GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER THE GEORGIAN CHURCH OCTOBER 1984
1908 VERDE STREET
BAKERSFIELD, CALIF. 93304
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BAKERSFIELD - We are toasting Adrienne as she leaves our tradition, The Goddess loves you wherever you are. Go in Love, Light and Laughter.

Elizabeth

A week after this we had four new people join us, and a fifth one a week after that. And not all are neophytes.

The Sabbat went nicely as always. There was an initiation earlier in the evening....Elizabeth and Dean handled that. Then Lady Fauna and Don conducted the Sabbat ritual. Then they barbecued chicken in the yard and had lots of other goodies; I stayed away from that because I still can't eat...DAMMIT! But we did have a very nice crowd.

Election time is nearing and it is very important that you vote this time. This election may have a great bearing on the future of our religion! Think! Vote!

Mail has been very slow coming in this month. You guys do make it difficult for us sometimes.

HEALTH REPORT: Not much to report except that I'm still taking treatments. Have had some really bad headaches the past couple of weeks. The doctor gave me some prescriptions but they don't seem to have much affect.

Newsletter sub is still $6. per year in the U.S. , $12. foreign surface mail, $24. foreign air mail.

Elizabeth finally found some people to trim the trees here..both front and back. Surprising how much more light there seems to be.

We're really happy with our new people...seems like a family again, and it's so nice to see everyone working together on the things that need to be done.

BEING A WITCH IS.....

.....wondering if the Fundamentalists will ever disxover the Christian religion????

.....wondering how people who prfess a religion supposed to be based on love can always be so anxious to kill and destroy?

.....wondering how long it would take the Fundamentalists to get around to attacking Jesus if he were around today???

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Why I'm A Witch
by: Aurora
in Bakersfield

Witchcraft to me is every witch working at becoming a better person on a daily basis. To arrive at perfection and to learn all things. This is the Witches' objective in life.

To learn all things will take one down many paths. Perhaps your lessons to learn this lifetime aren't mine and visa versa.

Life is a school where we learn. Some lessons are easy but the hard and painful ones we don't forget.

Witches accept the fact that we're all going to arrive at perfection and we are eventually going to learn all things.

Witches use religion to improve surroundings and oneself. I'm glad I'm a Witch, I wouldn't want to be anything else.

Five me forever that Olde Time Religion where I can gather with others who believe as I and celebrate WITH the God and Goddess. A People who know that, as children of our dieties, we are going to grow into perfection and become as our Parents.

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From Tiller, N.W.C Washington

I had the pleasure of hearing a pre-release tape of a popular Northwest pagan group, LAUGHTER AND LOVE. The group is composed of Lea Kendrick, Cyndie Sallee' and Duane Worthington.

One of the first things I noticed about the tape was that it has a clean, crisp, well-engineered sound. The separation is very good between the vocals and instruments, and the synthesized effects are smooth.

The music itself is a little hard to describe. There are elements of rock, folk, 60's music, synthesized music, 70's music, even some really good rhythm and blues. The best description for it all is probably PAGAN.

Profits from the tape are going to a nature sanctuary fund and making more music. The first cut of 300 tapes is going for $8.00 while they last, which price is right around the actual cost. After the first batch is sold, the second batch will likely be higher, so BUY NOW. Send your money to:

Laughter & Love
c/o P.O. Box 30908
Seattle, WA 98103

I plan on buying several cassettes to give as gifts this Yule. It's good all-around listening music with evocative lyrics. I recommend it as a fine addition to the compleat pagan's music library.

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THE END - THE BEGINNING
by: Thomas Collins

Many people talk about the end of the world, as we now know it. There are numerous ideas concerning the how and why. But this much we are told...
People must get back in tune with nature. If you do not love and respect nature, you will not be in Mother and Father's kingdom. Don't forget, this IS part of Their Creation. Pollution and rape of the earth has greatly angered God. If man does not clean up his act, the earth will cleanse itself. World War III will start, because of Mother and Father's anger, over the misuse of this earth. Everything in the universe was created and designed to operate in perfect balance and harmony. Man needs to slow down, appreciate and respect what is around him. Man in his greed, thinks he can tear this place up, then go to where God is - surprise, surprise... it doesn't work that way.

This present world is the "Seventh Chance" that Mother and Father have given us, to learn our lessons and pattern our lives after Them. The Eighth World starts very soon. In it, there will not be the evil that this world has. In the Eighth World, men will honor women as images of Mother. Male - Female roles and recognition will be in balance. There are considerably fewer than twenty years, before the end. We know the day, month and year.

Recently, one of the Christian churches prophesied a "Dooms Day" earthquake for southern California, to occur on the weekend of Aug. 10 - 12, 1984. Shortly after receiving notice of this Morgaine was given a message from Mother. This is what Her message said....

From: the Mother Goddess
To: Morgaine

"There will be many coming, saying that the calamities which will befall the earth are from God. Do not think so. The Creator is not a Destroyer. There is no blame to be cast upon us. My earth shall cleanse Herself, not from judgement of your morals, but from the rape and pillage forced upon Her, century after century. My Body is not man's bride to be bedded and impregnated. It is man's very life--his Mother's breast from whence he draws his life. You have, o children, raped your Mother. You have bedded Her and spilled your seed into Her. You believe you may own Her and fence Her off in parcels and then control how She yields to you. See now that I am the Divine Mother. See how your fences will fall, how your Deeds and Leases will mean nothing. I give what I am given and take that which is taken from Me. It is the Law. Do you hear My words, children? It is not We who punish or judge you. You have judged yourselves. You will reap exactly as you are sowing. This is the immutable Law.

Hear Me. Some will say your God has judged your sins. Your Father and I care not whome you bed so much as HOW you bed. You believe you may rape your wife but honor Me in the body of a stranger. We

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Collins (cont.)

care not for your bedroom politics. Find your priorities! My Son once told you...You strain at gnats and swallow camels. He was right. You debate and judge abortion, and do nothing about the nuclear powers and weapons which will kill your babes after they are born. Fortunate is the soul who is denied entrance into a world doomed to die at your hands through self-annihilation, for they shall return at another time when you are gone and the worlds are One at last.

Look to the Isle and He who wears the Sun in His hair and who's skin radiates Foxfire. Look to He who holds the Holy Regalia-hidden from you for so long--for I tell you, until this century, there were none able to hold it in their hands. Look to "The Three" who will put My King upon the throne in the Isle.

He shall restore the old and true ways. My Sons and Daughters shall teach you true worship, not within man-made structures, but within the groves and forests.

Acknowledge My "First Borns" - those noble spirits who were forced by you into the Mists of Time to pray and wait for this time. Acknowledge your own Native Tribes for they too know My many names.

Myth begins at truth. See how your own Paradise will soon be a myth. Atlantis was destroyed by its own hand - so shall yours be if you do not change. Do not believe it is your Creator who destroys you. It is your own hand which shall bring down the sword.

There will come many who will fight My children. They will try to convince you they have had Truth for one-thousand plus one-thousand years. They will call themselves Children of Light, but their God is in their mind. They worship a false God - a God of vengence and violence, as they call him a God of love. Truly, the two cannot be housed together - the God of Love and the God of murder. Your Creators grieve that We are painted as fearful and hostile...it makes the space between you and us wider.

Look to the old ways for you have digressed through your technology, not progressed. It has cast the Garden out of you, and you out of the Garden.

You slaughter My animal kingdoms, you hew down forests. Truly, there is nothing upon or within your earth which does not contain your split-personality God. You have made your air unfit to breath. And worst of all, you have created weapons so vile and deadly that even little Ones end their lives which hold no hope for tomorrow. Now, you have made My Representatives - Mothers, afraid to bear new life.

The King Stag shall rise from the Hidden Worlds to the Isle, and shall restore Balance and Peace. Fear shall find its end. But many who

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Collins (cont.)

dominate through fear will say He is the evil one. This is false, for that one is come and gone already.

Beside the King Stag, will sit "The Three". One is My EARS, One My VOICE, and One My HANDS. My EARS shall give wise counsel, My VOICE shall rebuild the Dancing Stones, and My HANDS shall speak My words. They are from a pure and Holy Line. I have selected Them by their deeds and dedication in past lives.

I am your Mother. I have held and suckled you, have watched you grow and fall, have seen you rebel and run from Mr - to once again fall into My waiting arms. A Mother's Love cannot be earned nor repelled. A Mother's Love is Eternal. I am here.

I will not promise you a heaven in the sky, for this is a false notion. I offer a heaven IN Life, if only you will clean My face and pick the vermin from My hair. Together you may rebuild yourselves - if only you will SEE your Creator in all of Life.

Fall into My Lap and rest. It is time to cease the strife and stress. Live for the perfect now-ness. I am you Mother, I am your Father, We are One."

