersfield Californian. What kind of scum is our civilization(?) breeding that could do that to a harmless little puppy? Again I say, too bad the punishment doesn't fit the crime. These creeps will probably get off with a small fine or a week in jail.

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FROM U.P.I. - Aerosol spray treatments often can be frightening for a pet. Now, a line of pet care products has come out using a new type of areosol dispenser system that eliminates the hissing sound. Unlike other spray aerosols, the manufacturer says 98% of the product is dispensed, and potentially flammable or oily propellants that are harmful to the pet and general environment are eliminated. The Grow Pet Care products includes 8 insecticides & grooming products, plus 6 cleaners and deodorizers for homes & kennels. GROW CONSUMER PRODUCTS, Pan Am Bldg., 200 Park Ave., N.Y., N.Y.10166.

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SUE in Tucson sez: please find money enclosed for another 1 year subscription and some extra for all the work you guys do. (Sorry I had to send cash. I didn't have any checks.
The Craft scene in Tucson is growing steadily. I'm going to be initiated by Rik on Beltane, after 2 years of hard work and countless years of searching. Rik is going to let me teach his Tucson Free University class this time around. Guess we'll see just how much I know!

Well, I got married a month ago. My husband, Al, isn't Craft (he's pretty much an atheist) but I've been catching him using terms like "powers that be" or "sending energy", so I know something is sinking in. The Craft has certainly touched and changed almost everything in my life...for the better.

Love and Light,
Sue

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Bakersfield SPCA last month started a 24 hour phone-in tape service. The "Pet Hot-Line" 366-2305. Daily the tape lists all animals that have entered the shelter in the past 72 hours. Also lists hours, location, fees, etc.
April 10th is the 118 th birthday of the ASPCA, the first animal welfare organization in the U.S.

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LADY EILONWY in Florida sez: hope all is well with you. Just a note for you to correct our mailing address for the "FAERIE FOLK NEWSLETTER".
Lady Eilonwy, POB 100585, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33310.
If anyone would like a sample copy, they can send a double-stamped SASE (long envelope..40¢). Subscriptions are $5. per year. Checks payable to Mary Santangelo.
Blessed Be & Take care.

In light & Love,
Lady Eilonwy

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ED. NOTE: Your editor feels he should apologize to Elverhearth for any confusion he may have caused. Elvenhearth was selling Spell Kits ...not lessons. Guess I read the catalog wrong.

*

Brief letter from Penny in Florida but not really about anything for the newsletter. Guess she just doesn't like to write to us anymore. She hadn't written for some months. To the doghouse. (Cat house?)

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This is a DOyaknow?????

Is Boy George a boy who wants to be a girl?????
OR
A girl who wants to be a boy????
OR
Whatzit????

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From Bear in Texas

THE ELEMENTS OF REALITY

In the quiet sizzling summer heat that had grown steadily less bearable, the sleepy craft community barely stirred in somber anticipation. How hot and somber could it get, before the broiling steam punched a hole in the cool upper atmosphere and fell back down as cool soothing rain.

"Oh don't worry dear," said the priestess to her maiden. "Just set them anywhere. After all they're only symbols." Sighing heavily the hand maiden shrugged her shoulders and dumped the elemental candleholders and statues in a pile on the floor. Hey people, wake up, how would you like to be referred to as 'only a symbol'. I even know some modern witches who think the Lord and Lady are 'only symbols' Well they're just as much symbolic as any of us I suppose. Dear me though, I can't seem to find it in me to call Them symbols to Their face.

"Hi Mom, what's for dinner? Oh, hi, Dad. Have a good day between today? Christians still trying to put you in their little boxes Dad?"

"Yeah, that and a few silly pagans think I'm only a symbolic figment of their silly fantasys. Oh yeah and there's still a few die-hard feminists in the park that want to cut my balls off for smiling. I'm telling you son, I really wasn't staring at them and seductively stripping them in my imagination. Really now. I just spaced out thinking about how many xians it takes to change a light bulb-and I didn't notice they were there and look away. Well, thats all right son, the way they went after mine, boy oh boy, they're really going to enjoy walking around swinging a big hairy pair in their next life. Fortunately I'm a nice guy with a real sense of humor about these sort of things, but don't mention it to your Mother son. You know how she is if anybody talks to sensibly about that bastion of illusions they call maidenhood. If young girls want to believe themselves to be morally superior to their brothers then they will. In fact young man, you've been raising more cain than is good for you, about balancing the scales. It's true that you have fewer legal rights and privileges and more responsibilities and liabilities-and you can go ahead and kid yourself about having more ability if you want to. Seriously, now son, it might be true that the only right that comes with marrying these modern women is to pay through the nose and sleep with Jack Frost at the job site when she kicks you out of your own house. But before you complain and carry on a bellyachin about men's liberation & men's rights -menimism- just you take into consideration that some women need these illusions about male inferiority and small heartedness. It helps them to feel less inferior, to feel smarter, stronger, and morally more worthy. Don't worry son, if they try to cut you, just run. Sooner or later, those that are going to will accept themselves, to respect themselves.

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The Elements Of Reality (cont.)

