

The

BAPAN

Autumnal Equinox/Mabon 2000

Bay Area Pagan Activities and News
formerly the World's Dullest Pagan Newsletter

The President's Pleasure

I would like to bring notice to the title of this column. It is titled "President's Pleasure". My life is full of pleasures, and one of these pleasures is being a part of the Pagan community as President of BAPA. Being President has given me the ability to interact with YOU, the Pagan community, in many different ways.

One such way has been the recent team effort that has enabled BAPA to be present at the "Tapestry In Talent, Festival of the Arts" event in downtown San Jose on Labor Day weekend. It has really been a pleasure to be among those who are willing to put the effort out to support our community by staffing the booth at "Tapestry In Talent". The wonderful people who staffed the BAPA booth have provided another way for the greater San Francisco Bay Area community to learn about Paganism and the Pagan community, and to give those seeking a Pagan path a way to find their community. Bay Area Pagan Assemblies, and myself, give you, the BAPA Booth Staff, a big THANK YOU!

Another recent event that has brought me pleasure has been the outstanding community reaction to the recent article published Sunday, August 27, 2000 in our local San Jose Mercury News by Mr. Mark Purdy, SJ Mercury News Staff Writer, entitled "Witch Schools.." (see on-line at: <http://www.mercurycenter.com/opinion/perspective/docs/PURDY27.htm>). I will not condemn Mr. Purdy here. He was not out to attack the Pagan community, but to embellish his article with silly illustrations to make a point regarding Proposition 38, school vouchers. What I found marvelous was the unity in which our local pagan community stood up to such an irresponsible depiction of witches, and BAPA was there to make sure that such an article did not go unanswered. To those of

you in the community who answered Mr. Purdy, THANK YOU!

There are still many things yet to do in our community. The wheel of the year is about to turn, as we go into the "dark time" of autumn and winter. As we come to this time, ask yourselves: "what can I do for my community?", "How can I help to make my community a better place for other Pagan's?" Think on this, and when you have decided what you can do, come and join us so we may have the pleasures of working with you!

Remember that we are a community in support of ourselves. Help us make BAPA a strong community by renewing your membership, volunteering for office or the Board, be at the "Gaia's Gateway" to support other people newly coming to us to find their Pagan friends and community. Thus I say, it is a pleasure to be,

David "Blue" Fletcher
President
Bay Area Pagan Assemblies

BAPA's Mission is to serve the Pagan community as an information resource and to facilitate the practice of Pagan Spirituality.

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Editor's Note: If you would like to save a tree and postage and receive the newsletter via email, drop a note to BapaMailing@yahoo.com Or, view it on our website. If you wish to contribute any articles, opinions, recipes, book/video reviews, letters, or calendar items for the BAPAN, send them via email to nevawrites@bigfoot.com

Submission Deadline:

Submission and calendar deadline for the Samhain BAPAN is October 10, 2000. Calendar items should include events through December 2000.

BAPA Officers:

President, David C. Fletcher
 Vice President: Yvonne Knebel
 Secretary: Lisa Pederson
 Treasurer: Walt Main
 Board Chair: Roger Schuelke

BAPA Volunteers:

Network Coord: Yvonne Knebel
 Gateway Coord: El Ystradyfodwg, "Mr.Y"
 Comm. Coord: Jim McCann
 Library: Mark Iennaco
 Web Master: Jordan Avon
 BAPAN Editor: Neva Schuelke

BAPA Basics:

Location and Directions:

Regular activities are held at the Palo Alto Unitarian Universalist Church (PAUUC) unless otherwise indicated. The church is located at 505 East Charleston Road. From Hwy 101, take the San Antonio Road exit West, turn

right on East Charleston. The building is about a half mile down on the right-hand side of the road.

BAPA Sponsored Circles:

Gaia's Gateway is a monthly open ritual featuring a different Pagan tradition each month. Each Gateway begins with an informative talk, and both the talk and the ritual are led by practitioners of the religion presented. We request a \$5.00 donation from non-members. Gateways are held on the last Sunday of every month from 6PM-9PM in the Fireside Room at PAUUC.

Gaia's Gateway Monthly Schedule:

September

Brendan of Coire ap Sidhe, an English eclectic Wiccan circle.

October

A Hospice presentation followed by Woodheart Weald, an English eclectic Samhain ritual.

November

Host not known at this printing.

December

No Gateway.



*For the unlearned, old age is winter
 For the learned,
 It is the season of the harvest.
 - Hasidic Proverb*



BAPA Network Services:

To find out about local Pagan events, related to BAPA or not, see Chronos Calendar, and call 408-559-4242(GAIA) to leave a message requesting specific information.

