GEORGIAN NEWSLETTER The Georgian Church July 1985
1908 Verde
Bakersfield, CA 93304

Bakersfield--It's summer in Bakersfield--with temperatures over 100° for most of the past two weeks. Everyone here has been busy cleaning the temple and canning. Delana and Elizabeth came over and helped put up thirteen jars of plum jam--the plums came from the tree in the back yard. We've got more squash than we can eat and freeze. Anyone out there got any receipes that call for lots of summer squash? Elizabeth reports that Morgan assisted Magic in delivering five new kittens. I guess with ten cats it's safe to call Elizabeth's home a cathouse.... Delana is wet nursing new puppies and brought lovely flowers (as did Elizabeth) for Solstice. Dean and Lady Fauna conducted the Solstice ritual and we missed Don, who was at the Mountain Meet and gives the following lovely report:

Talk about your whirlwind weekend. The Mountain Meet this year was a dynamo of action and lovely sights. The theme and dress was medieval, which made all the rituals a treat for the eyes. I arrived at 3:00 p.m. Saturday. Many people had been there since Wednesday. I questioned several reliable sources about what went on prior to my arrival, and all agreed that except for an odd hour or two of sleep here and there, the fun had not stopped since people started arriving. Shortly after arriving, I was soundly greeted by many friends, new and old. After a brief bout of talking, I was treated to a veritable whirlwind of events. In the course of the evening between 5:00 and 9:00, I saw two wiccanings, a lovely handfasting, the ritual blessing (which raised the hair on the back of my neck clear across camp when the power was released), a class on basic magic, a large campfire with music and dance. The campfire started at around 9:00 and never went out all night long. It was a gathering true to the Pagan Way. Wild! My hearty thanks to the two male dancers who reminded us what two full moons over a pagan fire can do to start a party. The following Sunday (for most this rather blended in with Saturday night) was a time for sharing one last meal, packing, and farewells. I stayed with a few friends well into the evening, sharing and remembering the experiences of what was to me at least, all too short a time at the Mountain Meet.

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

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To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart.

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Our Pagan Studies Contest Winner!!!!

Moneta by Hugh Kramer

We've all heard how we Americans worship the Almighty Dollar. For many of us, this is undoubtedly true. I've never seen any American bow down to his billfold and offer sacrifices to it though. This, however, was not an unusual behavior for the ancient Romans.

On many a sestertius or denarius (Roman coins), the figure of a beautiful woman would appear. In one arm she carries a cornucopia; with the other she holds a balance. This is Moneta, Goddess of the Mint. From her name we have gotten the word "money." Her appearance on the coin was a testament to its value and the blessings of the goddess.

Originally, Moneta began as an aspect of the chief goddess, Juno, sister and spouse of Jove. It is said that Juno counselled the Romans to undertake none but just wars, promising that in that case, they should never want for money. In honor of this promise, the Romans established their mint in Juno's temple and that is where all their coins were made. Juno Moneta is but one "numen" or aspect of the goddess among many. The concept of numen has no direct corollary in modern religion but refers to a divine will or godhead distinct and worthy of worship on its own. Juno had many aspects like Juno Augusta (Juno of the Empress), Juno Conservatrix (Juno the Preserver), and Juno Lucinae (Juno, Proctector of Childbirth). Each aspect had its own temples and worship. On Roman coins, the name Moneta only or sacra moneta (sacred mint) was all that was used. "Moneta," therefore, gradually came to mean money and to "Moneta" prayers were offered.

The Romans were in many ways no different from the people of today. They laughed at similar jokes, told similar lies, and had hopes and dreams not much different from those of you or I. A worshipper of Moneta, like the wealthy merchant of Pompeii who had the tasteless greeting "salve lucrum" (Hello, profit!) on a mosaic in his entryway, is little different from the nouveaux-riche of today who flaunt their wealth as garishly as they can. The Moneta worshipper of then and the money worshipper of now have quite a lot in common. To quote an old French proverb: "The more things change, the more they stay the same."

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Moneta (cont.) by Hugh Kramer

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Ed note (LF): Thank you for such a nice article. Thank all of you for your many fine entries. Other articles that were submitted, including another one by Hugh, will be published in subsequent issues of the GNL.

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The Witch's Formulary and Spellbook by Tarostar. New York: Original Publications, 2486 Webster AV, Bronx, NY 10458, $6.95, 96 pp. paperback (reviewed by LF)

This book contains receipes for incenses; oils; waters and washes; inks; powders; bath crystals; and charm bags. The author says that the chief strength of his book is that exact quantities for the receipes are given. Also, the receipes include directions as to the astrological hours in which to concoct the potions and even gives a brief (two page) instruction on casting a simple circle for the purpose of preparing the receipes. Most all of the ingredients are easy to locate in an herb store, grocery store, or health food store. The illustrations are helpful, particularly for the candle in the Double Action Success Spell (a self-improvement exercise) and the Magic Circle. The instructions on astrological hours are given in calligraphy.

The receipes aren't lacking a sense of humor, especially if one appreciates dry wit. There is a "Blanche Du Bois Special" spell to turn your rival into a faded rose and a "black blood and feathers" spell in which a chicken's throat is cut after the chicken is hung from the door frame of one's enemy's home. Now, normally I would rail against this barbaric cruelty to animals, but the one caution in this spell is the performer cannot be touched by the blood of the chicken when it is killed. Anyone who has ever slaughtered chickens knows just how close to impossible this is, so I assume the author included this ritual mostly to express the sly sense of humor for which witches are infamous. An interesting biography of Mamma Phebie Laetitia Lareaux is given, which reminded me of Jim Stafford's song, "Swamp Witch Hattie." The biography precedes a few bayou receipes.

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Review of Witch's Formulary (cont.) by LF

A bibliography for further reading would have been welcomed, especially since the handbook is targeted for a novice audience, and an index by desired result (success, peace, love, etc.) would have been nice for reference after reading through the book. However, this same index would probably inspire haste in the novice--a temptation to skip over important sections on background and proper preparation. The use of old English pronouns (thee, thou, thine, thyself, etc.) is cute at first, but becomes rather tedious after the first ten pages. This, however, is a matter of personal taste. Who says a spellbook should be written in forthright, modern English anyway?

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The Llewellyn New Times, $5.00/year (I couldn't find the frequency of publication), circ. 145,000. Llewellyn Publications, P. O. Box 64383-852, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383. (Rev. by LF)

This is a great little catalog if you have limited access to special interest bookstores. Although Llewellyn does not carry every occult title under the sun, they do offer a range of basic books. In the issue I saw, there was a lengthy review of A Witche's Bible Vols. I and II by the Farrar's, The New A to Z Horoscope Maker and Delineator by Llewellyn George and a four page review of tarot decks and books, illustrated. There were other lengthy reviews as well, some of them well written, especially considering how difficult it is to write ad copy for a soft-sell audience. There are advertisements from Andreika, the Witch, for spells, and Gavin and Yvonne are in there, too. Useful info I found: Sallie Nichol's Jung and the Tarot is available in paperback for $12.95. 10% discount for orders over $100.00 (group purchase?), no postage on regularly-priced books if the order is over $50, accepts telephone credit card orders, accepts Visa, MasterCard, Am. Exp., Diner's Club, and Carte Blanche. Minimum charge order $15.00 Catalog price non-refundable. A handy shopping tool for the trained eye.

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After an especially boring first-aid lecture at an Air Force base, the instructor said, "Now, what is one symptom of brain damage?"
From someone back in the room came the quick reply, "A desire to reenlist."

We could all make better use of our time if we could find the time to figure out how.

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From Star Mist Cuveen

Star Mist Cuveen, as part of our training program, is currently attempting to compile a listing and history of current Craft Traditions. To this end, we would greatly appreciate response to the following questionnaire; additional information or questions are also welcome.