The Great Mother

As in "the Dark Crystal", the coming events are to draw the peoples of the earth together for the next world. This includes all the worlds that inhabit our planet. The time has come for all who are going to make it into Mother and Father's kingdom, to start drawing together, to become one. Will YOU be there?

Thomas L. Collins

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From November '82 issue of NL

Foke-lore magic: Now that autum is here, one of Nature's most misadvertised delights is ready for harvest--persimmons. Oh, I can hear you now--Ugh--they are bitter. Wait until they get ripe! Then they are as sweet as honey. And--not always true that you have to wait 'till first frost for them to be ripe. Delicious and great for baking cakes. (Very moist--we call 'em 'pudding cakes')

Now for the "magic"==when you devour your first persimmon of the season, find your fortune for the coming year. Each persimmon should have five seeds (Symbolic, huh?). Pick one from your first persimmon, carefully pry it open and revealed within will be your fortune for the coming year.

Each persimmon has within it either a knife, fork, or spoon. (Actually, it's the embryo of the new plant--reincarnation). If your persimmon reveals a knife--sorry 'bout that! A fork? Well--you know

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(Lady Rhea, cont.)

how things sift through. (Ever try eating soup with a fork?) But--if you are fortunate enough to find a spoon--your Winter will be full and secure (the bowl holds all).

See--Mother Nature will reveal all if we only ask Her!

(Note: We do this as a group within a Circle...each selecting their persimmon, eating it, picking out their seed, then trying to open it. Not only informative as to what lies ahead, but can be very hilarious as each tries to discover what lies within the seed--some of 'em can be very reluctant to reveal all!)

BB
Rhea

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JOURNIES INTO THE ELEMENTAL KINGDOMS

from
"The Grimoire of Anastasia"
by: Tiffany St. Moonstar

THE EARTH JOURNY

The walls of this part of the crystal aremade of ruby crystal. The doors leading into the realm of the Earth Lords are wide and low and snug. They are made of every type of living wood fused together. The surface is polished and carved into thousands of faces of gods, animals and tree spirits. It is here you stand before the womb of Mother Earth herself. She is wise. She is rich. She is all that is . Approach her as the Green Lord does, with respect; and she will give you all the secrets of life itself. Step slowly. Step wisely. Step with respect. For the world of the Mother is the most vital of all the worlds. For without the Mother, there are no other worlds.

The Kingdom of the Earth Lords is the realm of DNA. Of the first cell. Of the womb, from which you came. Of the miracle of SEED. It is a quiet power, a gentle power, but nonetheless dangerous for its ways of beauty and silence. So pause, breathe deeply and watch yoursel well. If the energies of creation become too much ask for assistance immediately or return to your body. Do not try to remain if your cord pulls you back.

The realm of the Earth Lords is deep caves of ancient whispers. It is photosynthesis and biogensis. It is the miracle of a tiny sperm and egg bonding to errupt in a new life form...it is the force of rock, and plant and mineral and animal; of all that lives and dies and returns to live again. It is eternity. It is our hope. It is the smile on our lips, the laughter of our children. It is the cries of the wolf free and wild. Respected and worked with the Earth Lords will give us all riches. Called wisely it is our physical life rich

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Tiffany St. Moonstar (cont.)

in sensations and all its material pleasures. Abused it is the suicide of our species, the self inflicted genocide by the rape of Greed. The Earth Lords rule our planet and all the riches above and below.

Let the silent green Earth Lords make the glistening brown panels glide back. You are ready. You are wise. You are strong. They rush open to embrace you with a sigh and you are now entering the mossy realm of the Earth Lords.

You enter upon a great forest so old that its air sparkles with the magicke of Merlin. It is cool and it is alive and it has thought. The sounds of birds break the air, and the ground plants rustle with the sound of the four-footed. Spiders spin webs of silk lace on hugh water beaded ferns. The air is so fresh and thick with oxygen it makes your lungs almost gasp and your brain deliciously dizzy. Amidst the splendor of the meadow of a thousand wildflowers walks the Mother with her consort, the Green Lord. Give her respect thru your love and honor of her. For the tender tears of loving rain can easily turn to lashing ones of anger that can flood and destroy.

Now concentrate deeply...be one with the earth that rumbles, with the trees that soar, with the magicke of the animal. Be the earth itself, and none of its creatures will harm you. Walk as one with the Mother. For how can a mother destroy a childe? It is impossible. When you feel the life power become one with you, when you are able to feel and think as the Mother does, then you are adept in the Kingdom of the Earth Lords. Return to your body at the sound of the bell.

RING A TONE OR BELL ONCE TO BRING EVERYONE BACK AT THIS POINT.

THE AIR JOURNY

The walls of this part of your crystal are made of sapphire. The doors leading to the kingdom of the Slyphs are smoke kissed veils. The Air Lord's realm is the most difficult to enter because the doors are eternally shifting. Their doors are indeed the mists of time. You are in the presence of PURE INTELLECT. Within these doors are all the answers to all the questions in the universe. Step slowly. Step wisely. Step with respect. For were you to know all of the knowledge of the Air Lords you would go mad from the beauty of it. Their vibrations are the highest of all the elemental lords and far beyond any mortal imaginings.

The kingdom of the Slyphan Lords is the realm of the Wendigo Wizards who fly in icy sailboats across the mountain tops. Of the right side of the brain. It is the vahalla of all scientists. So pause, breathe deeply, and watch yourself well. If the vibratory rate climbs too fast for you ask for assistance immediately or return

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Tiffany St. Moonstar (cont.)

to your body. Do not try to remain if your cord tugs you back.

The realm of the Sylphs is wind. It is frost. It is rain, and snow and piercing hail. It is the unknown signals from space...it is the secrets of the black holes. It is the whirr of vast computer banks formulating new mathmatical theorm. It is the mysteries of formula, of scale, of tone, of measure, of language, of the origin of all things and what comes after. It is communications. It is the spacr from the intelligensia which kindle flames into ideas. Controlled and used wisely it brings space travel, the wizardry of modern civilization, the technology to save lives. Diefied it brings us new olympic glories in the arts. Man as/is God.

Abused it brings destruction through war machines, pollutants of our world, and destroys the lives of the innocents that feed its corrupted powers. A computer knows two things--on and off. The Sylphs are no different--all is black and white in their kingdom of intellect. You are the one to balance or tip the scales.

Let the dazzling lords of wind and stardust take your hand and guide you through the white mists to their castle in the clouds. You are ready. You are wise. You are strong. They fly you through and you are now entering the realm of the Wendigo Warriors, of the place of MIND.

You fly through time. All at once you are split--it feels like an eternity and a split second combined. You are transformed into Sylph yourself through the whirlingjourny. You are now transparent whisp and your mind takes on the coldness of mineral, the frozen nature of pure intellect. You have no heart, no emotions, no soul, no senses. All is white light, all is one and all is pure thought. Your world is idea and all other physical descriptons and artifacts are redundent, unneccessary, superflurous. You exist on a current of total consciousness, total existence. You ARE HERE NOW! Does the sun ever sleep, do the planets ever stop turning or traveling? You are now as they, immortal. See the golden winged sandles of Mercury flash by. Mark their beauty well, or his speed is so great you will never see more. The evolution of Sylph is such, their vibrationary rate surpasses all our mortal definitions of speed, imagined or known.

Now concentrate deeply...be one with the thought that questions, that searches, that concludes, that knows. It is a thought, but it is also a force. Let the Sylphs be your tool, not you theirs. Think as they do and all the secrets you seek will be yours. But ask only what you really need to know. Can thoughts destroy? Can theorms crumble civilization? No they are but abstract concepts in the plane of air. It is you who are responsible. Be wise and use the gifts of the Sylphan Lords wisely.

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Tiffany St. Moonstar (cont.)

When you feel your thoughts become pure intellect. When you are able to see all the energy of the universe without time, space, or physical limits...then you are in the kingdom of the Sylph. Return to your body at the sound of the bell.

RING A TONE OR BELL ONCE TO BRING EVERYONE BACK AT THIS POINT.

Any questions on this article will be happily answered by the author if the reader encloses a SASE.

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

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Zerboijan tree experts have established that a grove of chestnut oaks in the foothills of the Talish Mountains is about 1000 years old. The giant oaks rise to a height of 40 meters.

According to experts, the trees owe their longevity to the special microclimate of the mountains. The sharp peaks of the Talish ridge protect them from the cold.

"Grove of Ancient Oaks"
Societ Life, 1984, pg.33.