Then, only then, will there be enough grace, acceptance, and respect to share with others. Now son, I know you're young and hot headed, always off to avenge some wrong somewhere. But before you start dumping on your sisters all the bitter hostility they absent mindedly dumped on you as fall out from what was necessary to get those macho mundane males attention. Just hold up and think for a little bit. Its true that your little sister says mean things designed to hurt. But she only hurts others because she thinks they're hurting her. If you lose your cool son and starting bitching right back--then it will only seem to justify all that she says and does. It will only make it true in her mind that you don't accept and respect her. Your complaining, or even your refusal to take responsibility for what ever complaints she has will only be taken as proof of your immoral animosity, your insidious male mind at work. Yeah, I know kid, I was real cute too, until puberty made me into just another one of those lustful perverts. Anyway son listen to me. I know you might think your Mother and I are unfair for letting your little sister be so mean and hateful about womens issues and all, but people who can't accept themselves got to have something to hate; someone to blame for their feelings of unworthiness. A feeling resulting from values that only they can change. But son, we allowed this not to harm you; but to build strong character. To allow your gracious giving heart time to fully bloom. What it all boils down to is this. You can either grow in a more stable and harmonious direction or grow less stable and more bitter. You can't help but grow; the only choice you have is in which direction. You can complain and contribute to bitterness and hostility. Or you can be gracious and accommodating (without trying to be a floor mat) while still going about getting what you want out of life. You can defend yourself and so prove your male chauvinism--or you can graciously concede that it is unfortunate that some people have been treated unfairly by the opposite sex. (And hope she takes the hint)

I can remember not too long ago when I chafed under femal chauvinism so I rebelled and created the Roman Empire--recruited thousands of men campaigning on the platform of restoring our rights to inherit property. But you know-growth-our conditions-spiritual and social-is just like a pendulum. The harder you push it one way, the farther it eventually goes the other direction.

So son, whenever your sister feels small and puny, weak & ugly, whenever she fails to be a kind gracious lady and behaves insensitively or even visiously. Do not stoop, do not retaliate, do not defend what is not being attacked (but if the she fits then wear it proudly). Give grace son-even as I gave you grace and life. Only by completely accepting your sister as she is (petty & bitter at times though she may be) can she at least have a better chance of coming to love herself one day-what your Mother and I have made. Give grace son-not as an example-but as genuine loving acceptance of a whole person.

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The Elements Of Reality (cont.)

Only when your self acceptance is strong enough that pride loses its pleasure can your inner self be unassailable, invulnerable, to any assault on self image or sense of worth. Only then can you endure the taunts of your sister without suffering self doubt and becoming bitter in return. When you can accept yourself and her with the grace that I have given you, then you may wait for her to regain her grace and composure. Of if this should be inconvenient or seem unlikely then you may come and go at your leisure without being bitter or unhappy.

*

WINDS OF MARIAH

One day I was thinking about the saying of 'Perfect Trust'. I was watching life around me for the answer, this is what I learned.

I was watching my cat getting into everything (Pooka, a white deaf cat), he was drinking water from a tiny pond, he hate to get wet.

I walked up beside the pond, and my shadow image was cast upon the water. Pooka saw me in the water, and started to walk towards me. He put his foot into the water to get to me. I could tell that he did not like to get into the water, but he kept coming further into the water, until the water was up to his nect, but he kept looking at my image. Pooka has no fear of my image and he trusts me to not harm him.

So, I reached down into the water and held him, wet fur and all, against me and loved on him. So he would not put negative thoughts to my image. Pooka has trust and my image as one, even though he had to go into areas that he does not like he trusted me to make everything safe.

When we talk about 'Trust', can we say that the person we trust; harm does not enter into our image?

Can we 'Trust' the other person with our very life?
Can we 'Trust' the other person not to steal from us?
Can we 'Trust' that person not to lie to us, talk to us in 'Truth'
Can we 'Trust' that person with our feelings?
Can we say that our image and 'Trust' are one?

Love does not bring trust, we can love someone but a small voice will say to us not to trust that person, or maybe that image has done things to remove the trust.

Can we do as we will, and not fear the dissapointment of the person we trust?

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The Winds Of Mariah (cont.)

Can we trust that person to go into hell with us and not leave when the going get rough?

Trust does not have chains around our necks, to control others.

Trust is like water, it will ebb and flow around each other, dams are not put up to control the friendship.

Witches use their intitution (feelings) to let them know if things are safe to be around, our eyes can deceive us. Pooka's eyes deceived him when he saw my image in the water, that was not the real me. But he had trust in my image to go against all odds.

I feel that a witch should have trust with their image.
For many years I thought I could
Change the world from bad to good
But now I see my job to be
To keep the world from changing me.

Merry Part,
Lady Mariah

***

From the Kitchen Witch

FAST SPRING RAREBIT

Mix 3/4 cup condensed cream of asparagus soup and 2/3 cup evaporated milk in a saucepan and heat (low heat) stirring often.
Add 1/4 lb. grated s harp cheese and 1/2 tsp. dry mustard, and 1/2 tsp. worcestershire sauce.
Stir until cheese melts.
Beat one egg well (until thick and lemony) and slowly fold into the cheese mixture.
Serve immediately on toast, sprinkle with paprika, and ring with parsley or chives.