Where To Contact BAPA:

P. O. Box 4159
 Mountain View, CA. 94040
 408-559-4242

<http://www.batnet.com/bapagan/bapa.html>

Editorial Illuminations

I have not spoken in my own voice very often since I took over editorship of the BAPA newsletter early this year. The BAPA community is so full and active that I have not had to say much to fill these pages. Nor do I need to in this issue, except to let you know why and how the name of the newsletter has changed.

It all began a few weeks ago online. Someone in the community suggested that there was enough going on in the pagan community that we had certainly outgrown the name "World's Dullest Pagan Newsletter". There were a couple of long time members of the community that wanted to stay with the name because it was familiar and humble, but there was a general consensus among the members who normally converse online and meet occasionally over pancake breakfasts that the newsletter could use a new name. When all of the dust had settled, I had a long list of suggestions and the "editor's prerogative" to change the name of the newsletter.

I hope that you will all be happy with The BAPAN, Bay Area Pagan Activities and News. I feel that it reflects exactly what is printed here without any added glitz or glibness. I had so many interesting, thoughtful, and humorous suggestions that I even toyed with the idea of changing the name with every issue, but I feel satisfied with The BAPAN, and I hope that you will be too.

By the way, if you have email and would like to be part of pagan discussions online with other BAPA members, send an email to BapaMembers@yahoo.com and ask for information.

With Her blessings,

Neva Schuelke
Editor, The BAPAN

Language shapes consciousness, and the use of language to shape consciousness is an important branch of magic.

- Starhawk, *Dreaming the Dark*

Letter From the Chair

Merry meet indeed,

BAPA has been busy this last month. As you can tell from the rest of the newsletter, BAPA had a information table at the Tapestry In Talent (TnT) festival over the Labor Day weekend. By many accounts it was a great experience for the volunteers and I believe that we made some significant outreach.

On another note, last year the BAPA board decided to change the way that membership renewal is handled. Instead of a yearly membership from the date of your application, memberships now run from Samhain to Samhain. All active members had their memberships extended to this Samhain. New members receive a membership that extends to the Samhain following the next Samhain. Well, for many of you it is renewal time. If you haven't already received a renewal packet you will very shortly. I encourage you to renew your membership so that BAPA can continue to participate in outreach events like TnT and continue its role as an information resource and facilitator of Paganism in the Bay Area.

Your faithful servant,

Roger Schuelke
BAPA Board Chair

Athena's Archives

BAPA Library:

The library is a lending and exchange library, therefore any materials such as books, videos, cassettes, or tarot decks circulate, with the inventory being mutable over time. The library is accessible at the Gaia's Gateway each month. What interesting pagan reading or movie watching have you done recently? Send us a review and recommendation.

*You who are the source of all power
Whose rays illuminate the whole world
Illuminate also my heart*

So that it too can do your work.

- Ralph Blum, *Book of Runes*

☆☆☆ **Congratulations!** ☆☆☆

To Miriel and Blue on their recent (July)

Gardnerian initiation.

God and Goddess bless you both
to do their work.

Bright blessings and love
from the entire BAPA community.

We've come a long, long way...
by Deborah Snavelly

I staffed a couple of shifts in the BAPA booth at San Jose's Tapestry in Talent earlier this month, and found myself remembering.

Five years ago, I helped staff the booth the last time BAPA was there. A PR professional briefed and briefly trained all the BAPA volunteers in advance, that time, preparing us to deal with the potential challenges it was felt that staffers would face. And we did, though not to the extent it was feared. We probably averaged one real in-your-face Jesus-type per shift, when all was said and done. I recall a pair of Jehovah's Witnesses who carefully stood about 6 feet from the table's edge to conduct their harangue -- as if they might be contaminated by closer contact. And we successfully deflected the worst of their points, politely, and they left within minutes without becoming an issue.

I saw changes this time, a lot of changes. A lot more casual recognition either of the term Pagan, or of Wicca, on the What is Wicca? brochures when they saw them. I saw a wider range of ages of interested parties; from the unsurprising teens to the surprising grandparents. This time, there were other religious booths: Bible-Baptist and Lutheran, if I recall. This time most of the teens who stopped either wanted our information, or were already practitioners -- usually both. This time many of the folks who came along to ask "what's a Pagan?" appeared to recognize one or another of the terms

used to try to describe us, such as "nature spirituality" or "earth-based spirituality."

The worst reaction I encountered was the woman who only registered the word Pagan on our booth sign after she had her hand on a grape, then yanked it back empty and walked a little faster towards the bus stop. As if to offset that, at least three craft booths presented goods of significant Pagan interest (not counting the assorted jewelers who included a small number of Pagan charms among their earrings and pendants because that what teens are buying), and the roasted corn booth gave me a freebie when I mentioned where I was working.