An ancient observatory built in the third millinneum B.C.E. has been discovered in Armenia. The first find was a gray monolith covered with mysterious symbols, wavy lines and numerous small circles concentrated in large well-proportioned ovals. Archeologists have determined that this was an old lunar calendar. A second find, several stone slabs with petroglyphs of the consellation of Scorpio, Leo and others, was unearthed on the same site. The third find was a lunar globe carved out of stone.

"Anicent Observatory",
Soviet Life, 1984, pg.33.

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From U.P.I.

Creep(s) Of The Month:
The Los Angeles City Council hired an attorney for a meter reader accused of killing a dog who barked at him. Up to $10,000 will be spent to defend Eric DeGruy. He faces a misdemeanor charge of animal cruelty for killing the dog. Officials say DeGruy was defending himself when he threw a foot long metal bar at the barking dog. The animal died **after** the bar pierced its skull. The Los Angeles Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty to Animals accused DeGruy of using unnecessary force to silence the dog.

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Still Life With Woodpecker on Tarot, With a Cream Soda, Please

Lady Fauna

Criticism of the use of Tarot as a method of fortunetelling has overshadowed the rich history of symbolism contained in the cards. Tom Robbins, in Still Life With Woodpecker, uses several Tarot cards as symbols. Although readers might expect such metaphysical references from Robbins, he is no charlatan fortuneteller (see footnote 1). His use of tarot throughout the novel demonstrates an intimacy with the volume of its symbolic history. The references to Tarot have more meaning than surface examination reveals, much in the same way his characters and their actions often appear superficial but have deeper symbolic significance.

The complexity of Tarot is the source of its richness. Individual symbols in the cards, such as wands and cups, are hundreds of years old. The cards as a set date back as far as the legend of the Holy Grail, if not further (see footnote 2). The symbols combine to portray a story of symbolic significance for each card. These cards, when combined in groups, take on other meanings, expanding the range of interpretive possibilities. These combinations lend a depth to Tarot not supervicially apparent by the study of any one card.

A similar problem of interpretation was presented in the selection of an approach to Still Life With Woodpecker: A Sort of A Love Story (see footnote 3). I thought I could look at the novel through the lunar imagery, but the lunaception and four-phased construction of the sections dealing with Bernard Mickey Wrangle (Woodpecker) and Leigh-Cheri Furstenberg-Barcelona and sentences like, "Nobody quite knew what to make of the moon any more" (Robbins, p. 4) didn't seem to be enough for a thorough analysis. I thought about looking at the purpose and content of the five authorial intrusions. It wasn't enough. Somehow, any single approach failed to point out the purpose of the author. What point was Robbins trying to make?

My husband was working on a paper for his philosophy class. He asked me if existence was spelled "existence" or "existance" when speaking in the context "existence of man." I thold him I had no idea there were two different kinds of existence. This is the point of Still Life: There is only one existence, there are many manifestations of existence and infinite interpretations of what existence means (see footnote 4). To read Tarot or Still Life without an understanding of the complexity of symbol in either work would be like viewing still life or reading a "coarse allegory" (Waite, p. vii).

(cont.)

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Still Life... by Lacy Fauna (cont.)

For several reasons, I will refer to the deck of tarot cards developed by Arthur Edward Waite and Pamela Colman Smith, commonly referred to as the Rider Deck (see footnote 5). Waite developed this deck of cards after much research into "magic, theosophy, occultism, alchemy, the Rosicrucians, the Holy Grail, the Kabbalah, freemasonry . . . with a skeptical eye quick to detect inconsistencies and exaggerated claims" (Waite, P. x). Wiate developed this set of cards for members of the magical order of the Golden Dawn. Waite claims that "true Tarot is symbolism; it speaks no other language and offers no other signs" (Waite, p. 4) and is no more than a tool for understanding, in all its complexities, "the realization thatthere is really no separation between man and the rest of the universe" (Waite, p. xi). This is one of the major themes in Still Life--"there's meaning in everything, all things are connected" (Robbins, p. 254).

The Rider Deck is no stranger to literary circles. Pamela Colman Smith, who is responsible for most of the artistry in the cards, worked closely with William Butler Yeats in the production of his plays (see footnote 6). And, a correlation has been established between "the man with three staves" in Eliot's The Waste Land and the Three of Wands in the Rider Deck. This connection suggests that the Waite Deck and proper interpretation of the cards is critical to full understanding of Eliot's poem (see footnote 7). The Pictorial Key to theTarot is a guide to the symbolism of the cards originated by Waite. This handbook, plus the volumes of research behind it, makes debate over the meaning of the symbolism easier than if no such guide existed, orif the guide had been prepared by someone other than the originator of the cards. (Other guides are references, however, to complement Waite's interpretations.)

Gertrude Moakley offers the following on the purposes and uses of Waite's Tarot in the "Introduciton" to The Pictorial Key to the Tarot:

> By using images replete with mystical symbolism he teases the imagination out of its old ruts. In his autobiography he recommends his Tarot as a help in a certain kind of meditation. For this he advises us to keep in mind that the meaning of the tarot is not occult but mystical. We are to allow the highest meaning of each card to dawn upon our minds, and then allow the separate meanings to combine until the whole series flows together into harmony. By such a use of the Tarot the poisons of our cultural conditioning might be turned into healing balms, and a barrier into a gateway" (Waite, pp. xvii-xviii).

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Still Life... by Lady Fauna (cont.)

Ironically, Robbins espouses a similar philosophy on the uses of dynamite in Still Life:

> Dynamite is a question not an answer. It can keep things from solidifying, it can keep the ticket open. Sometimes, just raising the question is enough to regenerate life, enough to reverse the decay that results from indifference" (Robbins, p. 255).

The Knight of Wands is an example of the complex symbolism in Tarot. There is a knight in shining armor; a roan horse; wands that, from their foliage, are living; salamanders; deserts; pyramids; with emphasis on the colors yellow, orange, red and a hint of green (see footnote 8). These archetypes combine in the Knight of Wands to form the following potential interpretations:

> He is shewn [sic] as if upon a journey, armed with a short wand, and although mailed is not on a warlike errand. He is passing mounds or pyramids. The motion of the horse is a key to the character of its rider, and suggests the precipitate modd, or things connected therewith. Divinatory Meanings: Departure, absence, flight, emigration. A dark young man, friendly. Change of residence. Reversed: Rupture, division, interruption, discord" (Waite, p. 174).

The Knight belongs to yet a larger grouping of fourteen cards--the Suit of Wands. The suit is similar to the suit of clubs in a modern deck of fifty-two playing cards, with the addition of the knight to the heirarchy and pages in place of jacks. The symbolism held in common by the Suit of Wands is encapsulated in the Ace:

> A hand issuing from a cloud, grasps a stout wand or club. Divinatory meanings: Creation, invention, enterprise, the powers which result in these; principle, beginnings, source; birth, family, origin, and in a sense the virility which is behind them; the starting point of enterprises; according to another account, money, fortune, inheritance. Reversed: Fall, decadence, ruin, perdition, to perish; also a certain clouded joy" (Waite, p. 196).

There are three other suits, Swords, Cups, and Pentacles, and in all, the ace is both the lowest common denominator and the highest intimation of each suit. As the suit has a higher intimation and lowest common denominator, so do the ranks (all Kings, all Threes, all Knights, etc.):

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Still Life... by Lady Fauna (Cont.)

> The Knight is one who has accepted his independence and no longer receives his sustenance from family. He has taken the bit into his mouth, so to speak, and is actively engaged in making his own place in the world. This person can be female, but such is not frequently the case. It is not uncommon for a Knight to be a father and a husband, and yet not attain to the level of King. He is always one step below, a cog in the wheel and not the axle." (see footnote 9).

The Minor Arcana is composed of all the cards in the four suits and, with the twenty-two cards of the Major Arcana, complete the Tarot. While the Minor Arcana is a "bridge of conventions, which form a transition to the simple pretexts of the counters and enaries of the numbers following" (Waite, p. 165), Major Arcana ("Trumps Major") "belong to the divine dealings of philosophy" (Waite, pp. 165-176). Simply stated (perhaps oversimply), the Major Arcana, or major mysteries, are symbolic of the sacred world while the Minor Arcana are representations of the profane. Symbolism from each suit of the Minor Arcana are found in each Major Arcana card.

This system of symbol is further complicated and enriched by the addition of several methods of "throwing" or dealing, the cards. Here, the symbolism of the cards grows with the position of the card, the frequency of appearance of any one rank or suit of cards and the relation of that card's meaning when balanced with the others in the throw. The Celtic Cross Throw is but one of the many traditional to Tarot. The cards generally signify the following: 0 The Querent; 1 The question of the querent; 2 Obstacles involved relating to the question; 3 What is below the querent (at the base of the querent, in all senses of the definition of "base"); 4 What is behind the querent; 5 What towers (or is above) the querent; 6 What is in front of the querent, but lies between now and the outcome; 7 The querent's attitude toward him/herself; 8 How others view the querent; 9 Hopes and fears; 1 Outcome (see footnote 10).