HOME MADE MAYONAISE

Beat 1 egg yolk, add 1 tbls. vinegar, add 1/4 tsp mustard, 3/4 tsp salt, 1/8 tsp pepper. Mix well.
Drop oil, one teaspoonful at a time into the egg mixture, beating co nstantly, until 1/4 cup oil is added.
Then add 3/4 cup oil a little at a time, beating well after each addition.
As the mixture thickens, add 1 tbls vinegar, a little at a time. (Half lemon juice and half vinegar may be used.)

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DIDJAKNOW? Only one U.S. President never married, James Buchanan, the 15th President, was the first bachelor elected to the White House and the only one to remain unmarried.

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DOG DAYS from U.P.I.

A valuable Police Dog wandered home in El Segundo after what apparently was just a weekend "canine social outing." The 80-pound German Shepherd, Quido, was valued at 5-thousand-dollars. The dog disappeared from his handler's home Sunday. An L.A. Police helicopter joined in the search. Then Quido came home...haggered but healthy ..."he drank about a gallong of water and crashed with a smile on his face."

Protestors recently planned to picket the Turlock City Pound. The animal lovers say the pound sells dogs to Knudson's Animal Laboratory Service. A spokesman charges the owner, Henry Knudson, is inhumane to the animals he and his firm get for research. They also charge that Knudson uses newspaper ads to obtain dogs without telling owners they will be used for research.

Leah Bullock says about 3 years ago, her dog, Willie Wong, collapsed in her driveway in Idaho. Steve Fairchild, a vet, diagnosed the problem as a heart blockage and said the dog, a rare Shih Tzeu, needed a pacemaker. But Fairchild knew of no vet in Idaho who had ever done the open-heart surgery needed to implant a pacemaker... so he used Dr. William Patton, a heart surgeon from Idaho Falls to help. A pacemaker small enough for the 12-pound dog normally cost up to $4,000...but they one 20 years old...too old to be used for a human. It cost $165. The operation in February was a success and Willie Wong is back home and had resumed his daily walks. Besides the dog, Bullock lives with a cat, named Suzie Wong, whom she calls Willie Wong's girlfriend.

Beatrice Stanton of Sacramento was outraged when she saw an Australian Shepard locked in the cab of a pickup parked off Interstate 80. Donald Patnode was arrested for alleged drunken driving...and C-H-P officers agreed to his request to leave the dog in the truck to guard some tools. But Patnode didn't make bail as quickly as he thought he could. It wasn't until 12 hours later that Stanton was able to convince animal control officers to free the canine.

A 10-month-old, termite-sniffing Beagle named Sidney is making his debut as New York's first canine able to track down house pests. Animal Behaviorist Robert Outman says "Beagles are perfectly suited for the work." Outman runs Tadd Termite Dogs, a nationwide service that leases dogs to exterminators. The puppy has been in training and now gets to work for real. Sidney is the first termite-sniffing dog in the New York City area. Fellow Tadd-trained canines have been in service all over the country. Sidney almost lost out to an Aardvark, considered the best termite-sniffers in the animal kingdom.

A 5-year-old Bakersfield boy whose pet dog was shot and killed by a Kern County Sheriff's Deputy wants the department to get him another dog. Deputy John Porter killed the animal, a German Shepherd. He says the dog was about to attack him as he tried to serve an arrest warrant on the boy's uncle.

While a Florida man was in a patrol car getting a ticket, his Toy Poodle jumped around in the front seat of his car, knocked the gear into reverse, and backed into the patrol car.

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ROBYN in Australia sez: lately there have been many murders in the news, whole families being killed. Is there a chance of us all getting together in a "link-up" on a certain date & time to calm these violent forces? Let's be positive together & put out so much goodwill that it will catch on to others.
When I hear of cases such as the woman in Al from Albuquerque's letter, I'm stunned. This woman is obviously insane. Why hasn't she been dealt with by now?
And then in complete contrast, your Georgian News has the touching letter from Lady Mariah (March issue). It was beautiful & I've found comfort myself from fellow Craft friends in past days, as I hope Angie in Texas does also.

I'd like to thank Adrienne in Bakersfield for the many asthma remedies. I favor the inhalation & tea methods, but the most recommened cure of anisette liqueur sounds promising. It's on my shopping list today.
Isis Black cat calls & Little Dog is starving, so she tells me. Married life is going well, pretty busy.

Merry Part & Blessed Be
Robyn & the furries

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A SABBAT TO REMEMBER — Lady Cara, Path of the Pentacle

We here in Florida are fortunate to have nice weather most of the year which enables us to hold our celebrations in the MoonLight. Usually we have held them at Lady Aurora's very large & private yard. Since she has moved to a much smaller place, I had to find another location. A friend of mine, and a part time Crafter, offered his home and huge semi-private yard for the Spring Equinox. He piled branches in front of the semi areas and it all looked quite safe & should work well.
It was dark when we all arrived, about 20 of us. Everyone was busy setting up the Tiki torches in the four corners, putting the altar in place, and setting a pathway of candles from the house to the Circle. Since we are clad with the sky, we clad ourselves with robes on these occasssions. Most of us are into Renaissance, so most of the robes are medieval in style.