1. Are you/your group an initiatory order? If so, do you admit both male and female; strictly heterosexual, homosexual, or mixed/combined? How many degrees of initiation?
2. How do you, as a group/tradition, define the following: Witchcraft, Religion, Pagan/Neo-Pagan, God/dess, Magic.
3. How do you classify your Tradition (Gardnerian/Neo-Gardnerian, Alexandrian, Georgian, Celtic, etc.)?
4. Would you please enclose a brief statement of beliefs/practices, and, if possible, a "lineage" of your group/Tradition (i.e., my Lady is Lady Gwenekin Full Moon of Peason Ridge, whose teacher was Lady Snaggletooth of Yucca Flats, who was the hereditary originator of Green Cheese Wicca), that is somewhat specific. If your lineage overlaps with or crosses with that of another respondant, do you wish your address to be given to them? (We ask because sometimes people do lose contact with their traditions and are effectively orphaned, and have no further access to training material, etc. We are aware of at least one 3rd HPs in the South who had no Book of Shadows, because her Lady had moved prior to her being able to copy it!).

Please address responses and/or questions to:

Star Mist Cuveen
P. O. Box 285
Bakersfield, CA 93302-0285

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From George in New Zealand

Just a short note to say how much we are enjoying the Georgian Newsletter. We are but a small Grove but are very fortunate indeed to be favoured with the "patronage" of C.O.T.O.R. in Sydney, Australia. You would not believe the support and encouragement we have received from Catherine and Kent in Sydney and if medals were ever presented for unrewarded dedication to fostering goodwill and so gladly rendering assistance then those two wonderful people would get a Gold. The Amateur Radio contact I made with Pat was made some 26 years ago so he must have lived at Verde Street for many years. Little did we know then of our mutual interest in

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From George in New Zealand (cont.)

the Craft but it is nice to know that the Goddess made this earlier contact possible and I guess that our making contact with you has brought the wheel to have turned a full circle. Again, I am so grateful to our friends in Sydney for putting us in touch with the Georgians. I would be very grateful if Tiller in Washington would write to me as I see from a newsletter that he wonders if there are any Pagan Ham Radio people out there. Tiller, there sure are, and we would just love to make contact so just write to George, P. O. Box 9086, Christchurch, New Zealand.

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From Rik in Tucson

I finally got my address in New Jersey. To reiterate, I will be at an army base in New Jersey from 27 July to 10 August and would like to meet any witches in the area while there. Prior to the 27th, I can be reached at home: Box 40451, Tucson, AZ 85717 (602) 325-3909 and after the 27th at SSGT Richard Johnson, 162nd CEFlt, Tucson ANG; c/o National Guard Training Center; Box 251; SeaGirt, New Jersey 08750 (201) 449-5206. Since I will be at an army base, I will gladly accept any diversion to avoid eating army food. Well, I hope that you can put this into the June issue so that I can get a few more contacts, especially the Jersey Shore Pagan Grove or Atlantic Pagan Council. I'm also looking forward to meeting Rus while there.

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Solitary Convention from Aquarian Tabernacle

As a publisher of a Pagan oriented journal exchanging publications with us, we'd like to ask you to publish a notice about an upcoming event we are sponsoring. Our journal, PANEGYRIA, received a suggestion in a Letter To The Editor a while back that we thought was an interesting idea--a convention for Solitaries. Since the vast majority of Pagans practice their religion and craft alone, or at least without a formal organization, it stands to reason that there is a lot of variation in practice, ideals, and beliefs. And there's a lot to be shared, to be learned from others, to be experienced. We were lucky enough to convince Brandy Williams, who is a well-known contributor to many Pagan journals (and the originator of the Solitary Convention idea), to head up the project jointly with our own Althea Whitebirch. The result

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Solitary Convention from the Aquarian Tabernacle (cont.)

is the Solitary Convention, to be held the weekend of August 9-11 at our Retreat House facilities in Index, Washington, about an hour's drive northeast of Seattle. Since we are limited by the facilities, only twenty people will be able to attend, so we are urging interested folks to register early. Registrations received by July 10 are $20; from July 11 to August 1, $25, and include room (or campsite) and meals. We are enclosing a registration form and a booklet about our facilities. We would appreciate your publishing a notice of the Solitary Convention in your next issue. You might publish our phone number as well, since time is short. For information, call (206) 527-8140 and be prepared to leave a message if our machine answers. (The Aquarian Tabernacle Church, P. O. Box 57, Index, WA 98256.

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Book Reviews (UPI)

Peter Chan calls his the "raised bed system" and says it can lead to better Chinese vegetables. Not only that, but Better Vegetable Gardens the Chinese Way promises more vegetables than other methods, less work, and lower costs. Color photographs also feature prominently in this Garden Way book, just the thing to get psyched up with before beginning to dig. Better Vegetable Gardens the Chinese Way, Peter Chan. Garden Way Trade Paperback, $9.95, 100 pages)

More than just in harmony with Nature, The Wildlife Gardener seeks to make the garden part of a natural habitat. This book by John V. Dennis promises to let the small gardener create an island of controlled wilderness that is pleasing to the eye and also a haven for all manner of small wildlife. (Knopf, $17.95, 293 pages)

Workman Publishing is best known for it's hilariously funny parody books. But it has a serious side, too, as proven by Billy Joe Tatum's Wild Foods Field Guide and Cookbook. This big paperback will probably become a classic soon. Inside are not only tips on how to spot wild edibles arranged by season, but more than 350 ways to cook those things so that they're real culinary treats. This is one of the best one-volume books on natural foods printed in the last decade. ($6.95, 268 pages).

Books on outer space often become obsolete in the span of a few years, and that probably will be the case with Out of the

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Book Reviews (UPI) (cont.)

Cradle by William K. Hartmann, Ron Miller and Pamela Lee. And that will be a shame. Because inside this trade paperback from Workman Publishing is some of the most enthusiastic writing and some of the best ideas of this decade on expanding man's activities into space. As much talk these days centers on free enterprice in the cosmos, so does the focus of this book. Thereare reasons to go above the skies, work to be done by people willing to take risks. This is one of the best books a person can possibly give an older child interested in space--something that can charge a young person's imagination. ($11.95, 190 pages)

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The Scarecrow's Field from Scarecrow

Priestesses, Priests, Witches and Shamanism, or: Words, and other useless things, part II

As one who has pursued the Lady and the Mysteries for a decade now, as observer, then student, participant and scholar, skeptic and celebrant, I have witnessed the Craft undergo several changes in attitude and approach. Some of these are good, while, to me, other changes continue to hinder us in our (supposed) Quest for the Gods.

The early myth that the Craft was a Paleolithic hunting-based religion that went underground during the "Burning Times" before being resurrected by Gerald Gardner in the 1950's seems to have been largely supplanted by the current myth that the present day Craft functions as some kind of middle-class Euro-American Pagan Shamanism.

Both myths are hinderances to the true development of spirituality and personal growth, largely because we seem to be unwilling to live in either myth.

Bonewits, Adler, and others have written copiously on the first myth I described. I might add that Paleolithic hunting magic (assuming that we knew what it was and how it was performed) is inappropriate to most of us, as dinner is more often provided by McDonalds, and not by McMastodon's.

The second myth is more deadly and misleading, because it gives us the safe, comfortable illusion that we have training and abilities on a par with that of tribal people such as the Lakota, the Jivaro Indians of South America, or a Bon shaman from Tibet.

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The Scarecrow's Field (cont.) from Scarecrow

The sad fact of the matter is that none of the material currently offered to Crafters/NeoPagans at large approaches even remotely the outer limits of the Shamanistic Path.

The term "shaman" derives ultimately from the Sanscrit "sramanas," meaning ascetic. The word was borrowed into Tungus languages and applied to their elite practitioners of magic, healing, divination who hold insight into the workings of nature and what we would term "psychology." They were enlightened, if you will.

In many tribal cultures, such as the Navajo, Hopi, etc., there is no perceived differences between a mental and physical illness. A shaman was oftentimes a person who had been seriously ill, possibly (usually) near death. In the process of dying, the physical body undergoes states that are accompanied by psychic stress--etheric and astral encounters, if you will. At some point of crisis, either Gods or Spirit Guides are encountered (see the Tibetian Book of the Dead for one description of this state, or for a more western viewpoint, Life After Life by Dr. Moody); during this encounter, the person is either cured, or is given instructions on how to heal themself. The person is given Spirit Helpers, Medicinal and Magical techniques, etc., that they retain after the illness passes. This is one major difference between a Shaman and one who "merely" undergoes a near-death experience. The Shaman returns from this experience with new knowledge and insight into reality that can be applied to life. According to Moody, many who return from a near-death experience often feel very wise, very insightful, but find that they cannot remember or communicate this wisdom to others.