The Knight of Wands in Position 0 would therefore signify the querent--perhaps a young man with fair complexion (Gray, p. 80). In Position 6, however, the meaning alters, suggesting a change of residence; especially so if the card is combined with another, such as the Three of Cups ("unexpected advancement for the military man") in Position 10 (Waite, p. 290).

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

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From Lady LeFay in Bakersfield

I have decided to voice my opinions on the subjects of teaching and learning. My intentions are not of offend anyone for I feel that I also have failed in some of these areas and, because of those failings, I wish to share my views and let people know how I feel and to give a better understanding of myself.

Through my observations I have seen people hurt with a lot of backbiting and fighting that is not necessary. Teaching is not always easy and neither is learning. Sometimes, even though we understand a subject, we can not always find the right words to express ourselves. When we forget this, we feel our students are not what we thought, when all along it is a matter of communication.

There are times when students and teachers make mistakes, but that is no reason for condemnation. We are all human beings and we are not yet perfect.

A few years ago I would not have been accepted in the Craft because of my severe failings, but I have since grown through many hard lessons that might have been made easier if there had been someone to guide me.

As teachers I feel that teachers believe, "If I had to learn it the hard way so should my students also have to learn in this manner". This does not have to be so. Because another person may not have reached the level where we find ourselves. It is up to us to be patient, for we are mothers and fathers to babes in the wood. There are bound to be a few mistakes. We can not turn our backs on someone who makes an error or is difficult; for then we, as teachers would be the failures!

Teaching is not an easy job. I know that I have put some of my teachers through with wringer. I thank the Gods that my teachers have been patient and understanding with me.

I hope I have not offended anyone with this letter. I just felt it needed to be said. I would like to share something that the Goddess brought to me.

"I say this to the children who seek the light. My gift to you is the peace, harmony and beauty of love. As I give these gifts freely, from the heart, so shall you pass this noble desire from your heart to one another through the course of your destiny.

For each and every one of you is striving to reach the same goal even though you go about on different paths. You are different; yet you are one.

Go forth now and open your heart to your fellow man; for love is the beginning and ending. Go Forth Now With My Blessing."

* *

FROM YOUR EDITOR

For the most part this time I'm going to list some things that I believe you really need to think about.

1- The Reagan administration has again and again dragged religion into politics.
An ambassador was appointed to the Vatican.
They have fought to get prayer put back into the schools.
They have opposed abortion on religious grounds.
President Reagan recently said that religion and politics are inseparable.

Now, shortly before election time, there have been some changes.
Jerry Falwell ~~at the Republican Convention~~ said that everyone should be free to follow his/her religion whatever it might be.
President Reagan now says the same thing.

2- The Fundamentalist TV ministers and those who control them from behind the scenes have come up with an ambitious plan to take place over less than a generation.
Have Christianity named as the official STATE RELIGION of the United States.
Persecute the Jews. They say publicly that they are all for the Jews. What they don't tell you is that they are all for the Jews in Israel and that's where they think they belong.

Persecute any religion involved with the occult in any way.
Persecute any religion that is not Christian.

Now the other (non-Fundamentalist) Xians will not get too upset over the foregoing because they think they are safe. Then they'll find out that they are next on the "hit list".

They don't spell out whether they plan to kill off all these people or just make them second class citizens.

Start reading some of the literature put out by these groups. And READ BETWEEN THE LINES! These people are really dangerous.

Do you want to see men riding around in their bedsheets again killing and beating? Do you want another Hitler type oppression? Does it all remind you of history a few hundred years ago?

Don't think it can't happen here. Remember McCarthyism? That ruined thousands of lives but it was very mild compared to the present threat.

Read! Write! And do what you can to defeat the plans of these very dangerous people!

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E.A.J. Mac Candleas sez: I must respond to the letter by Selene & set the record straight. First, I do not own nor have I ever read P.E.I. Bonewits book Real Magic., so if there is duplication of material it is purely coincidence. I can only render apologies to P.E.I. Bonewits for any similarity to his research, but I can assure you that the two articles I sent were by independant research. The works I did use in research are the following:
ED. NOTE: E.A.J. enclosed a full page of books & authors. I would assume it is his entire library since some of them seem to have little or nothing to do with the subject.

*

Lady Melusine in Georgia sez: please don't take affront at the following suggestion but I feel that someone needs to bring this to your attention -(even if you do get angry, it's all-right. I've been around long enough to have grown lots of Duck feathers) but you need to alter your attitude towards your therapy. If you feel it is poison & inject enough energy behind that thought/feeling, then it will be poison. Don't you think if you spent the same amount of energy purifying and blessing it in the names of the Lady, the Lord and the One Being that it would be a Wiccan Craft response to a supreme test? Do as you will - Bless you. May the Lady & Lord embrace you and make your mortal temple strong & healthy enough to contain your great & strong spirit.

Walk in Their light.
Lady Melusine

*

ED. NOTE: Thank you for your kind thoughts and suggestion. However, it is not a poison because I think so. It definitely is a poison. That's what makes it useful. It inhibits growth...but not only of the invader cells but good things as well. The white blood cells are the bodies protection. That's why we must have a blood test each time to check the white blood count before treatment. If too many cells have been destroyed, we must wait on treatment until they build up again...otherwise the body's protective system is too weak, leaving the person open to all kinds of virus and infection.

*

FROM U.P.I. - A Georgia man celebrated his 47th birthday by driving through a Wyoming town and throwing money on the street. Mansel Everett of Lithonia, Georgia, changed four 100-dollar bills into singles and quarters and began decorating the streets of Dubois, Wyoming, and Highway 287 running east.
About 20 miles out of town a Freemont County Sheriff's Deputy warned Everett to control his effervescence for the sake of the other people on the road. There was one near-collision as cars suddenly stopped to pick up the money.
Everett is still out there somewhere...continuing his vacation.

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Didja Know?
The driest region in the world is the Northern Desert of Chile. It contains the world's largest known copper reserves, estmated at 134-billion pounds.

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SUE in Tucson sez: first off, we at Desert Henge hope you are feeling great as soon as possible - chemotherapy can be a miserable experience. I know because my mother-in-law and grandmother both went through it. Since everybody seems to be giving their good advice, I thought maybe you and your readers might be interested in some sound nutritional advice (which is what I have my degree in).

The American Dietetics Association recently came out with an "anti-cancer" diet. Of course, there is no fool-proof method to avoid cancer. But research has shown that societies with diets high in fat, protein and additives, and high in red meat tended to develop cancer of the colon, stomach, throat, etc. at a much higher rate, than societies whose diets were vegetarian or with high fiber, low protein contents such as found in traditional oriental cooking. Japan's rate of cancer is rising in proportion to the amount of western cuisine they have access to.

If anyone would like some nutritional information or advice about any state of disease or for a particular point in the life cycle, please don't hesitate to write and ask me.

Sue Bond
1271 E. Halcyon
Tucson, Az. 85719

Well, my husband and I spent most of our summer with my parents in upstate New York. While we were there, a big Renaissance Faire was taking place in Sterling Forest. I spent a few weekends there and it was marvelous! One group there staged a Witch's healing Circle (open to the public) which was very pretty. I talked to the woman who acted as HPs afterward. She really didn't want to talk about her own involvement in the Craft too much, so I didn't push it, but she gave me the names of some contacts in Syracuse, and the lyrics to the song they did.

Love and bright (albeit hot) blessings from the desert.
Sue

ED. NOTE: Thank you for the nice letter, Sue. I didn't print all of the diet because it is easy to pick up a copy at various places. As you say, it's not a guarantee against cancer but it does improve the odds. Thus far there is not sufficient evedence of any diet being a cure for cancer.

The song you ask about is called The Lady's Brangle words by Hope. It is in the album "Gwydion sings Songs For The old Religion. I think you have to order it now from Forever Forests. Don't know if it's available anywhere else.

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DIDJA KNOW???

The F-B-I has the world's largest repository of fingerprints. Over 175-million fingerprint cards on file.

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ED. NOTES:
Newsletter still $6. yr. for 12 issues in the U.S. Overseas surface is $12. and overseas air mail is $24.
Don't forget to always send a new address when you move. The P.O. WILL NOT forward newsletters.
Also...when sending a new address be sure to enclose the old address. Some of you have names exactly alike or very similar though you may live in different parts of the country. If you move to a new city or state, I may have to go through pages of the mailing list and then still have to guess which one is you.
Your sub expires with the issue of the month and year that follows your name on the address label. We try to remember to mark you expired a month early so you have almost two months to send your renewal.
Checks or M.O.'s should be made to either the Georgian Church or the Georgian Newsletter.