While others were changing into their robes, setting up tables of food & drink, tuning guitars, I went out back to set up my altar & put any finishing touches that were needed.
Suddenly 4 or 5 flashing lights came over the back fence. "What's going on in there/" I walked over to the fence & saw there were 4 men in blue.
"Is there a problem, officer?" I asked.
"Some of your neighbors called & said they saw people running around with robes and knives in their hands. They thought you were having a KKK meeting and someone could get hurt."

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LADY CARA continued:

I laughed aloud, "Of cause not! We are the Ft. Lauderdale Actors Guild and are putting on a medieval play. King Arthur's time, you know." I then modeled my robe for the officer, which looks like a Guinevere style.
One of the officers then asked, "Is that what they wore back then?"
Then looking around at some of the others, "Interesting."
Another noticed the sword. "Is that real?"
I said, "O'cause, would you like to seeit?"
"No, that's ok, enjoy your play." Another car pulled up in the meantime and he hollered. "Forget it, it's only a play" as he laughed and waved him off.
I then said, "I hope we will not be disturbed again once the play begins."
"No, sorry to bother you." And they left.
We walked into the house laughing, "the Lady is with us."
All then lined up to chant out to the Circle, and the rest of the evening was wonderful. One of the best Sabbats we ever had; for some it lasted 'til 4 A.M.
Interestingly enough, no one made a connection with Witchcraft. One reason, I feel, is because we do not wear black except for Samhain. I do believe only those who know about Wicca would make the connection, and not outsiders.

MOTTO! If you should ever have an outdoor Circle & someone stumbles across you, REMEMBER THE FT. LAUDERDALE ACTORS GUILD.

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JIM & LISA in Florida (Moonstar) sez: All is going great at Moonstar. Our inner Circle is now 10 strong and soon will be twelve. We have 3 new Pagan Way students and they are making great progress. We have begun having our Inner Circle esbats on New & Full Moons, Pagan Way classes 2 or 3 times a month.
The Goddess and God are working overtime in Florida. We are also networking, so if any Georgians or other friends are coming our way, we have a roof & nice foldout couch & indoor plumbing. You supply your food, housing free if you help with the dishes. One week notice after correspondence or phone contact is requested. We need to determine compatibility.
We had a real scare this month. One of our children lost her babysitting job, and the mother said it was because there was a rumor going around that her mom is a Witch. EEK! But because of magickal energy sent by Lady Cara. Lady Aurora, Lady thea and their groups, and a bit of foot work and P.R. on our part, we have made more neophite friends.

Love and Blessings to you and all.
Lisa & Jim

Address for networking or other correspondence is:
Moonstar
POB 3905 (813) 955-8020
Sarasota, Florida 33578

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PUSSY CAT KORNER

ROBYN in Australia sez: the nursery puss was too young & inexperienced to be having kittens. Two died and one became stuck..so it was a rush to the nearest vet. She was spayed at the same time as the kittens were removed. They were all dead except for one which was found under a bag of redgum chips the next day. She was a tough little kitten and battled to survive for 4 days until the substitute milk was just no longer sufficient. Mother puss, still not named, is now home and speaking loudly. However, the quoted cost of sixty dollars medical expense enlarged to one hundred dollars. Not bad for a stray that wandered in, eh? It shows who is in it for the well being of animals, & who is in it for the money, doesn't it?

FROM U.P.I. - Miffy the cat has returned home to Central Point, Oregon after a two-year absence...and has done little more than eat and sleep her first 5 days back. The family cat vanished March 31st 1982. Mabel Van Horn made appeals for help through newspapers and radio ads. She also put up posters and sought the aid of friends & neighbors...all to no avail. But the black & white long-haired feline now 10 years old, suddenly re-appeared at her old feeding area recently. Van Horn has no idea where the cat has been, but she's delighted that Miffy is back home.

A bleach company, Clorox, says it soon will begin national distribution of its newest product, a cat box filler that has a micro-encapsulated mint herbal scent, released by paw pressure. The product (Fresh Step) is composed of tiny capsules of fragrance bonded to a clay base. When a cat scratches the litter or steps in the box, the scent is released. A company spokesman says cat little has become a big business with sales up 44 percent in the past 3 years, totalling 260-million dollars a year.

U.P.I.'s Helen K. Marshall in Chicago writes:
Travellers driving in and out of Syracuse, New York's Hancock International Airport may at first think two of the road signs are a joke. Both read "Deaf Cat In Area." But they're on the level. Airport regulars are used to keeping a sharp eye for "Precious," the long-haired mascot of the airport parking lot employees. Precious is a white cat, and like many felines of that hue, is deaf. Precious purrs right through the ear-splitting roar of jet traffic. He also stands to be hit by arriving cars because he's unable to hear them coming.
Precious was adopted by ticket-takers and parking garage maintenance people after he jumped out of a car at the garage last winter. He was lured out of the garage with some food.
One year later, a very plump Precious spends much of his day lounging on the office safe and inside filing cabinets, some of which are filled with cat food as well as parking receipts.
But when Precious goes outside, finding him is not easy. As the office manager puts it--"How can you call a deaf cat?"