Now the Shaman returns to the tribe as someone and something a bit different. They have survived Death, and have gotten some of the Divine Flame. They can cure, blast, divine, send out their spirits (and have them return), and manifest these abilities at will. They can conduct others to the REalm of the Gods to teach, conduct healings, etc. Many Shaman are considered either to be geniuses or to be mad. Many create sacred Art. They still exist in the realm of "Here and Now" but can at will move freely through the worlds of Spirits and Gods.

That is the easy way to become a shaman. Now for the more common, but more difficult method:

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The Scarecrow's Field (cont.) from Scarecrow

A member of the tribe (or visiting anthropologist doing M.A. or Ph.D. fieldwork) feels the need to go through a Vision Quest and shamanistic training. (This is well described in Michael Harner's The Way of the Shaman.) The would-be shaman goes through a vision quest accompanied by a near-death experience. Through whatever means, not necessarily the use of entheogenic (God-inducing, mushrooms, etc.) substances, the would-be shaman is scared almost to death--this sort of stress seems to strip away the distractions of ego, sensory classification and analysis, and memory that so often hinder a direct perception of reality. I do not mean here a symbolic representation of death (as in many Craft initiations)--the person generally feels that they are about to "buy the small farm," as it were. If the Shamanistic experience occurs (and it often does not) and the person lives and the experience has resulted in their capacity to attain the consciousness of a Shaman, and acquire spirit helpers, while (hopefully) retaining their capacity to function in society, if not their sanity. If it does not succeed, the person often ends up as psychologically scarred, or dead. Alexandra David-Neel makes reference to these possibilities in her discussion of "the short path" to enlightenment in her book Magic and Mystery in Tibet. She encountered a yogi who considered the good Buddhist lady to be a demon sent to tempt him from the Path.

In short, the Way of the Shaman is fraught with perils. Mircea Eliade has observed that a Shaman suffers more than any other member of the tribal society, but has the greatest personal wealth in their society. A Shaman is quite rich in their life experiences and understanding of reality.

A term frequently associated with shamanism and currently in great usage with Neo-Pagans is "Vision Quest." This is a rather nebulous concept, as Neo-Pagans use it to refer to guided meditations, while in the anthropological and religious literature it describes a vigil, usually solitary, where the person undergoes controlled sensory deprivation (or inversion, where one's perceptions of reality are turned sideways and then stood on end), and a journey back to the beginning of time, to the pristine state of existence, where men and animals and plants freely communicated with each other and the Gods. This journey may be accompanied by chanting the old legends, or, as in the case of the Huichol Indians by actually walking back to the sacred realm of the ancestors, Wirikuta. (See the book, Peyote Hunt, by Barbara Myerhoff.)

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The Scarecrow's Field, (cont.) from Scarecrow

In the Huichol culture, one assumes the identity of one of the ancestors and relives the old stories by visiting sacred sites as one journeys back to Wirikuta. Please note that powerful symbols and legends play a pivotal role in vision quests. These tools of legend, poetry, symbol, etc., have been made potent by a lifetime of living with them. Most Neo-Pagans have not had a lifetime in which to experience the symbolism of their chosen Path, whether it is Alexandrian Wicca, the Egyptian Church of the Eternal Source, or whatever. This is one reason for the widespread feeling among some groups that the effectiveness of ritual is often a "hit or miss" thing--our symbols do not, as yet, function for us on an unconscious level.

The final concept to discuss at this time is that of Trance. Dictionaries commonly define the term as a state of reduced awareness resembling sleep, or as a state of detachment from one's physical surroundings. This is not quite what is meant in the anthropological literature. It is best described as a non-ordinary state of awareness where sensory data is not classified or evaluated through the sections of the mind that contain the concepts of time, language or self. In short, we do not judge the experience in terms of past experiences or preconceived notions about what we should see, feel, hear, etc.

Now, you may ask, what does this have to do with shamanism, vision quests, or Craft? If we are to really become Shamans (at least those of us who need it) we must develop Vision Quests and everything required for their executions--meaning powerful rituals, dances, music, and symbols. To feel and experience these symbols (like the circle) we must have trance experiences.

If we wnat to actualize or utilize this second myth that I described earlier as a blueprint for our lives, let us be willing to embrace all that "Shamanism" and "Vision Quest" imply and require. Otherwise, we have merely a sham in our Faith, and not shamanism.

Kindly address kvetching, comments, etc., to either the newsletter or to Scarecrow, c/o Starmist Cuveen. Address is elsewhere in newsletter.

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Young woman to advice columnist: "They say a fool and his money are soon parted. Please send instructions."

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Gathering

The Second Annual Ancient Ways Festival, an eclectic pan pagan gathering of magical folk of divergent paths will be held August 2-4 at Harbin Hot Springs. Early registration is until July 1, at that time prices will increase $5 in each category. Adults $25 ea. Fri. and Sat nights; $15 for one night, 13-18 $20 two nights, $10 one night, 6-12 is 1/2 the adult price. Mail to: Ancient Ways, 1690 Golden Gate #7, San Francisco, CA 94115. For more information, write above address or phone (415) 923-5243 (between 5 and midnite) Make checks (or money orders) payable to: Glenn Turner/Ancient Ways.

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From Vicki in OK

The letter about the nut in Atlanta really has me bugged. In view of some other recent happenings, it has me more than a little worried. Did you happen to catch the 20/20 report on "Satanism in America?" Several of us locals were in an astrology class and stopped our studying to watch. Thankfully, it did not mention Wicca, but what it did do was stir up the radical Christian community. I have been monitoring our local Christian radio station for several weeks now, and I must say, I don't like what I have been hearing. First off, the preachers are handing out the line that "when you become a Christian you give up to God all your rights. You have no rights of your own." They are stressing instant and unquestioning obedience to the "Word of God." I think it is only a very short step from this to "I am God's appointed spokesman, and you will obey me instantly and without question."

Secondly, in many of the talk shows, particularly one called "Point of View," which originates from Dallas, TX, they are saying that anything that does not go along with Fundamentalist Christian viewpoints is "something that Hitler and the Nazis did." This includes Birth control (Margaret Sanger was a "Spiritual sister" to Hitler) and occultism. The other day they even attacked Norman Vincent Peale, saying that his power of positive thinking philosophy is a dangerous occult technique and should not be used by Christians. There is even one guy saying that alcoholism and mental illnesses are not really diseases, but weaknesses in the human spirit. When you look at this in the light of the things that this idiot Libowitz is saying, it could make for a very uncomfortable situation for the Pagan community. The day after the 20/20 show, the whole 1 1/2 hours of Point of View was devoted to a discussion

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From Vicki in OK (cont.)

of the show. People called in from all over America and they were not making any distinction between Wicca and Satanism. They were even naming books such as Practical Candleburning and were familiar with the name Cernunnos for the Horned Lord and called him another name for Satan. I agree that we shouldn't become paranoid, but please, if you live in an area likely to have an active fundamentalist community, be very careful. Our own group, Silver Acorn Circle, has decided to put a moratorium on new members for a while. We were getting too scattered in our energies with several new folks recently joining, but I think we also didn't want to take a chance on getting a Radical Fundamentalist spy in the works. It really frightens me to think about this kind of tactics being used. In the October 1984 GNL, Pat warned us of some of the things these people were up to, and as much as I hate to admit it, he was right. (Ed note LF: Wasn't he always?) If you don't believe me, go into the local Christian bookstore and look at such books as The Satan Seller, Playing With Fire, or Hidden Dangers of the Rainbow. Listen to some of these talk shows and find out where these people are coming from. True, they may be a lunatic fringe, but so were Hitler and McCarthy. I don't think we should go completely Underground again, but I sure don't think we should stick our heads in the sand and pretend that if we ignore it, it will just go away. All pagan folk should find out about these things so we will know how to best protect our own if (Goddess Forbid!) it should ever become necessary. One really disturbing factor in the recent rash of anti-paganism is the slant of child abuse they are giving it. Child abuse is a "hot issue" right now, and the mention of this issue will get a lot of people's attention. On the 20/20 segment, at least half of the report dealt with the issue from the angle of child abuse. There were interviews with parents of children supposedly involved in Satanic rituals and with the children themselves. The children described the ritual murders and said they were forced to help kill other children and several other disgusting things. This is yellow journalism at its worst, and it doesn't make things any better for us. The major issues concerning the Fundamentalist community right now may be abortion and pornography, but they haven't forgotten we exist. At least once every 2 weeks the Christian radio show has some kind of anti-occult, anti-New Age show on. They are even starting to harrass the Esoteric Christians now.