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GLENN in Berkeley sez: I've been meaning to subscribe to your newsletter for years. Thanks to Amber of C.O.G. for sending out a list of good newsletters to get me around to writing.
This stationery can be had thru me if you want any. I'm enjoying it. I got it at the C.O.G. Ancient Ways Festival.

Blessings,
Glenn

ED. NOTE: the page has fancy scroll and a pentagram around the sides. The large envelope is like one big drawing of trees, a Circle and a priest with unraised sword standing in a pentagram.
However, Glenn didn't say if it was okay to publish his address.... so if you're interested, write and I'll forward.

*

QUESTION FROM A READER:
What is an Elder?
This may vary from one branch of the Craft to another. Some may not use it at all, in others it may mean the same as third degree, etc. For the Georgians it requires no initiation to Elder but is an automatic title after one full year as third degree.

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TAROSTAR has sent another nice little book: MAGICAL CANDLES by Elspeth Hennessey. 8½ x 11 pages of easy to read type. Different types of candles, colors, oils & incenses to use with them, dressing, blessing, charging, planning spells and more.
Book is available from TAROSTAR, 125 N. Bruce, Las Vegas, Nv. 89101. Price is $4.95...they didn't mention postage so I guess that's included. If you like to work with candles, you'll certainly want this.

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BEING A WITCH IS.....
.....trying to understand why the Fundamentalists want to make our religion illegal!

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TIFFANY sez: just got back from vacation to find your warm letter. Sure made my day.
The stones are given in love, I hope they aid you in all ways in your healing. We continue to send you energy, and I sent you a special blast from Mt. Shasta. The healing energy there is amazing.

I hope you can arrange some vacations some times--or the stress will build up something awful (speaking from experience---I'm a workaholic by nature myself,). The time at Mt. Shasta has made me feel reborn. Take care and much love to thee.

Tif and the ratty Crew of
Coven of the Dragon POB 65 MT. View, Ca. 94042

Hope this ~~letterhead~~ will give you a good laugh or two!

ED. NOTE: Okay, I laughed...but can't describe it. They just have to see it themselves.
Tiffany also sent a folder about a place she says is a fantastic place to heal and be one again.
Stewart Mineral Springs, 2222 Stewart Springs Rd., Weed, Ca. 96094.
I think I passed through Weed on the way to my first radio job at Fort Bragg, but that was in 1950..so I really don't remember it.

*

LeAnn in Columbia, Mo. sez: sorry I haven't writtern but I have the poor excuse of being very busy. We moved to a new home in the spring and finally settled. I now have a room for all my things, a door which I can lock myself in when I get too crazy.
Very busy at work. They hired a consulting firm to tell us how to do our jobs better, and it's really funny. They spent thousands to be told the same things I told them two years ago for free. They also created more work for the same number of people and we're so far behind we've yet to see the light. We work 45 to 55 hours a week. Not much time left but to eat & sleep.
I've enclosed an article from our 4 campus paper about the modern replica of Stonehenge the engineering school built.
May the Lord & Lady grant you a speedy recovery.!
Le Ann

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FROM U.P.I. - From California comes word that a new device will help scientists test a theory that a mysterious "Death Star" causes immense comet showers every 26-million years...showers that wipe out much of life on Earth.
The theory is based on fossil records showing periodic mass extinctions that have been linked to impact craters and high concentrations of Iridium in the sediment.
Scientists say a new device...devised at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory...can measure the amount of iridium in rock samples much more quickly and cheaply than anything in use today.
The device is called the "Iridium Coincidence Spectrometer".

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DOG DAYS from U.P.I.

As any city resident can tell you, one of the most vexing problems of urban life is the need for constant vigilance when walking in any neighborhood where residents walk their dogs. You just never know what you might step in, if you aren't careful.
Well, some residents of Seattle have come up with what they swear is the solution for keeping their yards free of dog droppings.... plastic bottles.
Ordinary, white, empty one-gallon plastic bottles such as bleach or milk comes in. Scatter a dozen or so around your yard, they say... and the dogs take their business elsewhere.
No one has come up with an explanation of why it works.
Of course, there's one catch...who wants a yard full of plastic bottles?

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It has not been easy for a 10-year-old Siberian Husky called Tippy since her owner's mother-in-law quit smoking cigarettes in July. The 105-pound canine had a bad habit of wolfing down cigarette butts produced by Virginia Jerome's three-packs-a-day habit.
Mrs. Jerome got a prescription for nicotine-laced gum to help her stop smoking after 48 years...and because the normally placid dog seemed tense, she offered Tippy some of her gum.
That seemed to do the trick. Instead of wolfing it down, Tippy kept chewing it, which is the way to release the nicotine.
A veterinarian confirms it's medically possible for a dog to be addicted to nicotine.

*

From a newspaper article someone sent: In Fort Lauderdale, Florida Simm Gottesman offers acupuncture services once a week at an animal center. She usually deals with creatures that have suffered from head injuries or poisoning.

In New Jersey, groom Joseph Snyder appointed Pup, a Labrador Retriever, his ring bearer because the two have been inseparable since Snyder got the dog a year ago. Snyder's bride, Crystal Louk, agreed to let Pup take part in the ceremony at the firehouse even though the couple's plans for a church wedding were dashed when a minister refused to allow the dog in the church. Mrs. Snyder's cousin, Rev. Milton LaCompe, offered to perform the ceremony at the firehouse. Pup went along on the honeymoon.
These 2 stories from the Ft. Lauderdale News and Sun Sentinel.

*

U.P.I. - Justin Henderson & Cory McKnight of Indianapolis are digging up leads in pursuit of stray canines & cats. The 12-year-old owners of "Dog Detectives" advertise on a utility pole.... "For a Mere Five-Dollars" they'll try to find your lost dog or cat. "For wasting our time, it will only cost you a dollar."
The boys also collect stray dogs & cats. If they already have you pet, the charge is only three-dollars.

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VICKI in Oklahoma sez: I'm sorry it's taken me so long to write, but there's been a lot of hell here with my neighbors. There's a woman here who suspects I'm a Witch, and she hasn't let up. Her children are even giving Cherish trouble at school. One of them is in a wheel chair, and it has a motor in it. The first day of school, he ran up on her feet several times and knocked her down. She finally hid in the girl's re t room, and he sat outside the door and shouted obscenities at her and said the only reason she could get away from him was because her mother was a Witch, and that I was using Witchcraft to protect her. It's really getting bad. We may have to move to another town.
Please mention me in your next Full Moon ritual. I sure need some positive energy sent my way. I've even had to start going to church to throw them off the scent.

How are you getting along? I hope you're doing a lot better. You're just like a father to me, Pat.
Could you please mention in the next newsletter that I would like to hear from Vicki in Oklahoma City? And print my address and phone number.
I'm starting on my 2nd degree lessons again. I'll try to finish them this time. Let me hear from you.
I love you. Blessed Be.
Vicki Johnson, POB 931, Sulphur, Ok. 73086. (405) 622-2269.

ED. NOTE: Sorry you're having such problems, Vicki. Could you or Cherish be talking too much? Not wise when you live in the land of the crazy fundamentalists. Going to church is not a bad cover-up. Not the first time that's been used. Just <u>don't get</u> friendly with any of them. That way you can avoid any discussions or arguments that might cause you to the wrong thing in anger...and create a worse problem.

Yes, I know some of you feel that I'm like a father to you. Don't mind that a bit. BUT...I rebel at being <u>called</u> "FATHER"! Just sounds too damned Catholic!

That's fine about getting back to your lessons again. No rush. Some people have taken five years to get to third degree...and some never get there. And...there's no reason everyone must get to third degree. The important thing is your attitude toward your religion, and to aplly it to your everyday living.

*

DIDJA KNOW???

In 1951, singer Tommy Edwards recorded "IT'S ALL IN THE GAME". Seven years later, it was re-released on M-G-M and became a number-one national hit. Charles Dawes was vice president of the United States when he wrote it. It was known as "Melody In A Major." Dawes died in 1951 and served as vice president to Calvin Coolidge.

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Pagan Campout

The best of Mother Nature was found at the Pagan Campout. Although the site was moved several times, the final location had picnic tables, wild berries, fruits & nuts. Chipmuunks & squirrels scurried around. Deer walked through, eating wild crab apples. Five different kinds of birds were seen. Everything was so green and beautiful. Pine cones were so plentiful that in a matter of minutes, a plastic yard bag was filled several times for the community fire. The lesson of feeling one with Nature was easy at this location. I felt the rays from the moon engulf me with love and warmth from the Goddess. A good time was had by all. There was a great group effort made by all to clean up the area afterward. The forestry service stated we left the campground in better condition than when we arrived. A special thanks should go to Paul and Aaron for the four chemical toilets, their hard work & the steaks enjoyed by all. The Pagan community really showed loved of Nature and warmth to our fellowman.

