ORGIAN NEWSLETTER The Georgian Church June 1985
1908 Verde
Bakersfield, CA 93304

Bakersfield--The big news this month is the latest addition to our family, baby cat Eddy Puss. He is a 6-week-old bundle of joy. Although not yet housebroken, he is catching on quick and he has all of the doggie folks plumb wore out with his antics. His favorite playtoy is Sirius' tail, his favorite pastime is playing hide-and-seek with Lady, and Safflower follows him everywhere, growling when she thinks he's doing something to get into trouble or that will get him hurt. Many thanks to Butch and Delana for letting us bring him to our house. Dean's morning glories are blooming on the back fence--another of many wonders he has brought to the back yard. Elizabeth is working on a couple of poems we'll hope to see in the newsletter soon. Don came down to Long Beach to help us finish moving to Bakersfield and no one's quite sure what Delana is doing.

REMINDER! The deadline for the pagan studies research article contest is June 21st. Many of you have expressed reluctance to submit an article because you haven't done a research paper before. Tsk! Tsk! You never know unless you try! The winning article will be published in next month's newsletter.

Newsletter subscription is still $6 for 12 issues in U.S., $12 foreign surface mail, $24 foreign air mail.

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From USDA

With ripening fruit and vegetables in the home garden come thoughts of home canning. Whether or not you've ever done home canning, here are a few safety tips from the USDA to protect your family from food poisoning. For fruits, tomatoes and pickled vegetables, use a boiling water bath canner. These foods are acid foods, so they can be safely processed in boiling water. Use only firm, ripe red tomatoes. Do not use overripe tomatoes, because they lose acidity as they mature. Use tomatoes with soft spots or decayed areas for something else because they're not suitable for safe canning. To loosen skins on tomatoes, dip them into boiling water for about half a minute, then dip them quickly into cold water. Cut out the stem ends and peel the tomatoes. Process tomatoes with the hot pack method. Cut the peeled tomatoes into quarters and bring to a boil. Then pack in jars and process in a boiling water bath canner 35 minutes for pint jars... 45 for quarts. To can all common vegetables except tomatoes, use a steam-pressure canner.

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Powers of the Pentagram from Tales from a Witch's Hearthfire
by Tarostar

Speak to me, O Blazing Star, of Witches Lore
From long ago and times before.
Pentangle, Pentalpha, and Old Druid's Foot,
Many names upon thee were put.
Thou shinest forth with five sharp points
That intertwine at all the joints.
Each point of thine a word doth tell
That teaches truth clear as a bell.
These five most sacred words of power
Cause a Witch's charms to flower.
NOSCERE, to know, is the Element of Air.
It motivates our knowledge most fair.
AUDERE, to dare, rules the Watery Realm,
Where we desire to step forth firm hand at the helm.
VELLE, to will, is the Fire Ruler bold.
Which Witches have used from times of old.
TACERE, to be silent, is the heaviness of Earth,
That teaches us wisdom of Life's eternal rebirth.
The last and most important force
Crowns thy top point to show us our course.
IRE, to go, means the Spiritual Progression
Upward through Universes without retrogression.
Thus does the Witches Star of Truth
Give power and wisdom and knowledge for sooth.

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More on Happenings in the Atlanta area from a friend in GA

Enclosing what material I have on the latest kooks to hit the trail, crying, "Burn the Witches!" Think you can gather a bit of info from all this. I should have a copy of his "lecture" the other night sometime this weekend and will make you a copy and send it along. It would be comical if it weren't so frightening.

A lot of fact-gathering has gone into following this. We stressed at the meeting last night that folks should not become paranoid about it all--just cautious. But--let me back up and start at the "beginning."

You can see the folks background from the enclosed info. And probably know a bit about the Schiller Foundation and the other groups mentioned. Ira Libowitz hit town the other day, and began a round of talks--some announced, some

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More from Atlanta (cont.)

impromptu. His main theme these days is "The Witches are to blame...." and then blames them for anything and everything--depending on locale. Here, he is claiming to have "proof" that we were responsible for the Atlanta Child Murders, and is speaking mainly in the black section of town, trying to incite the blacks to riot against the witches. Claims to have the names and addresses of "all" the group leaders in town.

His main thrust has been against Ravenwood, which is the local public covenstead. Even named them and the Lady Sintana by name (she has filed a libel/slander suit against him--he left town). She has received some threatening phone calls, which are being taped. Local law had a guard on her for a few days.

Local media are being very cooperative--they are not printing anything, televising anything, or telling it on radio. Claim it would be irresponsible--too inflammatory. He did manage to get on one talk station before folks realized what was going on, but they refuse to allow anyone to discuss it since then.

From his lecture, lots of raving and ranting, vague insinuations, etc. Witches are involved in all sorts of bad things according to him: we kidnap children and use them for all sorts of evil purposes--sex, prostitution, pornography, etc., then use them in evil rituals and kill them. We are all linked with the same folks who were behind the James Jones (Jonestown) mess. We run huge drug rings--all covens are fronts for these drug rings. Etc., etc., etc.

Although he was speaking in Atlanta, and speaking of local groups, he brought out the entire national movement, how we are growing, nationwide, etc. And each one worse than the other!

We go through this every two years or so--but this group is, I feel, a bit more dangerous--they are very intelligent, have strong financial backing, know exactly what they are doing, and what their purpose is. Most of the kooks are just that--kooks. But these folks are much more dangerous. Seems their purpose is to play on the emotions of the more emotional classes of folks, incite them to riot, and come after us. And, frankly, my dear, there is a possibility he could do so, to some small extent. I don't feel that

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More from Atlanta (cont.)

the folks in Atlanta are in as much danger as the folks in some other places would be, for we are on good terms with the local law enforcement folks, in general, and they will be "johnny on the spot" if any problems developed.

According to Libowitz, they begin by infiltrating local groups, joining, etc., getting information, names, addresses, etc., then they strike. Now THAT is scary! I think the best advice we could give would be that everyone be very cautious as to who they speak to and who they tell anything.

We called a meeting last night of local folks. About fifty showed up, from a number of local groups, and they, in turn, will carry this information back to others. Gave them the same material I am sending you, had a discussion as to what was going on and what everyone should do. And not do.

Our advice was to be cautious, to pull in for a while, wear pentagrams inside shirts, and most important, invoke the "old laws." "Speak not to me of such--it frightens me!"

I think it important that folks out there know that this guy is going around the country with this sort of thing. Keep an eye out for announcements of meetings, etc., and if he shows up, someone should attend (and hopefully, tape it) and find out what sort of poison he is spreading in their locale.

One good thing came out of all this--the meeting. There were folks there who would normally not give each other the time of day--but we all pulled together on this. It went well, and for once we all pooled our energies and worked together. Did an informal 'circle,' raised cones for calming the local situation, cooling things off in general.

I think you know that I am not one to run scared and certainly not paranoid. But I must admit that this group does give me a few cold chills. Just a "gut feeling" that they could be dangerous for us. The climate is getting a wee bit unfriendly, with all the fundamentalists, evangelists, and the horde of others who are trying to force their beliefs upon the world. As one fellow said, they are determined to save our souls if they have to kill us to do it!

Frankly, I don't think this present group really cares one way or the other--they just need/want a target and a focal point to start trouble--riots and uprisings.

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Animals (UPI)

Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus says it's a "living unicorn." The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals says it's a goat with the horn of a bull implanted in the top of its skull. Now federal officials plan to take a look at the mysterious--if not mythical--creature. The animal protection group says Ringling Brothers could lose its license over the so-called unicorn.

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Eleven animal rights groups are banding together in Los Angeles to lobby for animal protection legislation. The bill would prevent the release of impounded animals to researchers for use in experiments. The groups say they've formed the National Coalition to Protect our Pets. Organization spokesman Dr. Michael Giannelli says the release of shelter animals to laboratories undermines public confidence in what animal shelters are supposed to be--havens for lost or abandoned pets.

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One could say that Vikki Kittles loves animals. She lives in Wilton Manor, FL, and keeps 39 dogs in her back yard. She also has two horses--in her bedroom. To her neighbors, that was the last straw. They say the smell from the dogs is bad enough but the horses inside the house is just too much. Kittles says she has the horses in her bedroom to protect them. She's afraid they'll be poisoned. Kittles says she suspects a horse that died several years ago was poisoned by her former boyfriend, the government, and her brother.