It might not be a bad idea for other groups to do what the group in Atlanta did. Get the Pagans in your area together for a meeting and scope out your local situations. Some

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From Vicki in OK (cont.)

areas may have no problems at all, others may have more than their share of problems. Be sure that the Pagan publications are probably monitored by them, just like we monitor them. It would not hurt to do some magical workings for understanding and peaceful co-existence. If this cannot be (and in some areas, it may NOT be possible) then work to protect the local pagans magically, particularly those who do not want to be known publically as pagans. Also, any Pagan folk working around children, such as in day care facilities, recreation centers, or schools should take extra precautions so that they don't end up out of a job at the very least.

Sorry this was such a gloomy letter, but I really thought it was necessary.

p.s. Concerning Tarostar's letter, let me say this. I am truly glad that the members of Circle of Starmeadow are so prosperous that they can afford to pay $100 per year membership fee, however, Silver Acorn Circle has many students and young families that just simply cannot afford that kind of expenses. We have been very fortunate in that no one has ever come to the Sabbat or the regular coven meetings empty-handed. We rotate our meetings between 4 houses of coven members, and each person usually brings something in the way of food or drink to share after the meeting. One of our student members made beautiful copper pentacles for all the members, two others went to the crystal mines in Arkansas for a weekend trip and picked up crystals for the Circle. Our Maiden made the Coven chalice and altar candlesticks, and another member bought the bell and a beautiful amythest cluster from the Bay of Fundee that sits to the North on the Altar at Sabbats. Maybe we have been unusually lucky, but never have we had anyone who "stands around in Circle chewing gum, waiting for the whole silly thing to be over, so they can light up their joints and socialize." And as High Priestess, I can tell you that with an attitude like that, they would never enter any circle I was priestess of. People who have no more love and respect for the Lord and the Lady than that do NOT belong in a coven of worship. Any coven that has members like this has a very serious problem. I think that any Priest or Priestess who would allow this kind of people in the Circle is just looking for an audience to feed their egos with. If the coven is truly doing the work of the Gods and attracting the right kind of energies, there should be no need to badger members for financial support. We have found that our members are only too glad to give back to the Gods in return for the Family that

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From Vicki in OK (cont.)

they have found in Silver Acorn Circle. May it always be so. For I would rather return to being a solitary practitioner than work in a circle composed of members such as Tarostar describes in his letter.

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From Cerren Ered in TN

Well, it looks like the transitional rains have washed Winter's dust and cobwebs out of the word-processor, along with those peaceful snow-covered, fire-warmed nights... time to see if we can remember how to talk with people again. It's hard for me to accept that projects must be started four months ahead of time, but there it is... that's what Spring plowing and planting are all about.

First, let me introduce those of you who don't already know to Cerren Ered. We're a small Retreat Center sort of hidden in the back woods of East Tennessee, a few thousand feet up and at the edge of the Smoky Mountains National Park. At intervals we host gatherings and seminars as well as functioning as a pagan retreat (summer camp?) for like-minded folks. Once in a while we come down out of the hills for Festivals and diversion, so if you're out and about also, look for our Dragon banner and stop by for a chat....

This Fall, the First Humanist Church in Atlanta is again producing the Southern Pagan Renaissance Lunarfest (SPIRAL). If you missed it last year, you missed cabins (no tents), hot showers, CATERED meals (!) and some incredible Magickal events under a warm Georgia sky! Needless to say, we'll be there again this year... which brings me to the point of my letter.

The "theme" of this year's SPIRAL is to be communities. Several of us thought it would be an excellent idea to get together a slide show/presentation about various pagan communities across the country, what they're into, and where they seem to be headed. Since we did a good bit of the talking, we were "selected" to get the show together....

If you have slides, photos or can even sketch something that sort of says where you're at, we'd love to have a copy, along with a letter or note that describes your activities. If you don't have any graphics, we'd still like a letter.

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From Cerren Ered (cont.)

"Community" of course means a lot of different things. Some of us do live in Communes or intentional communities of one form or another, but most of us live in apartments or houses in towns and cities. Some interact with lots of other pagans, many know only a few. Some of us are completely alone... but all of us are a part of a greater pagan community. At any rate, whatever you're doing it's all part of a Pagan Renaissance and we'd like to put it on the "big screen" so we can share and learn from each other.

Needless to say, any materials will be considered confidential, but you'll need to let us know if you mind their being used at SPIRAL.

SPIRAL will be held September 26-29. Hope to hear from you soon. (Cerren Ered, Box 936, Gatlinburg, TN 37738).

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Pat, Jane, Osirus and Seth by David May

Pat had Astral Colors of Golden Brown and Black
with a magnetic personality
that was always in tack...
That was Pat.

Jane had Astral Colors of White and
rose pink.
And symbolized love,
That was Jane...
Always rose pink.

Was Seth a Virgo
with astral
Colors of speckled blue dots
and gold?

Osirus' Astral
Color have now turned
Nile Green,
and mine have turned
Moody, blue and clean.

Hail and fair well.

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Anon Mouse,
E.

I feel Lucifer kiss my face.
As a lover, I close my eyes.
Like a suckling, I turn my face to the East,
To be nurtured.

"My Brother, my other half, You are persued.
For Your own existence You flee;
My love would pull You back to the waters of my womb.
You are my seed.
The desire in my womb and loins is born of love.

As You were birthed from my dark cup;
Infants are brought forth by passive miracle.
The children are awakening,
The stars are quickening their adolescence.
They are beginning to feel; some can recognize,
The importance of Our polarity.
They witness my existence.
They are identifying Us within themselves.

Some of the children have pitted Us against each other.
These are victims to their chariots.
These children do not understand; as Parents,
We love them no less, these are too a part of Us.

I feel the needs and longings of Our Nature Children.
They tug, pull and motivate my return.
My breasts throb and ache;
My Nature demands their hungers be sated.
The constellations guide my journey.

You are so beautiful as You turn my wheel.
Your pull is my yearning.
Because mine is magic to produce and receive,
You have given Your power.
In this nurture is Your love for me.
As manifested male You yearn for ecstasy;
I yield my passiveness to receive and You touch my spirit.

Beloved, Brother, Son & Self: shine forth Our light.
Help to purify and heal the popeful seekers.
Let them feel the Mother Love We shared when
You burst forth from my canals.
Come, board with me the Clippers who welcome Us.
For We are from the Waters.
We shall fill them with Our presence and
The essence of carnal knowledge.

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They are the vessels to buoy and carry Our Love.
We shall bless and charge them.
Love is worship.
Sweet vicious Protector, tarry not;
Prepare for the joy I bring.
*Lay with me, We will worship together."

And those who should may understand.

I felt a sharp thrust in my heart and my mind smiled upon the realization of creation; a birth; a growing pain.

"You are holy and loved.
You are the image of a life form,
Vessels of life.
Teacher and students for the Soul.
Love character from hence flows life.
Life is the opportunity of existence....
One makes one's own history."

A gift with conditions and stipulations is a wonder creation. ' With conditions and stipulations ' added, the factor results in bartered bargain. Consider your acceptance of this equation.
Creations carry responsibilities.

(This lesson flashed bargain neon.)
(Still We believe the best...and continue to love.)

Love should be as understood and honest as a breath.
Understand that love will inevitably manifest irregular breathing.
Honesty in reaction, whether engaging in verbal or physical into.
Course determines: Is it gift or bargain?

Finally Living

Often this daydream came to me. A dream of delicious under-
Standing and tasting of candied yams.
A dream of touching sensitivity;
A dream of seeing tenderness and
Wrapping myself in its smell.
The dream held electricity in voice and
Yearning for the sound of it.