Blessed Be,
Aurora

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WHAT IS A WITCH?

A Witch is someone almost like anyone else. We get up in the morning, go to work, get off from work, go by the grocery, pick up the kids, go home, cook dinner, clean up the house, do laundry, take out the trash, take care of the children and pets. We mow the lawn, clean out the pool, patch the roof, work on the car. We work and play, laugh and cry, love and hate. We're young and old, fat and thin, tall and short, blonde, brunette, and redhead, of all races.

In short--we're people. "Ordinary" people. We don't wear a brand on our forehead which proclaims "Witch" (at least most of us don't). To the casual passerby, we're just like everyone else.

But there are differences. So, what sets us apart from others?

Go back to the passerbys. They may not recognize us as a Witch, but they may note our selfconfident, assured, calm manner. The true Witch has an "air" which others may note, even if they can't name it.

Where does this come from? It comes from the things that make us a Witch. The training, the (self) discipline, the study, the (inner) knowledge, and perhaps most important, our one-ness with all Creation.

The Witch is in balance, moving with the cosmic tides, the seasons. Each has its own energies and the Witch moves with them, not against them, as do so many others.

(Continued next page)

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What Is A Witch? (cont.)

The Witch is a student...always a seeker after new knowledge, new lights of understanding, of self and of all things. And the Witch puts this knowledge to use for the benefit of all. Others often say, "If you're a real Witch, and can do all this stuff, how come you ain't rich?". The answer is simple, the Witch isn't interested in tangible possessions. The intangibles, which aid in the process of growth, development, and self-evolution most concern the true Witch. In many ways, Witches are selfish, for though they may use their knowledge and talents for the benefit of others, their ultimate goal is their own self-evolution.

The Witch is student and teacher, follower and leader, congregation and clergy.

So what IS a Witch? The Witch is you, and me, and the multitudes of others who have opened their eyes, their ears, their minds and their hearts to that which is without and that which is within.

Blessed Be,
Mahariam

*****

From Barbas

Dedicated to the memory of Sybil Leek. I love you...I miss you.

THE BRECKEN WITCH

He lit his pipe,
Stroked his beard
And we huddled near,
On that cold
Rainy night and
This story we did hear...

I remember
As a lad
No more than eight or nine,
The day I met
The Brecken Witch
A Lady most divine.

Pa was gone
On a trip,
Ma was sick in bed,
Her fever high
With the chills,
She lay there nearly dead.

(Continued next page)

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The Brecken Witch (cont.)

I stepped out
To fetch some wood
And when I had returned,
There she sat,
The Brecken Witch,
Her look both soft and stern.

She motioned me
To come to her.
Softly said, "Here lad,"
And ask if I
Did hear of her,
I told her that I had.

She stood up,
Looked at me,
And all around the room,
Raised the shades
And the light
Pierced the air of gloom.

With a smile
And spoken words
She reached into her bag,
Pulling out
A bottle corked
And a yellow rag.

With the tip
Of her knife
She touched the featherbed
Then she knelt
Held my hand
And very softly said:

"With the rising
Of the Sun,
Again when Night has fell,
Make her drink
Of my brew
And this remember well...

Not a word, to not a soul and at the quarters end,
Lay this cloth Upon her heart and she'll be well again."

This I done and Ma was healed, it went without a hitch,
And to this day she doesn't know of the Brecken Witch.

* *

RELIGION IN THE NEWS from U.P.I.

An 18-month federal prison sentence has been suspended for Visalia minister John Kiggins Junior on his guilty plea to income tax evasion. U-S District Court Judge Edward Price ruled that Kiggin's prison sentence be changed to a 10-thousand dollar fine because of the minister's chronic heart disease.

*

A Pasadena jury has awarded more than one-million dollars to a woman who accused the Worldwide Church Of God of humiliating her. Leona McNair sued the church for using the breakup of her marriage as an example of guidelines for divorce. She was described as "demon-possessed" and accused of living in the same house as her estranged husband just to "hang on for a free ride."

*

An evangelistic group has sued the Los Angeles Airport Commission in an attempt to overturn a regulation banning distribution of religious material within airport terminals. Th e suit was filed by Jews For Jesus, which claims its Los Angeles director was expelled froma terminal at International Airport while handing our materials.

*

The Internal Revenue Service has revoked the automatic tax exempt status for contributions to the mail-order ministry known as Universal Life Church. I-R-S spokesman Larry Wright says the move will affect hundreds of taxpayers and millions of dollars of tax liability.
Wright said the I-R-S action now requires taxpayers to be able to prove their contributions to Universal Life are used for religious, educational or scientific purposes.

*

Hustler magazine filed suit in Los Angeles federal court against Jerry Falwell...claiming he violated copyright laws by displaying on TV a n ad from the magazine parodying the evangelist. Magazine lawyers say thet Falwell showed the ad...headlined "Jerry Falwell talks about his first time"...on nationwide broadcasts of the "Old Time Gospel Hour" and in mailings to raise money for the Moral Majority. Falwell earlier sued Hustler for libel over publication of the ad parody. He is seeking 25 million dollars.

*

The United Methodist Church...which four years ago elected its first woman bishop...now has its first black woman bishop, its first Hispanic bishop and the first black bishop ever elected in the church's southeastern jurisdiction.

*

Evangelist Billy Graham was scheduled to visit three Soviet cities in September. The chief of the Soviet Religious Council said Graham was sent an invitation by the Baptist and orthodox churches of the Soviet Union. A spokesman said Graham was scheduled to visit the cities of Leningrad, Tallin and Novosibirsk.

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HOMEMADE HENGES PART II by Rik in Tucson

Some time ago I did an article on the construction of a homemade stonehenge for everyday use. This is a follow up article detailing some trivia on the original henges and modifications for current use.

Stonehenge, though the most complex Circle in Britain, is by no means the only one. Although Continental Europe went in for standing stones or lines of megaliths, Great Britain (England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland) possessed at one time over 3000 stone Circles. Of these one thousand have been completely destroyed, one thousand have been partially damaged and one thousand are still in near perfect shape.

The sizes of these Circles range from small family rings a few feet in diameter to the great Avebury Ring that is so large that an entire town was built within its perimeter. The stones that built these Circles could be the size of footballs as in Wales to the 20 ton giants of England and Scotland. In some cases stones weren't used at all and the Circles were built of wood and can be detected only by the presence of postholes filled with thousand year old rotted wood.

There could be as few as four stones (called Four posters) or as many as thousands scattered about the circle, though in the case of the latter, the stones were quite small. In some areas a standard number of stones was used by most (but not all) of the Circles. Some areas used 13 stones, some 20 and some 30 stones per Circle or almost and number that the locals considered to be sacred to their particular version of the Old Religion. It all depended on the area and possibly the use for the Circle.

Some Circles had an opening in the east or north or northeast but rarely anywhere else. These openings may or may not have been lined with rows of stones. Some Circles were oriented to a particular date such as Yule or Litha and a few were even set up to the Full Moon. Orientation means that if you stand in the center of the Circle, the sun or moon will rise or set over one stone on one day of the year. Thus a Circle oriented to Litha will have the Sun rise over only one particularly impressive stone only on the Summer Solstice regardless of whether the solstice occurs on the 21st, 22nd or 23rd of June. The sun in this case will usually set over another stone only on that date or the night before. In the case of double rings such as Stonehenge, the Sun rises and sets between two stones and can only be seen on that day. In the Recumbant Circles of Scotland and Ireland, there is a large, flat, alter-like (but not an alter) stone in the soutwest opposite the tallest stones of the Circle. The Full Moon will

(cont.)

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HOMEMADE HENGER PART II (cont.)

only rise over this stone. Thus some Circles were Solar/God oriented and some were Lunar/Goddess oriented; but all were set up the Craft calendar. Very few Circles had Altars within them.

Very few Circles also had people buried within their area though those who were buried there were done so with some ritual. One exception that comes to mind is Avebury where the local christians organised a "Let's get the witches by destroying one of their Stones in the Devils name" party. So every ten years or so the locals would gather at a Circle and destroy and bury one stone. Some people even charged admission fees to this abhorrant practice. This custom suddenly died out one year when one stone fell over and crushed the local barber. Since the technology of the times was not up to the construction (being based on destruciton) of a Circle, they found that unlike their primitive and heathen ancestors, they couldn't move the stone. He remained there for some centuries until later archaeologists moved the stone to reveal a somewhat gruesome time capsule. Not all Circles were perfectly round. Many were but other shapes were common. The Flattened Circle, Type A and Type B were quite common. These were perfect half-circles on the bottom with a mathematically flattened top to give the Circle a double diameter, one of which was smaller than the other. Actually about 5/6 height of the diameter.