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Two 325 pound llamas are being tried for new jobs at Mount Rainier National Park in Washington--as experimental pack animals. The llamas, Darwin and Abraham, can't be worked too hard--otherwise they may hiss and spit. Officials say the idea is to see if the pair can do the work of some of the horses and mules that traditionally have carried supplies for crews that maintain the park. They have some quirks. They have a reputation for lying down on the job and when overworked, they've been known to hiss and spit. Llamas also generally can't carry as heavy loads as horses and mules.

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Crossed Tunamatoes from Don

As handed down to me from a long line of lines...

2 hard boiled eggs Paprika
*1 bottle of fine wine (chilled) Mayonaise
6 tomatoes
3 stalks of celery
1/2 onion (red, peeled)
1 can tuna (large)

Take tomatoes and celery and wash. Set aside. Drain tuna, discard liquid, and place in mixing bowl. Pour the wine into a glass and take a good drink. Take onions and celery and chop finely, taking care as to not chop the end of your fingers off, as it lends an unpleasant taste and look to the meal. Add the finely chopped celery and onions to the tuna. Mix in mayonaise to desired texture and taste. Take another drink. Take tomatoes and set on a cutting board, stem side down. Slice a little of the tomato off the top to give a flat area and so you can see the inner sections of the tomato. Cut the tomato partially through twice in the shape of a cross. The tomato will now fall open like a four-petaled flower. (If your tomato falls open to four separate sections, you cut too far. Put this one in the salad, and put the wine away. You've had too much to be using a knife.).

Stuff the tuna mixture into the cross cuts of the tomatoes. Place a slice of hard boiled egg on top, and sprinkle with paprika. Refrigerate and finish the wine.

*This is optional. You may substitute anything you want for the wine.

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From COTOR

My we firstly thank you both for your support in the matter of the letter from someone called Dian Mclelland from Australia, published in April's Georgian? We have never met this person, nor had any personal contact, and after the unpleasant letter she wrote you about our merry lot, we doubt if we would ever put ourselves in her orbit!
I should like to assure you all, we do not order Church or Coven members, to either go, or stay away from, any activity of any type. Our people were advised of the meeting in a

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From COTOR (cont.)

far distant state of Oz, and most, like us, could not either afford time, or money, absence from employment, etc. As it happens, we did receive many reports of the meeting, nothing exciting, and hearsay only, but one communicant by mail told us of a ritual to the Dawn, performed about (so the person said) 10 a.m., in a cow field, with the participants dressed in wellies (long rubber boots), and wearing knitted beanies (a type of wooly scullcap)! The events were rather NON events, but everyone to their own taste--"Go thy way, and harm none," live by that rule, do your own thing, but don't get nasty when other folk and other traditions prefer to seek the Gods on a slightly higher plane, and give them respect without the need for drugs, sex, and power plays. Re., their shocking display of sensitivity about our dear Pat, you said it all, we feel too heartsick to bother adding anything to your own words!! The awards we were so kindly voted for two years, on service to Craft and Paganism, perhaps after the woman's letter, you may understand why we still fight on, under the banner and energy and strength of the Georgian Church, and be assured, the fight for a decent Craft in Oz WILL continue!!

We enclose the most recent clippings here about a R.C. Priest seeking info on the occult, will keep you in touch, we doubt there will be an "open mind," but will keep a low profile for a little while. It was too late to stop an interview we gave with the media recently. Hopefully, it will be good press and we will send detail when printed.

Pat wanted you two to continue the paper and the work, it is a big job, and naturally, sooner or later someone would, as we say in Oz, have a go at you, we equate this with what is known in Oz, "sas the tall poppy syndrome," meaning if you are the top, at the helm, a leader in any way, those not so fortunate, or not so capable, in most cases, will try to cut you down. Stay with it, you and you alone know what Pat told you of the future of the Church and paper. Keep going, and ignore your detractors. The word Zeal in the great piece in April's Georgian would be a good one for some people to meditate upon. 'Nuff said!

Print what you wish of this, our shoulders are still wide and strong, happiness and love to you all. Perfect Love and Perfect Trust still exists, and those of mature minds, holding the love of the Old Ways, will experience its meaning and serenity all their days, by the love and care of the Lady and Lord.

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Dog Days

(AP) He was a boozer and a womanizer who treated officers with distain, but for thousands of enlisted men who trained to fly here during World War II and the Korean War, Bismarck was a special dog. Now Air Force officials are searching for his grave so they can build a monument to the Rapid City Air Base mascot, believed to be the only canine in base history to reach the rank of master sergeant. "This dog was terrific, and maybe just a tad overweight" because of his alcoholic binges, said Staff Sgt. Charli Kochmar, who started the search as historian for what is now called Ellsworth Air Force Base. "The reason his eyes were so sad is he was an alcoholic," said Littleman Carlson, who served at the base for nearly 20 years. According to Bismarck's obituary in the September 14, 1951 issue of the base newspaper, The Outpost, the shaggy, black-and-white mutt even had a road on the base named after him. Bismarck was a clumsy-footed, homeless pup when he showed up at the base in 1942. He became a pal of the men training "for the grim job ahead in World War II," the obituary said. "He lived with them, flew with them, slept with them and drank with them. "He hated officers. He'd only associate with enlisted men," the obituary said. "That's the truth," said Jim Anderson, a retired Air Force colonel who was stationed at the base from 1947 to 1960. "And he never walked anywhere. He always rode. "There wasn't a single person on the base who didn't know him," Anderson said. "They'd give him a ride in their car. I would bet that in his entire life on the base, he didn't walk more than 100 yards cumulatively. Of course, downtown, he'd have to walk from bar to bar," he added. In his younger years, Bismarck was "a familiar figure in Rapid City bars as he sat at a table lapping a drink from a glass and listening to the boys talk about airplanes," the obituary said. Anderson added, "In those days we had buses to town. Quite frequently, Bismarck would come to town on a Friday night. He'd go to a bar with the boys, stay there all night, drink a little beer and get a little owly. When he was coming home, he'd demand a (bus) seat all by himself. Guys would have to stand up to give him a seat. I think he died of cirrhosis of the liver, but I'm not sure." Carlson said he often saw Bismarck, after an evening on the town, "waddle back to the corner and wait for the bus." Bismarck also was a womanizer, and he didn't seem to care who knew it. He was busted to corporal once "for chasing a member of his opposite sex through the NCO Mess Club," his obituary said. However, he "rose to master sergeant again by time in grade." Bismarck was about 10 years old when he died in September 1951.

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From Rhea in GA

Yep--it's me. Alive and kicking, although that status was doubtful for a while.

1985 has not been the best of years for me, to say the least. A dreamer slammed into the back of my car, resulting in extensive damage to my car--and to me. Bad whiplash to neck, with the resultant neck pain and headaches. For about a month I had to admit that I was, literally, a "sore head"! Followed by a bout with a particularly vicious (and stubborn) strain of bronchial pneumonia. Don't think I'll ever have the heart to use a pin cushion again, I know only too well how they feel after that. Then a beloved Aunt passed on, necessitating a lengthy trip (thankfully, the car had been repaired), which didn't do much for me in my "weakened" condition! And to top it all off, had company auditors in for a week at work! Think the auditors were worse than the pneumonia.

But, my neck is healed, bronchial tubes are clearing, trip in the past, auditors are gone, Spring is springing out all over, and Life is beautiful...

And now that you've heard my tale of woe...

Received the April GNL, and as always, enjoyed. Good to see that the old group is still loyal!

Looking forward to Rik's article, although I'm not too sure I'll understand it! (You'll be getting an SASE from me, Rik!

The article sent by Katherine and Kent brought to mind a recent show on local radio. Forget the exact name of the group, similar to Council for Christian Toys"... advocating the elimination of all the old standard favorites--they're evil. Did you realize your little girl's Barbie doll can warp her life and lead her into a life of sin? And that Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Tweety Bird (to say nothing of the Smurf's--horrors!) are forces of the Devil? Dungeons and Dragons? Oh, no! Poor children--even an empty cardboard box is a one way ticket to hell! If you hear that this group is in your area, want to know more of what we're up against, (and would enjoy a good laugh!), tune 'em in.