This daydream, of course, was Love.

No longer does daydream of ecstasy come to me.
No longer do my eyes have to be closed to feel The presence.
Now, I am living this dream,
Whilst dancing with the Shadows of the Moon.

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*1983 Merriam Webster Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary: pg. 678.
1 lay 2a:b:, 1 lay 5:, 1 lay 7a:,c, 1 lay 9:, 1 lay 10:, 1 lay 11b:,
1 lay 13b:, 14. 2 lay 8a:b. 4 lay 1:, 2. 5 lay 3:.

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From Lady Dematar

It's been quite a while since I sat down at the typewriter. Under the Stars has kept me pretty busy and I was only 6 months in arrears on my sales tax and had to catch up on that or find a padlock on the front door. Ha, I never was really great with paperwork and so Donald took over and he has done a dynamite job repairing my neglect and the poor checkbook groaned trying to pay a couple of months at a time and warding off the tax collector's threats. Under the Stars being a new store has done marvelously well for itself... I hope that I can draw a salary in about 6 months... I'd be happy to start with $100 a week for in this day and age it takes two salaries to carry the cost of living expenses. As it stands now, I buy the kids clothes and other odds and end household stuff at yard sales, thrift shoppes and flea markets. That's entertainment for me too... and I get great buys... a little girl's dress runs from $12.95 to $24.95 in a store and I get them at the yard sales for anywhere from 75¢ to $2.00. Erica's tops and jeans run $6.00 to $30 and I buy them for 25¢ (tops) to $3.00 for jeans. It's the only help that I can really give Apollo since the major portion of shoppe income goes right back into the store.

I want to say that I do love the GNL and think that you--Lady Fauna and dean and the other Georgians are doing a great job. People may seem to be a bit dissatisfied with it for a while... but only because they miss Pat so much and even if you do exactly what he did... it's not him, so don't take anything personal. Your missing him is probably greater than any of us for you had him in your daily life. Pat's attitude was "be yourself" and not a copy of him and all of us loved him for that and we miss him and wish he had a clone. As always, people see the finished product without any idea of how much went into its creation. I remember when Pat had paid advertising which probably kept the loss incurred by printing and postage down. The fact is that advertisers keep tabs on the best results from their advertising dollars and if no one responds to the ads and defrays the cost of the advertising, the ads get dropped. The loss in printing the newsletter goes up again. I think perhpas that the GNL is the closest that any of us come to a free lunch and shame on us. All I can suggest is that you print ad prices along with the subscription prices and that newsletter readers tell the advertisers "I saw your ad in the GNL."

I haven't been able to sit down and do more work on the tarot card review for it does take time and just recently I've had to spend time at a chiropractor's office three times a

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From Dematar (cont.)

week. We were in a car accident. The other driver made a left turn in front of us and if Apollo hadn't jammed on the brakes, that car would have hit us broadside, as it was, we hit them broadside... they took off, but with all my belief that the Goddess takes good care of us, witnesses not only followed the driver, but came back to the scene of the accident and told the police that we were not at fault and reported the license plate number. I felt good enough to up-chuck on the scene and my blood pressure went high enough to alert the paramedics. When I heard the dangerous level, I went into meditation and brought it down 60 points in 5 minutes. So, the second paramedic thought the first was crazy and read the pressure wrong. It was funny for the first paramedic didn't care for the doubt of the second and decided to re-take the pressure again... surprise... it went down another 10 points in two minutes. Now, that really shook them up and the ambulance lights and sirens went on for fear I was going into shock. You can't tell normal people about the ability to control your heartbeat and blood pressure with your mind. Naturally, we carry uninsured motorist's insurance, especially here in FL...the land of the newlywed or nearly dead... which simply means you either have hot-rod youngsters driving or old folks who have really died but nobody told them... so they keep driving around with incredibly void good driving habits... no signals, left turns from right lanes, 20 miles an hour in the passing lanes and backing out of parking spaces without looking etc., etc., etc. So, three times a week, an hour a clip, I get heat packs on my neck and treatment for my back. My chiropractor is a shoppe client so he plays Steve Halpern tapes for me and burns a little incense when I come in.

One piece of advice I offer to all... always get a second medical opinion. With the seat belt on, there was pressure on my already sensitive waist and pelvic area so I had gone to a GYN with abdominal distress a couple of days after the accident. He tells me I have a tumor the size of a grapefruit in my uterus and it cannot be connected to the accident in any way... I should go into the hospital the next day and have an exploratory to discover if the mass is benign or cancerous... since we have no medical health insurance, they will be glad to make payment arrangements for a bill that should run around $10,000 should it prove to show I need what he suspected... a hysterectomy. Nervous? You bet I was, for a January exam showed no sign of any tumors when I went for a checkup. So, rather than pussyfoot around,

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From Dematar (cont.)

I got an appointment through Tony (a crackerjack metaphysician who is into health care and knows a few good doctors) and ran over for a second opinion. "Pelvic Mass?" says he, "the size of a grapefruit?" says he. "Not by my exam," says he, five hours after the other exam. "Well, just to be sure, let's do a sonogram." Guess what, guys, no frightening tumor was in evidence, only some evidence of perhaps a ruptured cyst, fistula, or fibroid... nothing that could have been as big as a grapefruit. So, I will go for further testing early next week with an internist to discover the source of my discomfort.

Just got a call that my 18 year old son is coming to visit from NY tomorrow. Surprise.

Well, I'll get back to work on that tarot review if people are interested. I owe a letter to Tarostar... and what I hope will be a pleasant surprise. But, I need about two hours of free time to get it all together. I just haven't had any lately. I am up since 6 to type this. Mondays are my days closed and I try to get a nap in on the afternoon but this past Monday wasn't possible and talk about Mercury in Retrograde (the accident took place, the tax collectors came down on my case) I ran into Miami to pick up supplies for the shop, got home exhausted after a drive in tropical rain, spent 1 1/2 hours in the supermarket, sat down to have dinner and thought, aha, I'll just go to bed early. The phone rings... here's the directions for your speaking commitment. Speaking commitment? When? Tonight (panic) When? In an hour? I took a shot of Capsicum (an herb), showered, did my nails and my hair and took the ten mile drive and got there on time.

Happy summer. Goddess knows I wrote this other letter about six weeks ago. First I couldn't get a stamp, then I couldn't find the letter. Oh well, this morning I've got it all together.

My son visited from NY. Flew back up there and two days later flew back down to settle here again. We shuffled rooms around so he could have his own bedroom. Since he was a born-again for a while back he had/has yet to absorb the differences between Satanism/Wicca/other occult in general. He's 6 foot and looks 22ish and if we just watch a couple of nature films we can see the problems of male supremacy that exist between Apollo and him. Pooh! Yuck! It ain't easy!

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From Dematar (cont.)

Had to move my 76 year old pack-rat mother and her collection of 127 pocketbooks, 23 pillows, 94 wallets, 87 pairs of shoes, etc. from her condo apartment to a trailer home. What a job. Still trying to fix up the condo for sale--painting and needs new carpet.

Under the Stars is growing more. We just got in another 2,000 titles--from ole boy Aleister to Zen Buddhism. Nice to see our book selection go from about 750 books when we opened to now well over the 6,000 mark.

Someday soon I'll fix an ad up for the Georgian Newsletter for some of our pentagrams and eye jewelry but since getting it kinda camera ready (or photo ready) will take me a couple of hours--I don't know quite when I'll get it. Maybe by next issue.

A couple of new decks out on the market. Perhaps Tarot of the Wicca ($12.00) would interest most of us. What a nice deck! Marvelous colors of deep toned pastels--blues, roses, purples, golds, etc. No mythology but definitely Craft. High Priestess holds her athame with pride, strength and intelligence. Swords have been changed to athames, etc. Now, the minor arcana are interesting, too, as they are not quite Swiss deck type nor Rider type. There are no instructions at all and no booklet or book at this time. Yet, one will find that color symbology is indeed helpful. I haven't read too much with this deck at all--but have, with permission, read over Donald's shoulder and just let the psychic juices flow and right on--right on! This deck was printed in the Orient and the creator and artist are not occidental. I feel they have done an excellent job.