Another type is the ellipse of two 1/2 circles separated by two lines to form an oval. The Type A egg shaped circle had a large Circle with a smaller Circle overlapping to form the bulged small end of an egg. The Type B egg shape had three circles of the same size or two same and one smaller to form a different shaped egg. The centers of these circles were placed at the points of a previously drawn triangle. Finally there was the Circle that had no pattern and appeared to be just a row of stones that were laid down to form a blob of a ramdom shape.

Not all Circles were ritual circles. Some were for religious rites, some were for magickal spells, some were concerned only with fertility, some were simply cattle pens, some were meeting places and a few combined more than one funciton. Usually, though, they were restricted to one function. After all, if you have a knife, sword, axe and spear, all resemble one another in that they have a wooden handle and a metal blade but they have exclusive uses. The knife cuts meat, the sword kills men, the axe fells trees and the spear hunts dinner. It is difficult to cut a steak with a sword (I've tried), fell a tree with a knife or skin a deer with an axe. Thus Circles appeared to be unifunctional or not even circles at all.

(cont.)

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Homemade Henges Part II by Rik in Tucson (cont.)

One xian who thought he knew folklore commented on one group of stone circles that he had studied. He mentioned that they were used for human and animal sacrifice to some cruel god because he had found animal bones in one circle, human bones in another and stone knives in the third. It took a trained archaeologist to realize that the hadn't found a Stone Circle at all but rather had been studying the foundations of three abandoned houses. The ancients had a different house for different functions (we simply build a wall around these houses to form separate rooms within one house) due to the lack of sanitation. Thus to keep the roaches and flies out of their beds, the ancients cooked and ate in one house, used another house for a tool shop and slept in another house, etc. What the xian had seen were the leftover dinners in one house, old tools in the second house and the remains of the family that had been killed in their sleep by bandits.

In a little more modern and embarassing situation, I have been trained in anthropology and sociology so should have known better. One day in Northern Arizona, along the sandy shore of a river, I noticed a double line ditch from the west to a triple Circle about nine feet across and another avenue to the east. I respectfully entered from the east and then followed the avenue with thoughts of Pagan Contacts forming in my head. It wasn't until the avenue reached the mud that I realised that there were three tracks and the tracks had treadmarks in the bottom. I had been following the trail of an ATC.

To recap, Our ancient ancestors built many varied circles to fulfill many functions. They sometimes, but not always, had a pattern of shape, size, number , and size of stones. The, for reasons unknown, these were abandonedl leaving the modern Sitches' Circle.

How this information can help the modern Witch is quite simple. The standard Witch's Circle is perfectly round, nine feet in diameter, marked with a ditch or one or three concentric circles about the perimeter, has an Altar in the center or east or north and may have a cord or 13 stones about its perimeter, with a doorway to the east or northeast. (Please see your dictionary for definitions to these words that you do not understand.) Unfortunately, not all of us live in a house with large rooms and eight foot privacy fences. I haved lived in many homes with an eight foot living room which makes a nine foot circle practically impossible to make. In these cases, I usually made due with a smaller Circle though a Flattened Circle or an elliptical Circle would have done as well. The following are a set of different shaped Circles that all have the same area (within reason related

(cont.)

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HOMEMADE HENGES PART II by Rik in Tucson (cont.)

to measurements) and the instructions for construction. If there is a variation in size and perimeter, remember that a nine foot circle has a perimeter of 28 feet 2.1 inches and an area of 38.5 square feet. But a square with the same perimeter has an area of 56.25 square feet. In all cases I will be concerned with surface area. Also the energies will be altered by the shapes so keep a diary of work and results. Practice with paper and compass until you get the hang of it.

TRUE CIRCLE..materials: cord 4'6". Anchor the cord in the middle and move the other end at full length about a circle until you have a round circle. The cord length is the radius of 4.5', the diameter is the distances across the circle and is 9', the circumference or perimeter is the distance around the circles edge and is 28'2.1". Use a candle at the north, east, south, and west.

FLATTENED CIRCLE...materials: cords 4'9", 19", 8'6". The flattened area can be to the North, East or Northeast. Draw a line east to west and mark the center. Anchor the 4'9" cord here and draw a half-circle in the south so that you have a half moon open to the north. Lay the 19" cord along the diameter that runs east-west, toughing the end of the circle. Anchor this along that line so that when you draw another half circle, the 4'9" circle will continue into the 19" circle. Repeat at the other end of the circle so that you have a heart shape. At the south point of the large circle anchor the 8'6" cord and draw an arc in the north that will close the top of the heart shape and make a rough circle. Erase any lines that do not follow the perimeter. The diameters of this circle will be 9'6" by 8'6". Place a candle at the normal East, south, and west but place two candles spaced on the flattened north face.

ELLIPTICAL CIRCLE...Materials: cords 2' and 4'. Draw a line about two feet long from east to west. At the west end of this line anchor the four foot cord and draw a half circle open in the east. Two feet from this center point due east anochor the four foot cord and draw another half circle open in the west. Close the open parts at the north and south of the arcs with curved lines to form an oval. This circle will have the diamters of 8' by 10'. Use four candles at the north, east, south, and west for this circle.

(cont.)

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HOMEMADE HENGES PART II (cont.) by Rik in Tucson

EGG SHAPED TYPE A... Materials: cords 3' and 4'. Draw a line north to south three feet long. At the south point of this line, anchor the four foot cord and draw a circle open in the north. At the north point of the line anchor the three foot cord and draw a circle open in the south to produce a circle similar to the Eliptical Circle but with one end smaller than the other. Connect the open area with curved lines to form an egg shape. This gives a circle with diameters of 8' by 10'. Place candels at the normal four quarters. This Circle is excellent for those who like to place their Altar in the north and dance around the circle.

E G SHAPED TYPE B OR THREE POINT CIRCLE...Materials: 3' cord. I call this one the Goddess Circle as it has a point for each aspect of the Lady and is set up for one Priestess to stand in a different quarter. Draw an equilateral triangle three feet on each side. If you wish, you can make one side smaller or two sides longer to form an isoseles triangle. At each point of the triangle, anchor the cord and draw a three-quarters circle open towards the center. Then connect the circles with straight lines and as usual erase any lines that are not on the perimeter.

As you can see, these instructions will give you five different circles. In each one the energies will be different. Perhaps it will be directed more easily along the bulge or altered slightly or improved or the spell will produce a different result. Perhaps some of these won't do good magick but will be better for ritual or vice-versa. Perhaps they were abandoned by our ancestors for being too complex or that they just don't work at all. I don't know...I would like to hear of your experiments and results concerning these Circles.

If you have any difficulty, write me for better instructions and drawings or refer to your local library, both public and university, for any comprehensive books on the Megalithin Monuments or Stone Circles. Anything by Burl or Thom is good as both of these authors have published numerous books on the subject and include survey maps and photographs of hundreds of the Circles of all types.

Rik Johnson
Box 40451
Tucson, AZ 85717

Ed note: Rik enclosed some very nice drawings, which we, unfortunately, were unable to use.

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Amusing the Madman--A Medley by a Friend

I was thinking the other day. Perhaps I should explain first, my perception of time is often not in keeping with that of many others'. If I must tell time, I prefer to do so with a calendar. So, to me, the other day means anything from five minutes ago back til dirt was a wee maiden. Be that as it may, I was pondering, the other day, the impending possibility of needing to explain to a friend who has come to know me in terms other than those of religion, what being a pagan means. Now that could really take some time. There was all that history and all those names--no one could ever know them all. He should be told we once represented nearly a planetary framework for understanding the cosmos. Cosmos--I would have to explain that it is not synonomous with universe: that cosmos includes an assumption of a beauty and harmony and interconnectedness. My friend is an accountant; he will want the explanation to include numbers. How could one know how many there are? Some misquided Johnny-come-lately followers of a sweet Jewish mystic had made some Pagans disinclined to avow such beliefs, at least openly. No more disparaging words are in order, remembering that it was our own who, on becoming too organized and literal, declared impiety and athiesm capital crimes. Too, our numbers have changed. I would want him to see that even when we were the vast majority there was a rich diversity of understandings that were Pagan. Pagans come in so many stripes and plaids. Some are Pagans and never know it. Some are convinced that Cronos enjoyed gnawing on the thigh of his succulent young offspring, while others know Cronos as Time and acknowledge that time devours its young.