I'm looking forward to the research papers. Probably won't do one--I didn't like doing them in school. Do lots of research, put it together (when it fits), etc., but....

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From Rhea (cont.)

And I'll be the first to admit that I will avidly devour every page, searching for new knowledge, and probably find enough information to keep me scurrying about seeking additional info for at least two or three more lifetimes! But rest easy, dear authors, I promise not to put it together, publish it, and make a fortune!

Spring is springing out all over the Southeast and the beauty is unbelievable. One could get arrested for driving while intoxicated, just from drinking in all the beauty! The Lady is bedecking Herself in her most beautiful jewels this year!

And I'm getting Spring Fever--something terrible! For me, Spring Fever is the irresistable urge to get outside, dig in the earth, and get dirt under my fingernails... while setting out all the tiny plants which will produce the goodies which I shall avidly scorf up during the summer! And the ones which add their own beauty to the world with their dazzling colors and arcmas. In other words, I gotta garden!

News from our little corner of the world? Not much that I know about. Sorta been out of circulation for a while, but do try to keep "my ear to the ground," and have heard nothing exciting or informative.

Sounds as if Mariah is a bit upset... Can't say I whole-heartedly agree with her--there are pros and cons to all things. Most definitely don't believe in selling the religion--such as charging for classes (not even mail order--although it is only fair that the "teacher" be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses), or charging someone for a healing, such as that. But, there are other things which, depending on the circumstances, one could expect to be paid for doing. Another case of "to each his own."

For the "Creeps of the Month" department: Salem, Arkansas "Volunteer Fire Department." They charge local residents $20 per year 'membership fee' for fire protection. Now, that's okay--money for maintenance on equipment and other necessities has to come from somewhere. BUT, they now have a policy that if you haven't paid your membership fee and your house/business catches on fire, they will stand by and watch it burn, only making sure it doesn't set fire to a paid member's property! And refuse to allow fire fighters from other towns to come in and put out the fire. A business and several homes have burned to the ground while they stood by and watched. Now, really!

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From UPI

While getting there is half the fun, it can also prove tiring. Here are some tips for those preparing for extended trips, from Black and Decker: One is to stretch to avoid exhaustion. You can fight stiffness and increase circulation during long journeys by rotating your shoulders and ankles. Also, try stretching in each direction from the waist with your arms above your head. A walk around the plane or train every 20 minutes or so also helps. When traveling by plane, the dry, pressurized air inside the cabin can be hard on the skin. Prepare yourself by bringing a soft washcloth. When you feel yourself drying out, steam the cloth with hot water from the rest room. Wring it out, and place it on your face for five minutes. Soft contact lenses also have a tendency to dehydrate in this environment. It's suggested you wear glasses during the flight, and put your lenses back in for arrival. Another good suggestion is to dress comfortably. Wear something loose because a tight waistband may cause stiffness in the lower back muscles.

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One of the favorite attractions of Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia is open again. It's the maze behind the Colonial Governor's Palace. Over the years, children and grown ups have preferred getting lost in the tall hedges of the garden maze to getting lost in history. The maze was closed in 1981 to repair the damage done by visitors who rammed through the hedges or climbed over them instead of finding their way around them. The maze today is not quite the challenge it once was, since its hedges are no taller than four or five feet. They used to reach eight feet. Caretakers say it will be another year or so before the maze is back to its optimum height. The maze is relatively modern. It was planted in 1933 in an effort to restore Williamsburg to the way it was--or the way historians believe it was.

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The government says most urban Americans are breathing easier. The Environmental Protection Agency reports that overall, the air in most U.S. cities is cleaner than it has been in years. Anti-pollution programs get the credit. But there are some major exceptions. A study based on data from 1983 shows a 12% increase in ozone levels from the year before. Ozone is a contributor to the smog that's blamed for respiratory problems and eye irritation. The agency says the increase left most metropolitan areas with ozone levels that surpassed federal standards.

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From Puck

Greetings from Ypsilanti, MI! How goes everything in the land of the Field of Bakers? Things here are trying, but tolerable, and I keep hanging on. (Got to!) Anyway, I hadn't had a letter or anything from you people, so I thought I'd prove to you that when someone moves away, you do indeed hear from them! (Gasp! Shock!!) Anyway...

Things here are, as I said, er, typed, so-so. No job, so no cash, but you can't have everything, I guess (HAH!) I have all sorts of applications out, so something's got to come soon! I have a possibility of working at Detroit's Metropolitan Airport as an employee of Republic Airlines if they come to their senses and hire me! (I know, I know... details, details!) I sent them an excellent cover letter and resume, but so far haven't heard anything. Any positive energy would really help, HINT, HINT!!! (OK, OK, so I'm not subtle!)

Hopefully, with this letter, you'll find some money to be a subscriber to the newsletter. If not, it'll come as soon as I either get paid from whatever job I get or can con the money out of one of my relatives! You might want to mention in the next newsletter that I am still desperately seeking correspondence from any and everyone who'd like to write to me!!! Also, if you have anyone who'd like to study in the Craft, I am still trying to organize a study group. They can write to me at PUCK, 1825 Roosevelt, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. I have been trying to keep busy, Craft-wise, and am currently in the process of trying to get some teaching materials together, along with designing a preliminary questionaire for them (hopeful students) to answer, so I can get a better feel for what they do know and what they need to know. Herb and Katrina are going to send me some other material, so that will help. I hope they send it soon, though! I can bs as well as the next person, though, but that's not what I want to do where the Craft is concerned. I have several good books for my future students to read, and there are a few good bookstores in the area where they'll be able to order them, so I'm not worried about that as much. Incidentally, have you seen the new book out by Stewart Farrar, called The Witches Way? I think it's also called A Witches Bible, Vol. 2: The Rituals. The first volume is also called A Witches Bible, but it is also called Eight Sabbats for Witches in hardcover. Both volumes are very good, although why they published the first volume twice is beyond me. Volume Two goes into a lot of detail on just what the Gardnarian/Alexandrian Book of Shadows was/is,

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From Puck (cont.)

and just what Gerald Gardner and Doreen Valiente contributed, as well as the Farrars' thoughts on The Ethics of Witchcraft, Running a Coven, the Rationale of Witchcraft, and many other topics. Both paperback volumes are published by the Magical Childe Publishers at $10.95, and, in my opinion, are definitely worth it!!!

Didn't mean to launch into the books with the other thoughts, but it just turned out that way. You can consider the parts about the books a book review by me.

Craft-wise, things here are very different from California! Ann Arbor, the larger city of Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor area, is pretty laid-back, with a couple of very good occult bookstores, and a few others with fair-to-middlin occult sections, so getting the books I need or want isn't too hard. There are also a few (not too many) stores selling herbs, so that's also not a problem. Statues, however, and incense are a big problem! I checked the phone book on statuary, and found zip-s--t! Incense, in the stick form at least, is available in one or two stores, so it can be had, but not too readily. (Of course, not having any cash coming in limits what I can get, anyway, BUT...)

There is one bookstore here, called the Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, that is run by a lady who turned out to be part of a local Dianic coven here. She is a pretty neat person to talk to, and clued me in to just what the situation is here: in a word, very closed! There are a few covens around here, but there isn't the communication between them like in California. I may take out an ad in the Circle Network News when I get the cash together, to see if I can contact anyone who would like to be my working partner and help get a study group going and eventually become a High Priestess whenever I can get my Third Degree from Herb and Katrina.

I got a letter/invitation to attend the Mountain Meet, but unless a miracle occurs and I get to win the Michigan Lottery, it looks like I won't be there this year. (Slight pause here for a heavy, depressed *****SIGH!!!!!) Oh well, definitely next year!!! Let me know how it turns out!! It sounds like it should really be fun. I may go to the Pan-Pagan Festival this year, though--it's on the other side of the state, but I have a friend here who wants to go to a Pagan Gathering, so hopefully I'll be going there.

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From Puck (cont.)

Have you seen Ladyhawke yet? If not, go and see it! The costumes and cinematography are really good! It's about two lovers who are under a curse by a bishop to remain together but apart--by day, she's a hawk and by night, he turns into a big, black wolf. Matthew Broderick plays Mouse, a thief, who tries to help them lift the curse. The special effects aren't much, but the movie is really good.