Rock lovers? The Philosopher's Stone is another new deck. It isn't tarot for there are only 40 cards ($7.00). I fell in love with it right away. There are key words to trigger off ideas and wow what a different deck of cards. Myself having travelled and loved caves and mountains, streams and hills--I love this little deck. Boulders--some with stone expressions and faces tell their own story--but I could "read" into the patterns of rocks before so this is a natural for me. The cards are wider than most and the carrying case is a nice one--something like for cassette tapes. If you like rocks, stones, and caves yourself--this deck would be a "must."

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From Dematar (cont.)

Well, I have to get dressed and take the 45 minute drive into Miami to pick up candles and oils, drop off Rhiannon and then open Under the Stars for another 6 day week. This week establishing the mail order corner is of primary importance for me and having been tossing a lot of boxes and stuff out. Changed the back room from the Craft corner to the "Realm of the Unknown"--my own reference library is there plus all the odds and ends. One chalice holds about a quart of wine--candlestocks, wands, swords, athames, incense burners, statues, treasure boxes, etc. Who knows.

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From Vicki in OK (Sulphur)

Yes, I've finally got around to writing. I hope you guys haven't disowned me! I went to Norman on the 21st to see Georgia and her new shop, The Four Winds. A friend of mine here took me who is interested in our religion. I was so glad to see her, and I just loved her shop. I bought my little girl, Cherish, an Egyptian coloring book, which both of us really love to color in. Lady Mariah found my letter I had sent her months ago and she wrote me and I was really glad to hear from her. I will make this short, but I will write more in a few days. By the way, if Vicki in OK City is reading this, I would like to say hi and would like to know why I haven't heard from you. I guess you'll have to go to the doghouse, as Pat used to say!

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For People who have Pussys (UPI)

Researchers say most of the nation's 50 million cats are candidates for a new vaccine against feline leukemia--the leading cause of deaths and illnesses among pet cats. The scientists say that 1.5 million cats not considered candidates already have the leukemia virus infection and would not be helped. The vaccine, Leukocell, was developed from a prototype created by Richard Olsen of Ohio State University and is the culmination of a 10 year research effort with Norden Laboratories of Lincoln, Nebraska. Olsen says some funding came from the National Cancer Institute. He adds the vaccine for cats in no way is realted to the human disease nor can it be used by humans. A spokesman for Norden estimates that the three shots probably will cost around $50--depending on what a vet charges for the two visits necessary to give the innoculations.

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Ye Olde Herb Doctor by Tarostar

As modern Medical Practice is becoming more and more out of the reach of the modest housekeeper, and as Medical Wonders are creating Nightmares of "Poor judgment" on the parts of Hospitals and Physicians, there is longing in many quarters to return to the tried and true simple methods of the Great-grandparents.

The present Generation, even those who adhere to Herbals, have been conditioned to respond to pills and capsules.

Health Food outfits and Herbal Companies cater to that conditioning by offering herbal ingredients in pill and capsule.

Americans, on the most part, are real sissies and wimps when it comes to taking Medicine. The strongest "Macho" will wince and balk at having to taste something disagreeable, even if it is beneficial and healing.

Ye Olde Herb Doctor, however, feels the pill and capsule method of taking Herbal Products for medicine is wrong. The reason being, one has no way of knowing how old the Herbs are and for how long they have been bottled and stored and how long it was from Harvest to pill form.

Herbs lose potency after 3 years in any form sitting on a shelf. That means more and larger amounts need to be taken in order to obtain the correct medical cure.

Another reason is that dried bulk herbs in pill and/or capsule simply dissolve in the digestive tract and pass out, for the most part, in the eliminatory process. All your good $$$$ goes literally down the sewer.

They need the heat of the boiling water as tea to release their volatile chemical oils for their proper medicinal effect.

Do not fall for the hype put out by the companies that tout miracle herbal pills and caps. They are not doing you any favors, and it is just a waste of money. Herbs are medicinal, not nutritive, so they pass.

The best way to take Herbs for medicinal effect is in the old fashioned Standard Infusion, which simply means by cup of Tea.

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Ye Olde Herb Doctor (cont.) by Tarostar

One teaspoon of Herb, either as a Simple or in combination as a formula, is brewed to one cup of boiling water and allowed to steep to a drinkable temperature. Rx: as many cups per day as recommended by the Herbal books.

The tea form of the Herbal Medicine gets into the Circulatory system quickly and acts to stimulate the body's natural health defenses to help effect the proper cure.

Be that as it may, we still have the big "Macho" who cries when his medicine tastes bad.

In addition to the herb being used for the main healing agent, put a spice or an aromatic Herb along with it to modify the "herby" taste, so the big baby can take his medicine. Cinnamon is usually the best. Honey and/or Brown Sugar may be used, but avoid white Sugar. Molasses is also good to go in an herbal Tea and is in keeping with the best traditions of the Ancestors.

In this article, Ye Olde Herb Doctor will give some useful suggestions on Herbs for healing. They follow the method of old Harley Johnson, Itinerant Root Doctor of the Nineteenth Century. The American Root Doctor is an unsung hero of much of the rural and Frontier areas.

Doc. Harley's "Heavenly Potion" fer them that's over 40.
Mix together, stem and root of the Lily-of-the-Valley, Loosestrife Herb, Marjoram and Verbena or Vervain in equal amounts of each. Brew up as a Tea. Rx: one cup daily fer a good general tonic. Add a pinch of Woodruff fer them old folks what gets the Depression.

Fer Cuts From Bob-Wire and Other Bad Sores.
Open up the sore and let it bleed real good. Then wash it out with boiled Hyssop Water and strong Spirits (Whiskey). Next, pack the sore with plenty of Powdered Comfrey Root, and cover it over with a piece of bacon rind. Bind it up well with clean strips of rag. This will keep out the Gangrene and afford it to heal real fast. Repeat each day until it heals.

Doc's Treatment For Psoriasis

Smash up cloves of Garlic to extract the pulp and juice. Apply that to the affected part daily. Make two cups of Sarsaparilla Tea, 1 cup boiling water to 1 teaspoon of the Herb. Rx: 1 cup of the tea to be drunk daily and 1 cup to be used as a wash fer the affected part, to be rubbed in good.

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Ye Olde Herb Doctor (cont.) by Tarostar

Fer Poison Oak, Poison Ivy, Knat, Flea, Misquito and other Itchin Insect Bites.
Take Fuller's Earth and Witch Hazel and mix into a thick paste. Smear on the affected areas and allow to dry. If a large area is affected, as in Poison Oak, spread on clean white cloth such as Cheesecloth, Muslin or Gauze Squares, to cover the area and fasten in place. When the Poultice drys, re-moisten with more Witch Hazel.

Doc. Harley's "High and Low Blood Pressure" Specific.
Brew up the common Alfalfa as a tea, 1 teaspoon herb to 1 cup boiling water. Rx: about 2 cups a day. It will lower if too high and normalize if too low.

Doc's Famous Shingles Remedy (Herpes).
Have the Patient eat plenty of Spinach and Apricots in the diet. Give Alfalfa Tea regularly with meals. Either put Dulse in the food, or give Dulse Tea twice a day. All this helps.

Doc. Harley's "Miracle Cure" fer all skin Disorders.
Mix up a good batch of these herbs: 2 oz. Red Clover, 1 oz. Burdock Root, 1 oz. Blue Flag and a 1/2 oz. Sassafrass Root Bark. Put the whole thereof in cold water and allow it to sit over night. In the morning, bring the whole thing to a rapid boil over the fire and allow to simmer fer 15 minutes. Let it cool down and strain it out. Rx: take about 1 1/2 oz. three times a day and the condition will clear up fast.

Doc's Blood Purifier fer Detoxification from Boils.
Mix these here herbs:

Buckthorn Bark	6 parts
Licorice Root	3 parts
Sasaparilla Root	2 parts
Red Clover Blossoms	2 parts
Burdock Root	2 parts
Yellow Dock Root	2 parts
Coriander Seed	1 part

Grind 'em up and mix together well. Place 1 teaspoon of the mixture in a cup of boiling water and let steep 15 minutes. Rx: Drink this each morning on an empty stomach and follow it with a glass of warm water containing 10 teaspoons Apple Cider Vinegar, 2 teaspoons Honey and the juice of 1 lemon.