Indeed, the diversity itself is important. It is important since it leaves room for interpretation, the visionary, the poetic soul. It is important, too, because it means that whatever I tell him Paganism is, it will mean, "what Paganism is to me," and it will be as undeniably true as individually verified sensory experience. It will be verified by objective experience. I submit: The Earth lives on. Would the cycles continue if no one called for them any longer? How often have you seen a mother wither and die or worse, turn callous and frigid when all the children had gone away or refused to acknowledge her? So how many Pagans are there? At least, my friend, enough to keep Her caring. That is obviously not all the people. It may not even be very many of the people. But like so many other things, it does not take everyone to accomplish anything. It just takes enough.

Another friend, more mathematically astute, figures that to accomplish anything meaningful it requires the attention and energies of ten percent of the population under consideration. I feel this friend is better at making a point than crunching

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Amusing The Madman: A Medley by a Friend (cont.)

numbers. My observations would seem to indicate the number to be a bit smaller. But what is a few percentage points among friends? His idea is tenable. I mean, most folks seem to be more than ready to be told what to do as well as what to believe. This is certainly understandable. It is much easier than figuring things out for oneself--status quo, forces in equilibrium, couch potato, that sort of thing. Most good Pagans I know are not part of that class. They recognise a stream or pulse in life and attempt to attune themselves to it. They are gaining control of their own lives. They are much more likely to do than sit and rot and complain as they are done to. They take responsibility for their own lives, their actions, and the Gods and Goddesses they have chosen to occupy their pantheons. It is reasonable to believe we can accomplish anything if enough of us care and there is time. Do you think he will understand? Do I? Could you tell me, if we successively turn on points in three dimensional space, do we order energy into matter?

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FROM THE USDA

If you do not have a garden for planting tomatoes-..and don't know anybody from whom you can beg, borrow or swipe a home-grown tomato, you probably don't know what a good tomato tastes like. The best flavor does come from tomatoes that are home grown or produced on nearby farms. This type of tomato is allowed to ripen completely before being picked. Many areas, however, now ship tomatoes that are picked after the color has started changing from green to pink. These tomatoes have flavor almost as satisfying as the home-grown ones. If your tomatoes need further ripening, the U.S. Department of Agriculture advises you to keep them in a warm place, but not in direct sunlight. Unless they're fully ripened, do not sotre tomatoes in a refrigerator--the cold temperature might keep them from ripening later on. Once tomatoes are ripe you can keep them in the refrigerator for some time. When shopping for tomatoes, look for tomatoes that are well formed, smooth, well ripened, and reasonably free from blemishes. For fully ripe fruit, look for an overall rich red color and a slight softness. Softness is easily detected by gentle handling. For tomatoes slightly less than fully ripe, look for firm texture and color ranging from pink to light red. Avoid tomatoes that are overripe and bruised--they are both soft and watery. Avoid tomatoes with sunburn. These have a green or yellow area near the stem scar. And avoid growth cracks, too--they're deep cracks around the stem scar. Also avoid decayed tomatoes with soft, water-soaked spots, depressed areas, or surface mold. And do cultivate a friend with a garden with ripe tomatoes.

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FROM THE USDA

Watering houseplants is not everybody's favorite hobby. You can simplify that chore by buying pots with a subirrigation system built into the base, or you can make a subirrigation system. Subirrigating means supplying water to the plant from the bottom. You can turn an ordinary pot into a subirrigating pot. Here's how the U.S. Department of Agriculture suggests you do it. You need a wick. A glass fiber wick is best because it does not rot. However, you can also use a piece of coarse rope or a tight roll of burlap as a wick. Place the wick in the hole of the flower pot. Press the top 2 inches of wick against the bottom of the pot, pack fine soil over it, then fill the pot with soil. For potting soil, mix equal parts garden soil, sand, and peat moss. After you've potted the plant, water it thoroughly from the top. Then place the pot on blocks or stones over a saucer filled with water. The lower end of the wick must lie in the water. When your plant wants water, it just calls "water boy"...and the wick soaks up the ater and delivers it. And your plant doesn't have to depend on you being able to tell when it wants water.

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CHRISTINE IN CALIFORNIA SEZ...

The most amazing thing happened Monday. As I was getting into my car at work, I heard and felt a bird fly right over my head, and a small parrot landed on my open car door. I talked to im a little bit, then I put my finger near him to see if he would hop onto it. He didn't seem at all frightened. After a few minutes, he flew onto my shoulder: I then shut the car door and drove off to the pet store to get him a cage and some food. He must have been somebody's pet because he will hop onto my finger and loves to sit on my shoulder. For such a small bird, he can be pretty loud if I leave him in his cage while I'm in the room instead of taking him to let him sit on my shoulder. I've named him Buddy, because he's my little buddy. He's bright, irridescent green with a turquoise patch on his head. Underneath, his wings are bright orange. The only part of him that's not brightly colored is his gray cheeks. He's about the size of a big parakeet. I aaw other birds just like him in the pet store selling for $200.00. He's a gray cheeked parrot, native to Peru. I wouldn't have believed it if it hadn't happened to be but it did. Now I have a cute little companion friend to keep me company and I'm really enjoying him. Enclosed is my $10 for a newsletter subscription. If it's not that much, keep the difference. I'm also enclosing a card I sent to you some time ago with an incorrect address.

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GALADRIAL & ROWAN in Maryland sez: enclosed check for sub renewal. I really enjoy your newsletter every month, and appreciate the effort that goes into it. I was, at one time, a newsletter editor for the German Shepherd Dog Club of Maryland. It was also a monthly, and believe me, I can understand how much time and effort go intoit.

Also, at this time, I want to send you all my hopes and wishes for a full recovery. I know the struggle must be very difficult, but many people out here are routing for you, doing magicks, & sending energy, etc. And we "Witches" simply do not accept disappointments!

By the way, just so you know who this subscriber is, I've enclosed a few snapshots. Rowan (my husband) & I are HP's of Tapestry Coven in Baltimore, Md. Our tradition is Celtic & Elven, but we're really rather eclectic at heart! Our coven sends you all its blessings. May your days be filled with the magick of life...

Galadriel & Rowan

ED. NOTE: love the photos. Such a Witchy-looking group!
Glad to hear there is a good coven in Baltimore. I was born there and moved west about 1943. I've been gone so long that when I talk to my sister on the phone, she sounds to me like a Brooklyn accent. I also remember visiting the town on your return address but don't remember now just where it was. I see a lot of town names in the news that I remember but can't always remember the places. I guess all has changed anyway.
Also like that print on the card cover.

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JIM sez: sounds like your reservoir of personal strength is making the difference in your treatment working...keep up the good work and thanks for the monthly updates on your progress...it helps in our efforts to help you. Keep that powerhouse generator of yours working at peak output and this "guest" that has overstayed its welcome will get the message it's no longer welcome..when it never was!

The Crystal User/Operator Survey (Dec. GN) continues to remain open for those who still may wish to participate...however, it will "close" for data analysis as of Jan. 1, '85. Now that the summer months are behind us, anyone who has been putting off sending for a questionaire should do so...time passes quickly and January will arrive soon enough. There has been some quality input so far and I'm looking forward to completing the analysis by the end of the first quarter of '85.
As a reminder, the survey is available for the asking...write:
JF/Survey, Box 464, Ridgewood, N.J. 07451.
In the meantime, keep on fighting and being yourself...until next time, I remain

Yours, In The Light,
Jim, in North Jersey

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FOR WITCHLINGS

Tarostar noted that we mention in a newsletter that there was little material for Pagan children. They have been kind enough to send us two of their books...TALES FROM A WITCH'S HEARTHFIRE (Thoughts upon the heart of Wicca) and SABBAT CEREMONIES FOR SOLO WITCHES...and they have given us permission to print. So we'll print something each month.

However, if you would like to purchase them in the attractive book form, write to Tarostar, 125 N. Bruce, Las Vegas, Nev. 89101. I don't know the price.

Gather around, my Munchkins bright,
Sit beside me in the fire light.
Listen to the tales I tell,
Heed these words, mark their lessons well.

Stories of love, tales of woe,
With words of wisdom are the spells I sow.

Set three bright candles in a row together
And sprinkle them around with fine English Heather.
Light one for love and one for rue,
And the third for the Witches Law so true.

Stories of love, tales of woe,
With words of wisdom are the spells I sow.

The Good Gods upon you ever smile
Though you wander from this hearthfire many a mile.
I will but aid you where I can,
But you must discover the Good Gods plan.

Stories of love, tales of woe,
With words of wisdom are the spells I sow.

In this great thing we call life
There is time for joy and time for strife.
The Gods have ordained what we must learn,
As they guide us with justice, the good to discern.

Stories of love, tales of woe,
With words of wisdom are the spells I sow.

TAROSTAR

ED NOTE: We would like to thank everyone for their contributed efforts; and for your attention, thinking reader, Bless you.

That's all, folks--Love and Blessed Be.
Pat, Elizabeth & all the Georgians

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