I finally got down (and funky!) and started reading the Dune books by Frank Herbert! I've finished the original trilogy, (Dune, Dune Messiah, and Children of Dune) and am in the process of reading/slogging my way through God-Emperor of Dune. Oi! Those books are good, but very slow reading! What helped me on Dune was seeing the movie before reading the book; I could visualize most of the movie and it really helped me get through it. I just had to slog through the others. None of them are less than 200 pages; Dune has at least 600! Good books, though.

I also started to get the Another Fine Myth series by Robert Lynn Asperin. There are about five books in the series, about a demon named Aahz and his apprentice named Skeeve. They are really funny books.

This fall, I'm going back to school to finally get my degree in either history, anthropology, or sociology, with an English writing minor. I'm thinking of also getting my certification in teaching, so I can become either a history or English teacher. I'm really looking forward to going back to school! I'm thinking of putting up a notice around the Anthropology Department about forming a study group. I figure that it'll draw the "right" people there--hopefully, I won't have any nut-cases trying to get in. I can see it now--being the "resident Witch" of the college. That could be a little sticky, though--there are several fundamentalist Xian groups on campus, and they're constantly handing out their Bibles. Oh well, I just say politely, "No, thanks." There is a class that I really want to take; it contrasts modern medical methods with things like the Craft, Spiritualism, and psychic and faith healing. That sounds like a really good class. I really plan to take that class as soon as I see it offered, and if they start making wrong statements about the Craft, I fully intend to set them straight about it! I figure in an Anthropology class, it would make sense to stand up for the Craft. (It makes sense anyway!) Who knows? Maybe in 50 years or so I'll be a famous anthro-

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From Puck (cont.)

pologist like Margaret Murray and so-called "scholars" will refute me and call me a crazy old coot and I'll be as infamous/famous as she was/is!

Well, I'd better get this letter into the mail before the U(seless) S. Post Awful charges me by the pound for it. Give my love to everyone, take care, hang in there, and May the Goddess and God Bless and Protect you always.

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From Barbas

In reference to the May issue of the newsletter--may I suggest that the bickering between pagan folk be done in private? Should we ALL be not more concerned with the image of the craft as a whole than the petty opinions of a few? Must we fight the xians with one hand and our own kind with the other?

We condone love, joy, peace, and respect for our fellows whose ways are different from our own but DO WE LIVE IT??? If Moon Mirror sells her bathsalts or whatever for a thousand dollars a jar, that's her right. If another wants to give those same bathsalts away free--that's her right. I cannot respect another's right to do as they will and then turn right around and criticize them for doing it! THAT'S JUST PLAIN STUPID FOLKS!

My concern is not what was said but where it was said. We are all only human and those times do come when a situation requires that we stand "eyeball to eyeball" and "discuss" issues, but for Goddess sake let's do it behind the barn as it were and not in the middle of Main Street during lunch hour!

I hope you will take these comments in the spirit in which they are given, Dean. I cannot and will not support dissension among pagan folk regardless of the issue. "An It Harm None, Do What Thou Will"... period. The rights of any must not be denied for the opinions of others. Let there be Peace before Principle.

Ed Note (LF): 1. I thought dean made it quite clear that we could give a whig for what people want to do. But just because someone is doing what they will does not mean we

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Editorial Reply to Barbas (cont.)

have to condone it or do it ourselves, or tacitly give approval when we think it inappropriate for our humble little publication. Bath salts, by the way, are a bit far from the issue--selling rituals for money. We will never, never, NEVER condone rituals for money, but far be it from us to prohibit someone else from offering such services. Just don't do it through the GNL. 2. Far be it from the editorial staff of the GNL to play ostrich. How else do our readers gain an understanding of our mutual perspectives and basis for networking without debating an issue here and there? 3. We don't bicker. If you don't like what we stand for and we can't agree to disagree, we won't argue. We don't force our way into anyone's house. As for dirty laundry--well, as far as I'm concerned, this is not a personality conflict or an internal coven problem, so I don't see it as dirty laundry. However, I think we've about worn the issue to rags and therefore I am ready to retire it... until next time. 4. As for peace before principle--let's work for both. I believe one cannot have peace without principle, although there is a wealth of evidence that principle remains as a rock in the quagmire of modern society. To set one before the other is like setting the cart before the horse. The Threefold Law is a principle--a ticket to the peace you--we--seek.

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From Jana in Canyon Country

The Centre for the Throne of Isis Aset and the Sanctuary of the Healer, a Sister Centre of the Fellowship of Isis, is now open and operating in our new location, and we welcome any inquiries and correspondence. We are hoping in the near future to establish an outdoor Shrine to the Goddess which will be open to the Pagan Community. We are also providing holistic or positive energy healing for animals as part of our Centre duties. The Centre is actively seeking informaiton on all facets of different Pagan traditions, and we would appreciate receiving any newsletters, publications or information your group has to offer. If you have subscriptions, please send information on that as well. I appreciate some groups' reluctance to give out information to people they don't know, and I welcome your inquiries into my intentions. Jana Galadriel*Centre for the Throne of Isis Aset, P. O. Box 2143, Canyon Country, CA 91351

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Religion in the News

(AP) A high priestess of witchcraft fears animal mutilations being blamed on Satanists are giving white witches a bad name. To ward off the evil, her coven has begun incantations, she says. "I was outraged," Lady Brigid Cox said, referring to reports that Satanic worshipers may be responsible for many of the more than 200 animal killings over the past year in rural Union County, 20 miles northwest of Columbus, OH. "Those idiots are taking the lives of other animals. I just think that's wrong. Our universal law is not to hurt other living beings," said Cox, who describes herself as a high priestess of the Temple of Wicca, a non-profit religious organization of witches. Lady Brigid is her religious name and Cox is her maiden name. She asked not to be identified further. Cox, who lives in Columbus with her husband and two children, said she and about 10 members of her coven have begun incantations to ward off what they belive is evil magic being worked in Union County. In the past year, more than 200 animals have been killed there, many of them showing evidence of ritual torture and mutilation, according to Sheriff John Overly. "Animals have a life, a purpose for being here, that Satanists don't have a right to take away," Cox said. "We are asking (our gods and goddesses) that these people be stopped, apprehended and successfully prosecuted." She said she is particularly concerned because Wicca followers are often confused with Satanists. Although Wicca witches believe in magic and spells, they work for good instead of evil and never sacrifice animals, she said. Wicca is a pagan, nature-oriented religion based on the worship of gods and goddesses from ancient mythology.

ed. Note (LF): Three cheers for Lady Brigid.

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Jerry Falwell says he no longer believes the U.S. is a "Christian republic." In a debate with Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum of the American Jewish Committee, Falwell said that 25 years ago, many fundamentalists were making the claim that America was a christian nation. "Now," he says, "we say Judeo-christian republic." "There is a spirit of pluralism that did not exist then," Falwell adds, saying the movement has had our excesses "and we can only say we're sorry and we'll try to do better." Norman Lear, founding chairman of People for the American Way, says he welcomes Falwell's disavowal, calling it "a clear victory for those of us who have been fighting to protect the all of separation between church and state."

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From J. Shepard in Santa Ana

Hello! How are you doing? It's been warm here. Everything is getting ready for Summer. The flowers and trees are very beautiful.

I collected some interesting facts on earthquakes I'd like to share with you. Jan. 26th and 27th in Argentina a major earthquake, 6 dead, 110 injured, and minor earthquakes just south of Utah-Idaho border. Chile's earthquake, major, and minor earthquakes in Santa Monica, CA and Palm Springs, CA March 26th in Bishop, 5.4 felt in Fresno. March 28th Japan 6.8. April 2nd Santa Paulo 4.5 felt in Ventura and LA April 7th Thousand Oaks, CA 3.0. April 17th north of Sacramento 3.0. April 18, China 6.3. May 6th Taft, CA 4.6 near you in Bakersfield wasn't it?

As of yesterday Diablo is 100% active. It cost 3 times what was expected and they expect the people to foot the bill! Could Mother Earth be trying to warn us of the disaster coming? We must all unite to help heal the Earth or She will heal Herself! and it will be too late for us and Her creatures.