Doc's Poultice to Bring Boils to a Head.
Mix together Catnip, Ground Flax Seed and Yellow Dock Leaves. Wrap 'em in a clean linen cloth and dip 'em in boiling water. Apply the hot cloth to the boil. In a pint of water, boil about 1/2 oz. Sassafrass Root Bark and the same amount of

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Ye Olde Herb Doctor (cont.) by Tarostar

Slippery Elm. Thicken the mixture with Cornmeal and apply to the boil. When the boil breaks, wash it with clean water and pour on some hydrogen peroxide. Bandage and allow to heal.

For Convulsions in Children.
Brew up a tea with Scullcap, 1 teaspoon Herb to 1 cup boiling water. Let cool a bit and give as much as the child will drink each day.

Doc's "Fits of Depression" Specific.
When the Woman of the House takes to her bed and won't be moved, mix together these herbs: 1 oz. each of Catnip, Peppermint, Sage and Lemon Balm. Add to that the juice of a lemon to 1/2 oz. Steep the mixed Herbs in 1 pint boiling water 10 minutes. Rx: 3 cups a day, Morning, Noon and Night.

Herbal remedies can help in most ordinary medical problems of everyday life. However, should the individual feel the orthodox prescriptions of a Physician are needed, by all means do so.

Should the reader wish more of Doc. Harley's Remedies, write the Georgian Newsletter and let Dean know. Perhaps later we can give more. That's all for now. Blessed Be!

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From Lurline in Rosemead

Intolerance seems to be alive and well in the Witch/Pagan community as well in the xian community. Perhaps this is due to the fact that no matter what, we are all still mortals. We are going out of our way when we attack one another and sound little different from the Born Agains. There is indeed unity in diversity but ripping each other apart gains us nothing. We should all be free to practice our Craft in whatever way we can "as long as we harm none." Lady Mariah must be very fortunate to have the ability to make all the things she needs for her practice of the Craft. There are some of us who do have needs that we cannot find at home and we do need the services of good, honest Occult shops. When we find those who are honest, we should support them and not take umbrage with them. How many straightforward, honest people are in this business--not too many. There are a number of dealers who prey on those of us who have special needs so let us not be so quick to make our judgements against those who provide a needed service. Lady Mariah do not be so quick

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From Lurline (cont.)

to judge the actions of another or others will be quick to judge you. We should all remember that what goes around comes around. I do not agree with Lady Mariah and her principles for child rearing, but on the other hand, I would not criticise her methods as they are right for her. My opinion, and it is mine alone, is that the Lady sounds a little like a Born Again in Witch's clothing. All witchyness aside, we need both Tarostar and Lady Mariah. Each one of us has something that we can bring to our Craft and its practices. Tarostar's poems and articles have brought a few moments of respite and fantasy in an all too busy world. Lady Mariah has given us her thoughts on child rearing--something that those of us who are parents need to give much thought to.

I have found much improvement in the newsletters and feel no criticism is needed. Anyone who has published anything knows only too well how difficult the task is. To collate and publish a newsletter such as the Georgian is an awesome undertaking and we are most grateful to those who take on such a burden. We must remember that in doing so we all have a voice in our community.

I would like to point out that many cities are at this time attempting to outlaw those who have Occult shops and using arguments that are not substantial but based on the old California laws on furtune telling. Anyone aware of this should attend such meetings and make their views known. When we have Xian bible shops on every corner; those of us who march to a different drummer should also have "equal access."

Now for the joke of the month. A good Xian who had spent many years converting and attempting to convert Witches and Pagans died and found himself in heaven. From his lofty view, he could look down in Hades and see all the sinners having the greatest time. They were eating wonderful foods, drinking the finest wines and having a marvelous time. He turned around and saw God. God said to this perfect Xian, "Would you like something to eat?" The man, being very hungry, said yes. God was gone for a few moments and he then returned with a cheese sandwich and a glass of water. The man said, "What is this? I thought this was heaven and we would have great feasts--look what is going on down below; they are eating, drinking and carrying on--why the cheese sandwich? God answered, "Well, there was no use cooking just for the two of us."

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From Lurline (cont.)

Well, so much for my profuse sense of humor. Our garden has proved to be bountiful again this year and our boysenberries are so heavy with fruit that the branches are breaking--so I must get out and gather in the harvest the Lady has given us.

Let us all see that we can carry out the old Xian axiom, at least for the rest of theyear, Love one another and peace to us all.

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From Albion

Pan, your spirit I invoke,
to let us know
that it's all really a joke.
Your sense of humour
I call on this day,
teach the laughless,
too serious folk,
to hear your pipes play.
With your laughter echoing
around us,
for being so humorless,
in spirit I find,
With you Pan
I've smiled through it all.
I've waded through the Fall leaves
Awash, around my feet,
Your pipes playing
into my ears,
Banishing each, and every
one of my fears.
I've felt the cold chill unfold
upon autumn's breeze,
And I've seen the snow fall
amid winter's freeze,
Yet Pan, my heart you've always
kept warm.
Now Pan,
with your pipes palying louder,
You live again in Spring,
to dance--in the green,
And help the buds unfold,
So we can drink at last,
the summer's wine,

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From Albion (cont.)

to help Wildness be.
Pan, let me,
like you,
dance in Summer fields,
let my ecstasy untwine
into your Dance Divine,
As your energy courses
through my mind,
My body on fire
with your desire,
let my love and I, roll in the hay,
Players, of Your Divine Play,
let us laugh and love with joy
And partake of your Spirit,
of sensuality,
of you,
oh Pan, I pray.

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The Physics of Magick, Part III by Rik in Tucson

Everyone is familiar with the concept of Biorhythms, or the idea that we all have three rhythms (waves) that influence our lives. These rhythms are the emotional, physical and mental waves and if you take these into account, you can influence your life for the better.

In magick, we are taught that there are forces in the universe that can also be tapped if you know how. One of these forces is the Solar rhythm cycle. This one follows the sun and peaks at the Summer Solstice, only to lose power until it reaches its low point at the Winter Solstice. At the Autumn and Spring Equinox, this cycle crosses the zero point. You may recognize this as the Lesser Sabbats.

A second cycle is the Lunar cycle which peaks at the Full Moon and reaches its low point at the New Moon. Obviously, Witches worhsip on the Full Moon to take advantage of this energy flow.

Another cycle is the daily tide which peaks at noon and reaches its low point at midnight. Unfortunately, The Sun gives out so much energy it can burn. Thus, it is best to avoid daytime workings (see part V) and to fight this cycle or wait until after midnight.

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The Physics of Magick Part III (cont.) by Rik

A final cycle is the Sabbat cycle. This one peaks at the Greater Sabbats of February Eve, May Eve, August Eve, November Eve and reaches the low points at the Lesser Sabbats of the Spring and Autumn Equinoxes and the Winter and Summer Solstices. If you chart these on a graph, you find that the Solar and Sabbat tides are the same each year, but the Lunar cycle changes each year. Because of this, you should chart the cycles each year and do your work accordingly.

Why do these work, I'm not completely certain, though I suspect that the body absorbs this energy and converts it to the desired need.

(Part IV next month)

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Venus (from The Songs of Ariane by Tiffany St. Moonstar)

Yes. I loved him, my son Mars. I had no choice. For I am Love itself--and Love does not discriminate--it just IS--unjudgemental, unconditional, omnipresent.

My love was always there for my son. And for all those that sought me. I did not refuse the angry planet lordling that was my odious son. I loved him totally, even his hatred, for it was a part of him, too. And his father, the great fiery ball of godhead--in my love he was a boy, and I loved even his urges of infanticide. Earth, his wife, was wrapped in my womb of love, it was my love that even gave her the manna to be what she was; to create the glories she did for my Lord Sun. I should have hated her, I, the hidden mistress, she the honored wife. But I could not, I could only Love, and Love, and Love.

I loved every rock and asteroid and moon in the universe. Every proton and neutron and element and cell down to its center of its DNA. Every hooker pacing the street was my daughter. Every man making life within and without was my son. Every child's longing for his mother and joy at her return was my doing.