* *

From Ima Non

THE PATH

Daneen was so bored with this road...it stretched out before her, seemingly neverending. Oh, sure, it was smooth and even, stretching straight ahead, no crooks, no turns, no corners. And safe, oh, so safe. Almost everyone she knew was on this same road, all of them the same, all going at the same pace, all, like her, just plodding along... But, there, up ahead... "Hmmm, wonder where that path goes to?", mused Daneen, as she felt the path reaching out to her. "Maybe I'll explore for just a little was..."

Looking quickly around her, Daneen stepped from the main road onto the path. She pretended not to hear those who tried to call her back. No matter the."Oh, no, don't go that way, it's too dangerous", "Stay away from there, its different, you'll be lost." She knew she had to follow this path, to discover where it led.

A few others turned onto the path, some just before her, some just behind her. "Well," she thought to herself, "there aren't as many people on this path as there are on the main road, but I'm sure not alone."

After taking a few steps, Daneen slowed her pace and began looking around. "Strange," she thought, "I didn't notice those other paths from the main road." But they were there, running close to the path where she walked...many paths, different, yet much alike, running in the same direction. She looked ahead, at the path stretched before her, seeing that it was so different from the one she had left, for before her she could see the path twisting and turning, disappearing into the trees, reemerging further ahead. "How interesting," she thought, "I must go further and find out what is ahead on this path. It is so intriguing..."

And so she went forward, following the path, sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly, even, at times, coming to a stop. There was so much to see, to listen to, to marvel over. New vistas constantly opened before her eyes, new sounds and new meanings to old sounds thundered through her mind. The path began to twist and turn, and she often found herself retracing her own footsteps, but each time with a new awareness of all that was around her.

At times she stumbled, for the path was rocky and uneven, winding in and out of the shadows, sometimes bright, sometimes dim before her. At times she heard words of warning from others around her, and when she heeded their words, she passed safely over the rough spots, but when she rushed ahead, ignoring the others, she often found herself in the dard again, tripping, falling.

But each time she fell, she picked herself up, setting her feet once again on the path. There were times when she recalled the old main

(Continued next page)

* *

The Path (cont.)

road, times when she wondered why she had stepped from it, times when she thought that perhaps she should return to it. But, she couldn't, for somehow, in some way, she knew that this was her path, that somewhere up ahead she would find the answers she knew she must have.

Gradually, Daneen became aware that there were fewer and fewer people on the path. Many of those who were there in the beginning were gone. Some had turned back, some had stopped to rest, to think; others had stepped across to one of the other paths which ran so close to this one. There were those on the path which she passed, those that passed her. Sometimes, someone would pass her along the way, and then, a little further down, Daneen would find herself passing them by. This was not a path of sameness, for each went at their own pace...sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly...

At times she could see the path far ahead of where she trod, and see others far ahead on the path. They often seemed to be looking back at her, smiling, encouraging her, sending back the unspoken message, "Come on, you can make it, we did". And, always, she knew she must go on.

Slowly Daneen realized that the path was becoming more difficult to traverse, for now it began to climb, to go uphill, and each step was harder to make than the one before. She picked her way slowly through a thicket in the dark woods, breaking through with a sigh of relief. Another step, and "Oh, no!"...a chasm yawned before her, the path ending at its edge, and the chasm stretched interminably before her.

Wildly she looked around, searching for a way to reach the other side. But, to each side the chasm stretched into the distance, and she knew there was no way to go around it.

"There must be a way," she exclaimed. "There are others ahead of me, they had to get across it somehow."

Gingerly she stepped to the edge and peered over. Deep within she heard anguished cries, while into her mind's eye swam fearsome visions of unspeakable horrors, reaching out and up, clutching, grasping, seeking--her. And darkness. Deep, thick darkness, living darkness. Daneen could feel it reaching out for her, wrapping itself around her, enfolding her, and began to sink into its depths. Nothing else mattered now, as she floated slowly into the depths of the darkness.

Then, from deep within herself came the cry, "No! I must get out, I must go on, I must find the path again!". Suddenly, there appeared in the darkness faint flickers of light, to each side of her, behind her, before her, then others....flickering around her, above her, guiding her as she struggled to find her way through the darkness.

(Continued next page)

* *

The Path (cont.)

She felt new energy flowing through her, unseen hands pulling her up, the awareness that there were others there, aiding her in her fight to reach the light.

Finally, exhausted, but exhilerated, she felt herself once again on firm ground and slowly opened her eyes. There, beneath her feet, the path, solid, secure. "I'm almost afraid to look." She thought, "Did I get across, or is it still there before me?".

Slowly, fearfully, she raised her eyes...there, before her, stretched the path. She whirled to look behind her. "But, but, where did it go? How did I get here? There is no chasm! The path is unbroken behind me and in front of me. How very mysterious."

Turning, she looked ahead. The path stretched out before her and - as she raised her head she could see it more clearly, circling upward, reaching into the golden mists far ahead. And, there, ahead on the path, others, turning around, smiling, opening their arms in welcome. She could feel their love reaching out to her, their hands stretched forth to help her, to guide her, to lead her through the dark places, and over the rocky spots.

Pure joy filled her, for now she recognized this path that had called to her to follow it, now she knew where it led....home.