Just something to think about.... Have a wonderful Spring and Summer.

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From Vicki in OK

All goes well at Silver Acorn Circle. Beltane was our first outdoor Sabbat and it went very well. Things are hectic as usual, so I'll be brief. Tomorrow is a work day. I'll write more later.

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Gathering

Ravenbow craft concert and healing of the earth, Sunday, June 9th, 8-11 p.m. For info call RAVENBOW at (415)540-6649. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. Bring vegetable/flower seeds for the healing ritual. The door will be closed promptly at 8:30 for the healing ritual which will take 30-45 minutes. The door will then be re-opened. Do not bring foodstuffs or alcohol. A restaurant and beer/wine bar is on the premises. Sliding scale donation $4.00 and up. Funds will go to recording costs for a RAVENBOW album to raise land-fund money for BENNU SOCIETY. No tape recorders, please!

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Review of The Druids' Progress from dean

Would you care to observe the birth of a new religion? That is what you are invited to do by P.E.I. Bonewits in his latest publication, The Druids' Progress. The DP will be printed approximately four times yearly, edited by P.E.I. Bonewits. Its function is to serve as the organ for 'Ar ndraiocht fein' ("ADF"), the religion Mr. Bonewits proposes to found. The Irish expression means "Our own Druidism." The founder hopes it will manifest itself as a not only Pan-Celtic, but pan-European tradition seminally based on the scholarship of Georges Dumexil, Stuart Piggott, and Anne Russ which will evolve into an Indo-European Paleopagan clergy. Their liturgical language will be modern Irish.

The Druids' Progress reports are xeroxed dot matrix type sheets. The two issues we received were physically well done; attractive and except for the occasional dot matrix Irish Gaelic type, easy to read. With exposure, the dot matrix Gaelic may begin to flow more smoothly through the reading faculty. It is kind of pretty.

Report #1 is 30 pages. It is mostly P.E.I.B.'s ideas on what the new druidism should and should not be. Report #2 is almost twice as long. I did not count the pages and they are not numbered consecutively throughout. In #2 the editor introduces the "'zine" idea. It is apparently a phenomena borrowed from science fiction buffs and what it amounts to is that you pay to get your letters circulated.

The founder/editor proposes to make this a scholarly research publication, a most admirable and challenging direction to steer. At this point, I should perhaps mention some of the topics the DP hopes to explore: "What does it mean to be a Druid in the 1980's?..."How do we create rituals and fellowship, art and music, polytheologies and lifestyles that will give meaning to our lives and those of others." "Why did the clergy caste remain powerful among the Celts... and so weak among the Germans?... "What were the precise training methods used to transmit the orgal literature of the clergy caste?" "Do the Vedic and Irish sources provide enough data to reconstruct these techniques?"

Some of the things DP is not interested in are: "theories about a universal ancient matriarchy, discussions assuming the supposed antiquity of Neopagan Witchcraft, ravings about "Aryanism," colorful tales about "shamanism" using the

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Review of The Druids' Progress (cont.) from dean

word in its currently vague and sloppy meaning, historical essays that take Graves, Spence, Stone or Morganwy seriously as sources... "

To find out where P. E. I. Bonewits 'comes from,' you might look over his book, Real Magic. He is also mentioned by Margot Adler in her book, Drawing Down the Moon.

For those of you who have been around the pagan community for a while and can afford the subscription rate, this could prove to be worthwhile reading. Subscriptions are currently $20 per year. All subscriptions expire Samhain each year. If you subscribe you receive everything printed that year, not necessarily the next four issues.

There are a few items in reference to The Druids' Progress which do concern me slightly: both reports 1 and 2 begin with special thanks to Gavin and Yvonne Frost for their assistance; but, that may be a plus from the perspective of some. Of course, there are included elsewhere advertisements for their school of wicca. Report #2 begins with a letter from the ArchDruid which looks forward to the day it is possible "... to develop the Neopagan community to the point where we can support full time clergy people." As a Berkeley graduate, P.E.I.B. interprets much of religion in political terms. This, too, is a matter of taste, but I find it curls my lips a little. So, on the dean scale of 'barf' to 'warm and fuzzy' this rates a 'let's wait and see.'

A scholarly Neopagan journal for $20 would be quite a bargain. I (again indicating a matter of taste) would like to see more legitimate research and sharing of sources as we relearn our mutual pasts on many levels. But, if you subscribe this year, half of the issues you receive will not contain much research. You might want them, though, to help you form an opinion of the editorial framework later research will be showcased against. We wish you well, Isaac.

Make checks and money orders out to "P. E. I. Bonewits," Box 456, New York, NY 10034.

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Being a Witch is... (from Delana)

...being amazed at how many times I can stumble and fall along my path and not break something important.

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For the Birds

AP-Instead of bulls and bears, the stockbrokers at a downtown office in the western Massachusetts city of Pittsfield were confronted Friday with a wild turkey. "He came in off the street. He just ran through the open door and right between the legs of one of the brokers sitting at his desk," said Jennifer White, a financial analyst at the Shearson-American Express office. "He was beautiful, but really big and scared. We were glad he stayed under the desk."

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For ages untold, the stork has delivered human babies, or so they say. Now there's a problem with stork babies. There aren't enough of them and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has put the long-legged bird on the endangered species list. The American species of the bird--the wood stork--lives in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama. The government says the drop in the stork population is greatly due to human manipulation of water tables through building drainage canals and levees. It says lumbering of cypress trees that offer nesting habitats is another reason.

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An El Segundo man who shot a hawk because he wanted to capture it and mate it with a chicken has been fined and placed on probation in Mojave. The man was placed on three years probation and fined $361 by the east Kern Municipal Court. The judge also ordered the man to surrender his .22 caliber rifle to the court. The man was arrested west of Rosamond after he shot the hawk as it was perched atop a pole. He told arresting officers he wanted to capture the hawk so he could breed it with a chicken to produce a more aggressive fighting bird. The hawk was wounded in the wing.

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Didja Know? (UPI)

According to a Scandinavian Myth, how was the world formed?

The story says the first living being, Ymir, was born from melting ice and nursed by a cow. After he died, his body became the land, his blood the seas, his skull the heavens and his bones the mountains.

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From Rik in Tucson

Just a short note to let you know that I will be at Seagirt, New Jersey with the Air Force from 27 July to 10 August of this year. Am looking forward to meeting any eastern witches in that area. So far, I don't have my Seagirt address yet but will send it to you when it arrives next month. In the meantime, anyone wishing to visit while I am there is free to let me know ahead of time through my Tucson P. O. Box (Box 40451, Tucson, AZ 85717).

Regarding the correction that you made in the first physics article, you are correct. I tend to think faster than I can type and so mistakes do pop out at times. Feel free to continue to correct them as they are found.

The next Free U class starts in July and we have already had a couple of inquiries regarding registration. Data to follow.

The Coven (half of us at least) travelled north to celebrate Beltane with a former Covener and her husband whom we haven't seen in a year. She was promoted to second degree and as we were the guests, the ex-patriates were HP and HPs. They spent a good part of the time asking their 'parent coven' what to do next. To which I replied, "You've been doing this by yourselves for a year now and you have a natural talent so do what you feel is right." It was an extremely enjoyable weekend and I had forgotten just how good a cook she was, so we made her promise to visit us next time.

Anyone know anything about Farrar's new books, The Witches Ways and Witches Bible and Rituals? All I know is that they exist and if they are half as good as their two other books, What Witches Do and Eight Sabbats for Witches they will be worth owning.

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From UPI

If you think "We are the World" has been marketed in every format possible, think again. There already are "We are the World" records, tapes, videocassettes, t-shirts, sweatshirts, posters, books, and buttons. Now there's a version of the album on compact disc. Polygram Records says the digita-ly mastered discs will be in stores by mid-June. Proceeds from the disc, like all other U.S.A. for Africa merchandise, will benefit the hungry in Africa and the United States.