I was in charge of the races and the beasts and the planets of the galaxy. The Sun glorifies his Earth for her beauty, but none of it would be more than mutated rutting and in-breeding without me. Even Sun's love for Earth would not exist but for my presence.

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Venus (cont.) by Tiffany St. Moonstar

Chaos and voids, Chasms of Naught--these would be these spaces if I were not present. I am mother to order and energy and creation. Though, The People of my son Mars only honor me on one day with lust disguised as love under sugars and heartshaped cutouts of red-silvered paper.

I am everywhere. I am the glue of the worlds, the catalyst of the future, the warm memories of past, the throbbing, blooded living child in your arms of present.

When you look at ugliness, see beauty, because I am loving them... when you see death, see life--its other side, for love is in both. When you despise the poor, the lost, or the perverted--love them instead, or despise yourself. For I, Venus, am the being that keeps you alive with my love. And love cannot discriminate, it just--IS.

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From Tiller in WA

I enclose a rather grubby photocopy of an article from OMNI magazine on adopting a ghost for your very own home.

No particular news to report. I am finishing my second term as National Pursewarden for Covenant of the Goddess. Haragano has been doing truly incredible things in the backyard, which now is almost completely landscaped. I put up a porch swing under the stairs, so we can now sit and watch the moon rise.

Q: What do you get when you cross an elephant and a kangaroo?
A: Potholes all over Australia.

Ed note (LF): Tiller didn't say what issue the article came from. For more information on adopting a ghost, write: Adopt-A-Ghost, 1765 North Highland AV #769, Los Angeles, CA 90028.

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The 9th Annual Pan-Pagan Festival...

... will be held August 15-18, 1985 near Valparaiso, Indiana. For more information, write the Midwest Pagan Council, P. O. Box 664, Chicago Heights, IL 60411.

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From COTOR in OZ

The weddings of the year down here are now over, thanks be to the Goddess, I truly don't think I want such organised chaos in this Covenstead ever again! Kelly and Jane had a great day for the ceremony, as you will see from the enclosed pics, they were wed in the Rose garden of a lovely city park near our apartment. The register was signed on the base of a huge statue of Eros, and the background for the service was a bank of lovely purple flowers and roses, with the swan and duck pond at the rear. I have enclosed a copy of the service, would like your opinion on it, we took most of it from that great poet, Kahlil Gibran. We feel it expresses what Crafters feel about marriage vows. Do you have such ceremonies over there? The happy couple are presently in Venice on the European part of their two-month honeymoon in England and the continent. Another wedding we enjoyed was that of a friend who had her Samoyed dog as a "page dog". Enclosed is the newspaper report of what nearly was a catastrophe, but doggy turned up in the waiting room of a dentist. Maybe he wanted his teeth capped for the big day?

We agree with the letters from Barbas and Tarostar in the June issue. One cannot live on fresh air, as HPs and HP of a Coven one is expected to be available 24 hours a day, to both neophytes and initiates, and in our case, to Church members, and because we are "public," to the media and all inquirers, this we are happy to be, both mundane and arcane problems are brought to our door and phone. People have been known to arrive on our doorstep at 8:00 on a Sunday morning, with requests like, "We have lost our cat, dog, or whatever, and then inform us that, as we are Witches, we should be able to locate lost item by magick!!" Now we will do a little ritual for that sort of problem, we charge nothing, and what is more, rarely is anything ever offered, but these people feel it is quite okay to practically demand our help, upset the peace of our family breakfast, and often don't even say thank you for any help or advice we may give. We make no charge for any healing or Craft rituals, no charge to be a church member or Covenor. When COTOR commenced, Pat agreed that a yearly fee of say $5.00 was not out of order, but when we asked for this to help cover some of the essentials required to run the Church, the majority of intending members ran for cover! So we charge nothing, and who do you think pays for paper, envelopes, postage, electricity for the photocopier and typewriter, petrol for car to collect and post the mail, candles, incense, altar cloths and their dry cleaning, and a myriad of other expenses? WE DO!! So to cover all these expenses I read cards, predictive and past life readings, I

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From COTOR (cont.)

give psychic counselling, I write books, using the Craft as my theme, I write and SELL a course of lectures on Craft beliefs and practices, we sell our incenses, and have the only mail order shop in nearly all of Oz, from which folk can obtain Craft tools, the profit from these things is what supports the Church and Coven, and allows us to be available to those who ask for our help. We support ourselves with an Aromatherapy centre, see clients, make oils, for a variety of medical reasons, and conduct a diploma course by correspondence for those wishing to work in a field of alternative healing therapy. Sometimes we even find time and money to visit family or socialise, so to all you who denigrate those "taking money from craft practices," maybe you are wealthy enough to not charge for any of these things, that is, of course, if you are involved in any of the work we have mentioned, well bully for you, more power and good luck. Remember the old saying, "The labourer is worthy of his hire," and try to show a little tolerance to those who have to earn their way in the world, and have taken advantage of their Goddess given gifts. A few more gentle breezes, and less cyclonic wailings, if you please. Well, now that is off my chest, I will close and send you all love and blessings.

Ed Note (LF): A lovely ceremony. In our BOS, we have a handfasting ceremony. May we print the one you sent us?

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CONTACTS

Starting a study group? Feeling all alone in your part of the world? If you would like to be listed as a contact, send us a post card with pertinent data. A gentle reminder might be in order here though: Unless you are already a very public pagan, some forethought should be exercised before publishing a home address or phone number. Even the good ole Georgian gets read by a few kooks. We can forward mail for you in some instances. Renting a post office box is also a viable way to have an address that strangers can not visit unannounced.

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

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WITCHES DO WHAT?

WDW is presented as a service to our readers. In order to be listed, one need only be a subscriber to the GNL and offer a worthwhile service or goods which might be of interest to other

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WITCHES DO WHAT??(contd)

members of the pagan community. If you wish to be listed, drop us a note describing what you wish to market and ordering instructions. If you write to those who list their services, be considerate and include a self-addressed-stamped-envelope.

PENTACLES AND CRAFT JEWELRY. Blacksun makes them. One inch across, made of sterling silver, $20 each. Large pentacles, woman spirits, and man spirits are also available in either nickle or silver. They are approximately four inches across and Beautiful. For more information: PO Box 30654; Seattle, WA 98103.

OCCULT PRACTITIONER'S CATALOG. $2 refundable. Available from Tarostar; 125 N. Bruce St.; Las Vegas, NV 89101.

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ADVERTISING RATES: $36 for a full page, $20 for 1/2 page, $14 for anything less than 1/2 page. Ads must be camera ready. We reserve the priviledge of declining to carry any advertisement.

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COVENANT OF THE GODDESS GRAND COUNCIL AND FESTIVAL will be taking place Thursday thru Monday, Aug 29 - Sept 2. Theme this year is "The next ten years: Expanding the web." It will be near Boston. For more info: Judy Harrow, c/o Kathexis; PO Box 4538; Sunnyside, NY 11104.

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From dean: Congratulations to our contest winner. Thanx to all of you who took time to enter the competition. If you are taking notes for your next year's pagan research project (and I hope you are) I should probably mention that we took some editorial license with Mr. Kramer's original work, in that, we deleted foot note numbers. This was done to make it easier to read. I know we will hear from even more of you next year. Mark your calendar. This is Pick a Pet Pagan Research Project Month. I expect each of you to either pick a project or encourage a junior to keep the contest in mind as term paper assignments come up in high school or college during the course of the coming solar cycle.

I think I'll go outside and gaze at the Moon. So, that will be all for this month, good people. Keep a positive spirit.

Love and Blessed Be,

dean, Lady Fauna, &
all the Georgians

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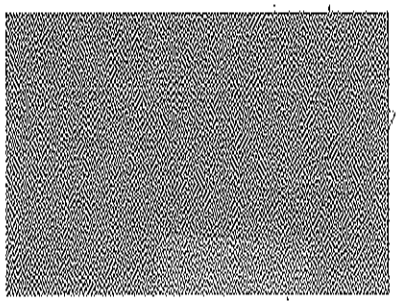
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