***

From UPI
Santa Cruz County Sheriff's deputies have seized what they say was one-million dollars worth of hallucinogenic mushrooms in a raid at Boulder Creek. Six people were arrested in a raid at the remote site and most of them were cultivating the mushrooms. Those arrested listed addresses in Berkeley, Auburn and the Santa Cruz area.

*

Arcata's Mark Keller says that ever since his plans of hunting for Bigfoot made national news; he's received about 150 calls from across the country. They include what appear to be five real death threats from people who think Keller shouldn't kill the legendary man-beast, whose existence has never been proven. The Humboldt County man says, however, that he isn't scared off by his critics. He still plans to quit his postal job next month to spend five months looking for the creature.

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DIDJAKNOW?
There were 679 female commissioned officers and enlisted personnel in the U.S. Air Force in 1960. Last year there were 6,866.

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The longest land tunnel for vehicles in the United States is the Eisenhower memorial tunnel, west of Denver--8,941 feet long.

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FROM YOUR EDITOR

Recently we mentioned that we had received two catalogs listing for sale parts of birds and animals. Where do these parts come from? Someone told me, "Oh, they're not killing animals...they buy the parts from labs." So where do you think the labs get them? After torturing dogs, cats and other animals for weeks, months, years ...if the animal is not already dead, they kill it, then chop it up like so much garbage to sell to these sicko occult (?) shops. Some shops also advertize human skulls for sale. There was some publicity on this not so long ago...that the skulls were coming from grave robbers in Mexico.

And if these shops create a larger demand for animal parts, and the labs can't supply enough...what happens? Remember Burke & Hare? They supplied human bodies for doctors to experiment with. When there was a shortage of bodies, they just created more by murdering people. If people will go that far to make a dollar, do you think they'd hesitate to steal your pet to chop up for parts?

And don't tell me about some of the ancient recipes calling for animal parts. You should know that these were simply secret names for various plants to maintain the same secrecy from outsiders as your doctor's prescription.

If you think you need blood or animal parts to make your magick work, you really have a problem. Either you were badly trained in the ways of magick...or you are a sicko who gets your kicks from doing something you believe to be evil.

*

It has been said that to learn one must experience all things. Then it must follow that one must experience murder...and being murdered. Should we then assume that the most knowledgeable minds are those of the murderers removed from the execution chambers??

*

FROM U.P.I. - Police in Sao Paulo, Brazil, have dubbed 25-year-old Evides Santos "The Bird Woman" following an escapade that left Brazilian doctors dumbfounded. Seems Santos was distraught over breaking up with her boyfriend and vowed to "do something crazy." She did. She jumped out of the window of an 11 th-floor apartment. But after a fall of more than 100 feet, Santos bounced off a plastic awning on the first floor of the high-rise building...and landed apparently unharmed. A doctor who examined her at a hospital says she not only suffered no broken bones or other serious harm...she didn't even have any bruises.

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DIDJA KNOW????

The Taipan is the world's most venomous snake. It is found in Australia, the only continent to have more venomous snakes than non-venomous ones.

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RELIGION IN THE NEWS from U.P.I.

A Santa Rosa man is going to get to go back to federal court to argue his case that Social Security numbers are a "Mark of the Beast." Robert Callahan is fighting being required to obtain a social security number for his infant daughter, Serena, as a requirement for his family receiving welfare benefits. He contends his religious beliefs, specifically the "Book of Revelation" hold that universal numbers to identify people are a "Mark of the Beast" by which "The Antichrist Endeavors to Control Mankind."

A man who claims his intimate confessions to a church counselor were repeated aloud to the entire congregation during Sunday services has filed a 5-million-dollar suit. John Kelly alleges in the suit filed in San Jose that the action resulted in his being publicly excommunicated, contributed to the breakup of his marriage, damaged his business and caused him emotional stress.

Church Women United...an ecumenical organization of Prtestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox women...says it will open a Washington office to "Strengthen the ecumenical women's presence" in the nation's capitol.

A controversial United Methodist minister who acknowledged performing "Covenant Services" for same-sex couples says he is voluntarily retiring from the active ministry. The Reverend Paul Abels efforts on behalf of homosexual rights in the nation's second largest denomination sparked a controversy that will continue after his retirement.

The Episcopal Church says it is withdrawing from a Washington-based coalition formed to oppose South Africa's racial policies because of the group's move into partisan politics. The group says it will work actively to defeat President Reagan at the polls in November.

The nation's Roman Catholic Bishops say they will continue to play an active role in the electoral process...but will not endorse any candidates or try to form a religious voting bloc.

The President-prophet of the Re-organized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints says he has had a revelation which will allow the church to ordain women to priesthood. Allowing women into the denomination's priesthood culminates a process that began in 1868, according to church spokesmen, when women were given equal voice and vote in the church's conference. It wasn't until 1972, however, that all church leadership roles except the priesthood were opened to woman.

In another women's ordination story, the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board says it will stick by its current policy not to require ordination as a qualification for missionary appointment. They say ordination of women is a matter for local congregations.