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Physics of Magick Part II (Basic Wave Theory) by Rik in Tucson

Current data indicates that matter doesn't exist! All that you think is solid is an illusion or 'sticky energy.' Thus there exists nothing but electro-magnetic energy, called henceforth--energy. This energy exists in what is called a wave-form. That is, it moves up and down like an ocean wave or the ripples in a pond. This is a misnomer as TV and the printed media teaches us to think in two-dimensional concepts, and this is a more-than-two-dimensional world. A more accurate description is a stretched out slinky or an electro-magnetic coil. The more stretched out the slinky, the less energy so the coil spectrum (a chart of energy) starts out with cosmic rays that are so small that it takes 1,000,000,000,000,000 of them to fill a yardstick. As they lose energy and become stretched out, they become gamma rays, then x-rays, ultraviolet, visible light, infra-red heat, microwaves, TV, FM, AM, Long radio waves, ESP, PK where the distance from one coil to another is the distance from Tucson to Tokyo.

These waves have a number of interesting properties. First of all, they can be detected only by an antenna that is set for their wavelength. Thus a wave that is 10 meters can be detected by a radio antenna but not our eyes that only have a receptive area of a fraction of an inch. Visible light has a wavelength of about 4,700 to 6,700 Å (an Å is so small a distance that 10,000,000 of them can fit in the space between the 'w' and the 'h' in the word 'wavelength'). If what I am describing sounds inconsistent, remember that I am over-simplifying for the sake of brevity. The basic idea is that you can't fit a long wave into a short wave antenna any more than you can fit a football team into a Volkswagen. This is why you can't build a mind reading device because the antenna would have to be some 60 miles long/tall. Actually, there is a way to do that, but I'm not talking.

Second, anything that can detect these waves of whatever wavelength will be affected by them. A TV detects them and produces an effect, i.e., the picture. The eyes detect their own waves and produce the effect of sight. You detect the aura of another and are affected by it.

Third, they lose strength over time and distance. There is a simple mathematical formula that describes this and is called the inverse square ratio. $e=1/d^2$. This means that if you start out with 100 watts of power, and at one mile

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Physicks of Magick, Part II (cont.) by Rik in Tucson

it measures at 50 watts, then if you double the distance to 2 miles, you halve the energy to 50 watts. So at the point of origin, e=100 watts. At one mile, e=50 watts. At 2 miles, e=25 watts, at 3 miles, e=12 watts, and so on. This can be placed on a graph that shows the same for time, radiation energy, and almost any other situation.

As you can see, the energy never reaches zero. However, it may become too faint to see or detect. Exactly the same situation stands for time. The longer you wait, the less energy is received according to this formula.

Fourth, since everyone is broadcasting the same energy (did you think only Witches had energy?), you have a background of static to go through. Turn on your TV when the station goes off the air. You don't get a blank screen which is what would happen if there wasn't anything there, instead, you see snow and hear a hissing which is all the stars and the earth and the other stations giving off energy on that channel. All the TV station does is send out so much power that they drown out the static. That is what a Witch does, s/he sends out so much disciplined power that s/he drowns out the static that everyone else is broadcasting. Unfortunately, the static becomes stronger than the Witch over distance and time. This static level varies according to your environment. American electricity operates on the same frequency as the human nervous system so if you are near a power line or in a city or have a lot of electrical equipment on in your Covenstead (like TV, refrigerator, air conditioner, radio, microwave, etc.) the energy along those wires will raise the static level in your vicinity to drown your spell out even before your start. This is why we use candles for light and turn off all the outside equipment and often worship outside away from the city.

Fifth, this power can be synched. If you have two generators (witches) who are working in complete harmony and can balance their power with each other (see part IV for details), their power will balance and strengthen each other. If they are in oposition or not balanced, their power cancels each other out. In simple terms, Witch A has 100 watts on 0 degrees phase (note, the first person you check is the basis for all other measurements), and Witch B has 95 watts of power at 180 degrees phase, the resultant power is only 5 watts. They have almost cancelled out each other. But if they are using a good balancing technique, they can alter their

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Physics of Magick, Part II (cont.) by Rik

phase so that they are both on 0 degrees of phase and their power will be added to each other and so will be about 200 watts. If they are only 45 degrees out of phase, the result will be a strange energy curve that has a maximum of 100 watts but changes to 0 and then up and down as the curve progresses. This is why Covens are traditionally selective and explains why the anti-rape spell mentioned earlier backfired. This Coven had a habit of initiating anyone that they could drag in, including esoteric christians.

Sixth, this power can be phased. This means that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. That is, if the Coven is in harmony and can balance its power, Witch A may have 100 watts, Witch B may have 90 watts, and Witch C may have 103 watts, but together they don't have 293 watts, but the power phases to possibly 600 watts. I don't have the formula to work this out in detail but I suspect that the power of the individual witches is not added together but is multiplied together which normally gives the power to push the static threshold down to the floor.

Seventh, this energy can be tied to a carrier. In communications terms, high frequency waves travel a short distance before they reach static threshold. Low frequency waves can travel a long distance before reaching their static level. If you take a TV wave and feed it through an AM radio of the same power, the signal will travel farther than normal. The problem is that the signal is gibberish and has to have the AM wave filtered out at the reception end to see the original TV wave intact. This signal can also be tied in to a material object to be 'held' for a while or the object can be carried to its destination where the signal can be released at almost the original power peak. In magickal terms, you can charge a talisman to accomplish a desired goal, send it to someone and the energy will be released by touch or time or need, depending on how it was charged. You can also charge an amulet 180 degrees out of phase of the force (ex. anti-rape charm is charged 180 degrees out of phase set to release when the 'energy field of a rapist' approaches. The charm will then discharge and the rapist will bypass you) attacking, usually without your knowledge. How this happens can be described in part 5 when I cover possession curses and the atomic structure of material objects.

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Physics of Magick, Part II (cont.) by Rik

Eighth, this energy can be packed together so tightly that it has all of the characteristics of matter. That is, if you pack a lot of these waves together, and you have a quanta. Pack a lot of quanta together and you have a photon, which is a bundle of energy that has the unusual property of having mass. Then you simply keep working your way up until you have protons, electrons, positrons, etc. Once you have done this, you have a 'material manifestation' or a tangible thoughtform. Since this takes a lot of energy (Einstein quotes the famous formula $E=mc^2$) usually what you have is a partial manifestation that can influence the em field of the target and can be perceived by those who can 'adjust' their antennae or who 'have psychic ability.'

To conclude, there is only one energy in the universe. This energy appears to be different depending on how much power it has or the distance between wave crests. It can be produced, broadcast, and received by people. It can and will affect whatever can receive it. It loses power but this power can be increased and sent out in many ways and finally, it can resemble material objects.

Ed note: (dean) Really thought provoking, Rik. Would like to see you expand on some of this if you find the time. I want to be sure we are tracking the same. Correct me if I am wrong, if an energy source emits 100 watts at origin and 50 watts at one mile, then at 2 miles $e=1/2^2= 1/4$ or 25 watts, at 3 miles $e=1/3^2=1/9$ or 11.111.... Surprisingly, a number of measurable phenomena vary in strength according to the reciprocal or the square. How do we make the equation true for time instead of distance? Do we define T as T= d/186,000,000? Keep us on our toes by giving us food for thought.

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Didja know...? (URI)

Just about everyone has heard of the infamous pirate known as "Blackbeard." But do you know his real name?

The real name of Blackbeard the Pirate, who for two years in the 18th Century ruled over a socialistic utopian community on the island of Madagascar, was Edward Teach. He died in 1718 in hand-to-hand combat with a British naval officer.

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Who wazzit?

Who wazzit that prayed:

Mother of Aeneas and his race, delight of men and gods, life-giving Venus, it is your doing that under the wheeling constellations of the sky all nature teems with life, both the sea that buoys up our ships and the earth that yields our food. Through you all living creatures are conceived and come forth to look upon the sunlight. Before you the winds flee, and at your coming the clouds forsake the sky. For you the inventive earth flings up sweet flowers. For you the ocean levels laugh, the sky is calmed and glows with diffused radiance. When first the day puts on the aspect of spring, when in all its force the fertilizing breath of Zephyr is unleashed, then, great goddess, the birds of air give the first intimation of your entry; for yours is the power that has pierced them to the heart. Next the cattle run wild, frisk through the lush pastures and swim the swift-flowing streams. Spell-bound by your charm, they follow your lead with fierce desire. So throughout seas and uplands, rushing torrents, verdurous meadows and the leafy shelters of the birds, into the breasts of one and all you instill alluring love, so that with passionate longing they reproduce their several breeds.

Since you alone are the guiding power of the universe and without you nothing emerges into the shining sunlit world to grow in joy and loveliness, yours is the partnership I seek..."

Who wazzit? Lucretius (100-55 BCE) in his work On the Nature of the Universe.

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Didja know? (from Delana)

Did you know, not only did Mercury invent the lyre and the flute, but also that ever popular and timeless instrument, that's right, you guessed it, the SYRINX. If you haven't played with yours lately or just can't put your finger on it in your favorite music store, it consists of a series of hollow tubes of different lengths. (See diagram left.)

The player blows into or across the open upper ends of the pipes. Your powers of visualization come in handy here since I can't draw.

Also known as Pandaen Pipes, they can be a real hit at any well done bacchanal.

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The 'Nuff Said' Department of Witches and Money from Tarostar

Why is it many consider the topic of Craft and Coven finances to be anathema? Who provides the space, food, candles, incense, water, electricity, etc., etc., etc. for groups to meet?

It turns out one or two dedicated souls in the Craft have to play Patron to a group of free-loaders who show up for Sabbat for the after Circle party.

The High Priest and/or High Priestess knock themselves out getting all ready for the ceremony, seeing to food and refreshments, casting the Circle, performing the worship Rites and everything else.

The so-called "Coven" simply stands around in Circle, chewing gum, waiting for the whole silly thing to be over, so they can light up their joints and socialize. Most of them have very little knowledge of, nor care for, nor dedication to the Old Religion. Who needs such Covens?

When persons of such ilk are asked to help with the needs for the group, as a whole, they become scarce as hen's teeth.

The Craft should not leave the burden of the entire Coven expenses to be carried by a few. It must be a common shared responsibility.

If some of the High Priesthood would rather shell out themselves, than rock the boat by requiring contributions from the Coven, they are insecure and simply paying for an audience at their ceremonies. Who needs such a High Priesthood? Their theatrics would be better served in a local Little Theater group.

It is the experience of Circle of Starmeadow, and has worked out quite well, to require $100.00 per year for all persons of 1^{o} - IV^{o} participating in Coven activities, as annual dues to defray the cost of holding Sabbats and Esbats.

One partakes only if one contributes, not otherwise.

A bank account called Coven Common Funds is administered by the High Priesthood and elected Officers of the Coven. Periodic financial statements are given to the Coven Council and all expenses and deposits are kept up to date.

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Witches and Money (cont.) from Tarostar

Members also may make money for themselves through the employ of the Craft Art Magical, as long as they do so only in a positive and constructive manner and donate a percentage to the Coven Common Funds.

The Coven trained them, taught them and provides their place of worship and communion with God/Goddess. It deserves to be maintained and helped along.

If the Old Gods mean no more to you than after Circle socializing, why hold Sabbat at all? Just get together with your group for a party and leave the God/Goddess out of it.

This does not mean we are morbit and dire at Starmeadow, just fair and practical.

Love, laughter and good cheer attend upon any Rites to honor the Old Gods. But that does not mean we are required to bankrupt ourselves to provide good cheer for the Coven. It must provide its own financial basis.

Participants partake and contribute willingly to share the needs of a common religious tradition.

Gamesters and the uncommitted and the phoney soon give us a wide, wide berth.

Now, I know many of you are going to scream that we sound like any of the more "Establishment" religious denominations, by expecting money for the Coven.

Money is the sacrificial substance of this day and age.

In the Times of the Ancient Temples to the Old Gods, people brought food stuff, produce, coins, and labor to contribute to the Temple, each according to what he/she was able, in order to keep the Temple functioning and properly staffed.

It was a Community effort.

Modern Wiccans talk a good story about belonging to the "Pagan Community" but turn off when the Covenstead light bill needs to be paid.

So many good newsletters come and go in the Wiccan/Pagan "Community" off and on over the years. That is because not enough financial effort is made to keep them functioning. The few dedicated ones burn out.

(cont. next page)

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More on Witches and Money (cont.) from Tarostar

I would like to see the Georgian continue, because it has been one of the very few that has survived so long. Even Llewellyn gave up on the excellent Gnostica Newsletter, and they are a large publishing house.

The persons who publish the Georgian should not have to pussyfoot around about questions of money needed to keep them going. I cringe each time I see how uncomfortable Dean seems to be in his mention of financial needs for the Georgian. Hey, Buddy, lay it on where its at! I hate that 'nuff said' business. He seems to be uncomfortable, because he would be afraid how you, the reading public, may react to a request for financial aid.

We Wiccans do not run TV telethons for money a la 700 Club. We do not pass a plate at our Sabbats for contributions, we do not wring every penny we can for "Building Fund Drives." We do not allow our High Priesthood to wear and purchase diamond rings and fancy cars at Coven expense.

But we should be sensible enough to know it takes money to make the world go around and our Covens are no exceptions.

Do not expect those of us who serve you and the Craft in a Supply capacity, in a religious and ceremonial capacity, and in an informative and publishing capacity, to have to live less than poverty level, so you can feel Wicca is not money hungry and greedy like the Xtian Clergy.

Someone recently said money is on Man's level, but Religion is on God/Goddess level and the two should not mix. BS!

God/Goddess are abundant and fertile with all the blessings of life. Where do they espouse poverty and want as a virtue?

If you are a Witch, put your money where your mouth is and help your Coven group effort along. If you will not, GET THEE HENCE! Who needs you?

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Didja hear about...?

...the new restaurant on the moon? Good food, no atmosphere.

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People (UPI)

Second degree murder charges have been filed in Santa Monica against a Christian Scientist couple whose infant son died last year of acute meningitis. Prosecutors say the 17 month old boy died because his parents Eliot and Lise Glaser took him to a faith healer instead of a doctor. Last month, the Glasers were ordered to stand trial on charges of involuntary manslaughter and child endangering. But in a new criminal complaint, the L.A. District Attorney's Office charged the couple with a more severe crime, second-degree murder is punishable by up to 15 years to life in prison.

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The siege began when MOVE members refused to be evicted. A shootout ensued and police dropped a concussion-type bomb on the row house. The result was a fire that destroyed 60 homes and left 250 people homeless and at least five dead. Authorities say firefighters didn't work to extinguish the blaze right away because MOVE members were shooting at them. Mayor Wilson Goode says if he had to make the decision over again, he would do the same thing. He says the fire was an accident and the whole thing "could have been much worse." He says the original plan called for the use of tear gas and water cannons to remove a rooftop bunker from the fortified house. Goode also says the city had information that the group had built tunnels, had explosives, and intended to blow up the entire block. One man who lost his home called the ruins of his house "a classic example of citizens being ignored by their government." The American Civil Liberties Union labeled the use of the bombing "a reckless action representing the worst kind of excessive use of police force." What do you think? Were Philadelphia authorities justified in what they did? The MOVEhouse was fortified with steel plate and had a bunker on the roof. Police were being shot at. How should police have handled the situation to evict the group while protecting themselves and the property of other people in the neighborhood?

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Being a Witch is... (From Puck in MI)

...that frightening feeling when you realize that instead of the Goddess taking over the HPs, it turns out to be the spirit of Joan Crawford... ("NO MORE WIRE SCOURGES...EVER!!!!)

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Communion from Silverstag

Oh, to be bourne on the tide of Power,
carried hither and thither without care;
indeed, beyond the need to care, or need.
To be tempest tossed and careened about
by Powers too vast to comprehend.
To be the tempest, in all its raging splendor.
To be the Power, and to fill and permeate all,
for all is contained within the vastness
that is me, us, we, I; alpha-omega,
beginning and end and always.
I am lost in the flow; everywhere, everything,
every time, every which way.
I am home; joyous reunion of myself with me;
of a part with the whole from which it came and
to which it must return, and from which it can
never be truly separated as long as
anything/everything exists.

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From Ima

It was but a dream... or was it?

Unseen hands led me, gently, firmly, through misty corridors,
while from all sides echoed sounds, music, if you will,
of ages past and ages yet to come.