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VICKI in Ok. City sez: Here's my subscription renewal plus a little extra. I'm also sending it certified because an increasingly large amount of my Craft related correspondence is becoming "lost in the mail." So, from now on, anything with money in it gets sent certified.
Our yard is really getting beautiful. The bulbs we planted last fall are starting to come up at last. Snowdrops, daffodils, narcissus, and glory of the snow survived, but I think we lost the lily-of-the-valley to the cold winter. Too early to tell about the bearded iris. Hope to get the backyard fenced this year so I can plant an herb garden that's safe from the neighborhood children and dogs.

Blessed Be & happy Beltane,
Vicki

*

JIM & LISA in Sarasota, Florida sez: hope this letter finds you without the bad cold you had and everything else going good.
We are celebrating Spring Equinox tonight and looking forward to a grand Sabbat.
Sure want to wish you and all the other Georgians there the best wishes of the season. Hope your Sabbat was a great success, too. The minister's credentials really look great. Thanks so much, Pat. Well, lots of things to prepare for tonight so guess I'll stop for now.

Merry part and blessed be.
Jim & Lisa

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Sixth annual Rites of Spring Pagan celebration May 25-28. For info & registration forms, send SASE to The Earthspirit Community, POB 464, Allston, Ma. 02134 or call 617-395-1023. NO COLLECT.

Eigth Annual Pan Pagan Festival sponsored by The Midwest Pagan Council, August 9-12 at Union Pier, near western Michigan. For info or registration write: Calumet Pagan Council, 1519 Kenilworth, Calumet City, Ill. 60409. Attn: Janel Clarke.

Coveyne Dolphin June mountain meet. For info write: Mountain Meet, 8180 Pioneer Drive, Bakersfield, Calif. 93306, or call Shirley at 805-366-5972.

Pacific Circle 4, June 15-17. $10. per person, $17.50 per couple. ...but rates increase after May 1. Checks to Julie Meyer, mail to Pacific Circle, POB 9971, Glendale, Calif. 91206. For info call: Ian 818-765-5398 or Chris 818-806-1769.

Lots of things happening at Magickal Childe in New York. See page 21 of last issue. 1983 Fall supplement catalog listing books & Craft articles. Don't find any price listed for this. 35 West 19 th, N.Y., N.Y. 10011.

Witches Annual $4.50. Arcane Crafts, POB 383, Mastic Beach, N.Y. 11951.

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LADY DEMETER sez: thank you so much for the Georgie - a wonderful vote of support for my efforts in writing about Pagan Parenting. I have been so busy with Under The Stars I am amazed. I am working 6 days and 2 nights a week. Now, I must say the majority of tradi is not Craft people but, I am in the process of re-doing my Craft corner into a "Witches Garden" .

The lectures have been going well. So far Free Sunday lectures have dealt with Tarot, Psychic healing, numerology. Coming up is graphology & astrology. I can seat 50 people very comfortably and squeeze in 75, although we haven't had more than 35 for any one lecture. But, I tell you, Pat, I am exhausted. I could really use some healing rays directed my way.

Erica, my oldest daughter, requested initiation, and that pleases me. Of course, she'll have to wait another couple of years until she's 13, but she is working on her magick.

I am taking a quick trip to N.Y. this month. I must get some supplies at a reasonable price. Down here I must pay $9. per lb. for low quality Frankincense. The good quality stuff from N.Y. I can sell for $8. a lb. But, the trip will also give me a chance to BS a few nights with some of my old coveners.

This past Sunday I went through another ordination While I've been a "Rev" for years, now I am a legal Fla "Rev" and can marry people legally.

Apollo has learned the "Egyptian Wrap" method of setting stones and creating rings. He's been practicing with the Austrian Crystals & some other semi-precious stones.

I have also penned an article for "Alternative Health" magazine about Tarot & recognizing health problems. It will probably be in the Summer issue.

Yesterday I set up a schedule for another free lecture "Helping Yourself with Self-Hypnosis."Yesterday our teacher for psychic healing went into the hospital, so I wound up teaching candle magick for healing & other healing techniques. Al so making arrangements for a psychic fair the end of the month.

May the Lord & Lady smile on all your endeavors
Blessed Be
Demeter

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ED. NOTE: It does sound like all goes well for you. Remember, you can't move all the supplies in N.Y. back to Florida. Keep up the good work.

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What Being a Witch/Pagan Means To Me

Being able to say what I feel, and if I hurt someone with my words, that is their problem because I do not mean to hurt people. That when I say "May the flower of happiness always bloom in the garden of your life" mean exactly that.

Live in tune with Mother Nature. Perceive the joys of being alive. Being able to see the beauty of a cloudy Fall morning, the splendor of a rain drop during the Spring rain, the brightness of the Winter snow, and the happiness of the plants, flowers and birds in Summer.

Wait for a train on a deserted New York subway platform in the dark and cold winter morning and not being afraid, for I know in my heart that the Goddess is watching over me.

Being able to say, "the Goddess will provide" and live with the conviction that I will not lack anything, even when I am down to my last dollar and someone asks to borrow it.

Living a happy and fruitful life, and sharing with those I come in contact with, including our furry friends.

Perform little 'miracles'? For instance, if a friend has a pain, saying "it will go away", and like magic, the pain disappears. Also, if someone has a problem, having the time and the patience to listen, although I might not be able to solve it, just being there to listen to their grievances, gives them the feeling that I am different because I was there, and always remembering that by having two ears and one mouth, I am able to listen twice, before speaking once, whatever was confided in me.