A turn, and from the distance beckoned the light, reaching
out, engulfing me in its warm radiance. So brilliant, so
dazzling, soft and welcoming. Eyes closed against the brilliance,
the gentle hands led me closer to the source from whence
came the light. Did I dare to gaze upon it?

We paused, the hands withdrew, yet, were still there at
my side, outstretched, reassuring. Another step, and from
within and without, vibrating, echoing, came the soft command,
"Look. And Know."

Slowly my eyes opened. There before them, beauty indescribable.
A stone. A jewel which could never be held by the hand
of man.

The magnificent gem pulsed, breathed, lived. From the
center came the light, not one beam, but rays beyond number.
Reaching out, touching all.

(cont. next page)

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From Ima (cont.)

As I gazed upon it, the light softened, and I saw what I could not see through the brilliance. It was not one jewel before me, but countless stones, together making the whole. The center stone, clear, pure, flawless, the others swirling around it, numbers ever changing, reflecting its light as their own, adding their hues to the pulsing beam.

The light flared, reached out, engulfing, absorbing, and I became one with it. Gently it drew me to its center. Here was Light, Love, and something I could not name. Slowly, then faster and faster, I began whirling, spiraling outward. The light became not one, but a kaleidoscope of colors as I entered the ring of circling gems. As I passed through them, I saw that each was not just color, but also form. An island, white marble gleaming through lush greens. Peasants dancing in a field beneath a shimmering moon. A young maiden, kneeling at her teacher's side. Golden crowns reflecting the sun's rays on desert sands. Pyramids, reaching for the stars. Tall stones, standing in a ring. Quiet men, bent over ancient scrolls. Red men, chanting songs of praise to Earth and Sky. A gypsy woman, gazing into a palm. Men of all races gazing into the heavens, charting movements there. A Druid by a great fire. An oriental holding a fistful of sticks, another holding stones. Open fields, forest clearings, great temples, mud huts. A deck of cards, a crystal ball, a bowl of water. Horns and acorns. Twinkling stars. Blazing sun. Silvery moon. Soft chants, beating drums. Figures, silent, robed, joyous, nude. Great lords and ladies, simple folk in thatched cottages. A great owl, a honey bee. A bent figure, gathering herbs. A healer, hands outstretched. Creatures great and small. Books. Voices. Silence. Male. Female.

Sights, sounds, beyond measure, beyond memory. Spinning eternally.

I stood again before the stone. Each gem shone with its own light, the hues of those swirling with it, and the pure light of the center stone. And as I gazed they became, again, as one....

Hands touched mine and we returned from whence we came.

I had looked, I had seen, Do I know....

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WITCHES DO WHAT?

Gee, I really thought this was a good idea. Still do. I understand how it goes. You finally get pen to paper only to find you are right-handed and it is a left-handed pen. Some days are like that. I do have one to offer:

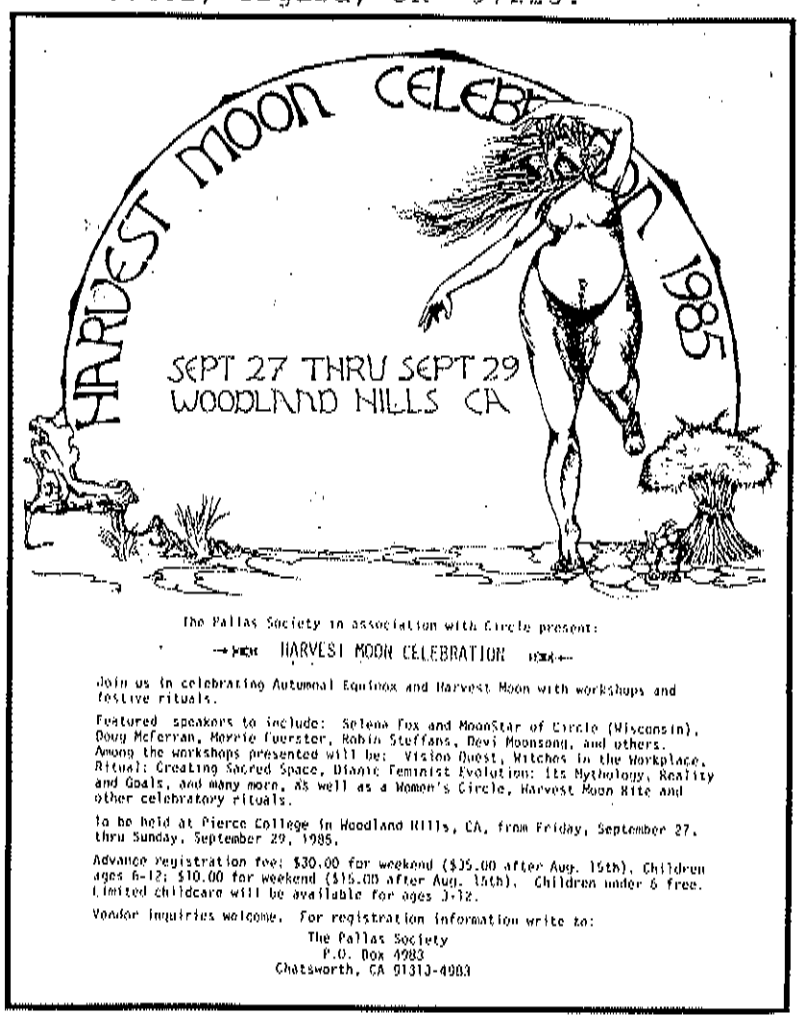
OCCULT PRACTITIONER'S CATALOG $2.00 refundable. Available from Tarostar; 125 N. Bruce St.; Las Vegas, NV 89101.

And, his WITCH'S FORMULARY AND SPELLBOOK is out. Lady Fauna will review it for us next month. But if you are anxious, it is $6.95 and available from Original Publications; 2486 Webster Ave; Bronx, NY 10458.

How about it? I know personally that there are more of you that are talented and offer worthwhile goods or services.

CONTACTS

Oregon. The New Wiccan Church of Oregon like to hear from good pagans and witches. You can write them at: NWC of Oregon; P.O. Box 230401; Tigard, OR 97223.



Michigan. Puck is organizing a Craft study group. Address is 1825 Roosevelt; Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

If you want to be listed as a contact, drop us a card.

If you write requesting information of those who list themselves in WITCHES DO WHAT? or CONTACTS, be considerate and enclose some postage or an SASE.

From dean

Do I owe you anything? I am far from caught up, but it must be time to order more tunnel; there are moments when I almost think I see light. If I have not responded to a request

From dean (contd)

you have made or if I have not sent the tape I promised, I still promise; but it may be a good time to rattle my cage now. Since our Lady Fauna is here full time finally ...Hooray!... you can rest assured efficiency will be up and response time way down.

Ross has asked we announce that he is selling his collection of knives and swords. If interested, call (805) 872-0774 here in Bakersfield.

Angie Remedi has released a cassette tape and booklet of songs and chants celebrating Mother Earth. Price is $10.00 from Terra Bella Productions; PO Box 67332; Los Angeles, CA 90067.

Remember the pagan studies contest. Entries must be postmarked no later than 21 June 1985. The only big difference between a good letter and a research paper is that when you say,"there were fourteen moons circling the Earth and the Gods walked among men operating fire concessions several eons ago," you note whether you learned it in Smedley;s Encyclopedia, Ms. Wither's lectures on fly fishing, or it was revealed to you in a dream.

AD RATES are $20 for 1/2 page; a full page is $36. Advertisements must be camera ready. We reserve the privilege of declining to carry any ad which we deem inappropriate for these pages.

Well, if I fouled up and left anything out of this edition, it will just have to wait for another moon, because that is about it for this month, friends.

In order to be good at anything, one need only be a little better each time.

Keep a positive spirit.

Love, be loved, and enjoy it.

Blessed Be,

dean, Lady Fauna, fur folks, and all the Georgians

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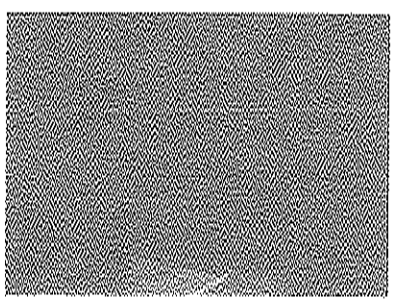

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