To experience the frustration as well as the happiness of others as if it were my own. Being able to speak, without words by giving an understanding look or a comforting touch.

To always find time for myself. To be able to be alone with my conscience. I might be alone, but certainly, I am not lonely.

To be able to tolerate the ignorant who say that Witches/Pagans serve the devil. You cannot serve someone you do not believe in.

To teach others to light a candle, rather than curse the darkness.

Chrystal Dawn
New York

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DIDJAKNOW?
The Three-floor Royale Suite of the Hotel Nova-Park Elysees in Paris, charges five-thousand-five-hundred dollars a day.

* *

From Mike and Linda in Texas

Dear People: A recent article in your newsletter on 'Feminist Wicca Verses Real Wicca' has prompted this letter. I will not mention any names unless you request them. But let it be enough that one of these people has contributed to your newsletter.

When we came to Dallas we never hid our belief in the fact of dualism both of the God and the Goddess, and the fact that we use ceremonial magick. We grew very rapidly, but soon rumors of us using Black Magick got started, and that we were giving a certain High Priestess trouble. It was found out later that this person was calling up our members and encouraging them to leave our group and join hers.

It got so bad that we withdrew from contact with anyone here in Dallas. However, recently we started helping a blind girl to start her own coven. Because of the inavailability of literature on the subject in braile. And so as it got known that we were her friends, others in the Craft community here in Dallas started harrassing her in the Psychic Fairs. They started saying that she wasn't any good. And a large part of her income has been hurt due to this incident. Also we found out that there is a black list with our names on it in the community. Held by a group or person that we don't even know, has been given to others.

However, all this has not shaken our faith in the Lord and Lady. And we give our love to those who hate us and pray that the Love of the Lady will someday really enter their hearts.

Blessed Be,
Mike & Linda

*

ED NOTE: At first I found your letter confusing. It seemed to imply that the people in Canada had something to do with your problem in Texas. However, on second reading, it appears that the article by the people in Canada simply inspired your letter and they had nothing to do with your problem. Hope this is correct.

**

From UPI
A La Jolla scientist has been given a year in a prison honor camp for poisoning his co-workers coffee. Joseph Bohn pleaded guilty last September to charges he twice spiked the coffee at Quidel Pharmaceuticals. Three people--including the chairman of the board--were hospitalized a year ago. Bohn admitted pouring a potentialy fatal laboratory chemical into the pot.

*

DIDJAKNOW?
There are 850 active volcanoes. More than 75% of them lie within a "Ring of Fire" that runs along the West Coast of the Americas from Chile to Alaska and down the East Coast of Asia from Siberia to New Zealand.

* *

We received a cassette from Bobbie with 30 minutes of talk which she requested we put in the newsletter. It would take too many pages and some of the comments would leave us open to legal action. It is obvious that Bobbie does not have a very high opinion of K. (nor do we) who wrote the banishment letter (last issue), and suggests there were more personal reasons for writing it. She also says Luke is innocent because she says the girl has VD, and Luke doesn't. Not necessarily true...depends on what was done. She also claims Luke is innocent because of the girl's past record. This also proves nothing.
As to K's reasons for the banishment or Luke's innocense or guilt I don't know. I do know he is in prison.
Bobbie also suggests that I published the letter only because of my dislike for Luke. Not true. It is true that I do dislike Luke although he has never done anything to me directly. However, I do know he was banished from here because of all the problems he caused for people in a midwest city. These people, on my recommendation, had taken him in and tried to help him. Their kindness was repaid with things I wouldn't wish on an enemy. When I confronted him with this, I caught him in his lies as he was at the moment doing one of the things he swore he hadn't done.
When a person behaves in this manner, I will NO..NEVER..NOT ever trust them again.
Now, if you want to feel sorry for Luke and be his friend, go right ahead...but don't cry to me when you get burned.

*

JEANNE of Blue Moon sez: you'll probably put me in the doghouse for this short note, but at least I'll have my Georgian to read while I'm barking.

Love & Blessed Be
Joanne of Blue Moon (check enclosed)

For a catalog of beautiful Pagan & occult T-shirts, write Blue Moon, POB 4413, Portsmouth, N.H. 03801.

*

Newsletter subscription is still $6. per year (12 issues) in the U.S. , $12. foreign surface mail. $24. foreign air mail.

When you sign letters and articles with both a legal and a Craft name, please make it clear which one or both you want published. Also, make it clear whether or not you want address published

Hope you all had a most pleasant Sabbat!

That's all, folks!

Love and Blessed Be.

Pat, Elizabeth & all the Georgians

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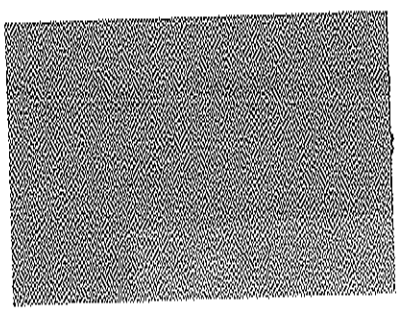

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