The Internet makes a difference, BAPA makes a difference, you and I make a difference. Leading by example makes a difference -- parents appreciated that the booth Pagans told their kids, Yes, you may have a Tootsie Pop...if your folks say yes. (The parents' eyes took note, and thanked us, every time.)

From 1995 to 2000, it's a very few years, and a long, long way. Blessed be.

Further reflections on TnT...

*... I only had one run in and it seemed minor....Walt- what was it I said that shut him up anyway?....I can't remember, something about greedy tabernacle priests or something like that....ha! Thank you for the opportunity! It was indeed fun! and I too came away with treasures from TnT.....
Roe*

*" How did things go with you at TnT?"
Well... in a nutshell.... pretty darn quiet. Since most of our stint was spent setting up and the rest of it was during the early and less populated hours, we really didn't get many talkers. I'm encouraged by the responses of the others though, and Ek and I will be sure to pitch in our time next year if (the collective) we decide to do it again.*

Thanks to you as well for your efforts at coordinating this beast. It only stumbled a few times, but it was sauntering along by the time it needed to get up and moving.
Blessa ~
Jean

Yes, yes, I enjoyed the festival, too, even though Wolfsong turned me down (just kidding). Actually, I brought my 11-year old daughter along to keep an eye on me, and she was a great help. She wanted to come back on Monday, but we had other plans. The grapes and dried apricots were a wonderful idea, Deborah - much healthier than the tootsie pops. We do need literature holders, though the stones provided a rustic effect.

Lots of good conversations - probably more like 3 an hour, I'd say. Interestingly, the most dogmatic visitor was a self-proclaimed atheist. Then there was the guy who asked if we were giving the Green Party in the booth next door a bad name or if they were giving us one. Hunh?

All-in-all, an excellent opportunity for outreach and community visibility.
Michael

This was my first volunteer for the group and was curious both who we would get at the booth and what there was to offer. Nice job! I talked with many people - usually the kids came up first to scope it out, and then the parents followed. Really family oriented event this time - maybe the weather helped there. The site was great and co-boothers very sweet. I would suggest anyone willing to bring along some tarot cards or handwork to not hesitate. I had people curious about the crochet I was working on and 2 requests for a reading while there. The info for particular groups, times, contact, etc. was a bit vague (on purpose maybe in this instance..) But the list of websites linked to Pagan happenings in the local area would be a nice addition.

Something unique to focus attention to the booth would be nice - flowers, "Pin the Tail on the Dragon", la la la.....I'd be happy to volunteer next year. Thanks for the opportunity.
Mommadona

Well, I don't know about Mike, but I had a great time! I was jokingly telling my friends that I was supposed to "provide a body for the rock throwing and torches", but we really didn't have anyone that aggressive...there were a couple people that I just had to roll my eyes at (like the 40-some guy not so subtly asking for a date) but I agree with the suggestion for the stand-up things for the flyers.

Also, I don't know if anyone thought of this, but in addition to a book list pamphlet, what about websites?

With Perfect Love and Perfect Trust,
Wolfsong Reivynfyre
Crone)0(A Guiding Light

Editor's note: We will have more copies of our newsletter there next year, which includes quite a few URLs and other information, but a separate list or addendum to the book list would be an excellent idea as well.

Let me share some of the experiences I had yesterday at TrT:

One family came up to the table and the mother said that she wanted her children to know about Pagans and Wicca from a reliable source and not from Hollywood or the media.

Another person wanted to know how Pagans differed from atheists. That spawned a very good discussion.

A person came up and wanted literature 'for a friend' and I suggested that she take two sets - one for her friend - and one for herself - so that when her friend had questions or there was a point to discuss that she herself was up on the issues in the literature. She took two sets.

A few people orbited in the street and gave the table a furtive glance and wandered off - one came back - looked at the table again and came straight in and asked for the literature.

It did not stop even after I left the BAPA booth. I went to get a sausage from the vendor down the way and when I got up to the window with my friend the person working the window asked about my pentagram and I explained that is was - for

me - a sign of my belief as a Pagan. He said that he had never met a Pagan in real life, he said he thought he knew something of Paganism but was reluctant to investigate further because he 'was raised in a fundamentalist family'. He also said he was glad to meet someone for real and asked what drew me into that belief. I gave him a very brief explanation because I was well aware of the growing line behind me. This he also noticed and ignored and asked a few more questions which I also answered. After that exchange he thanked me for taking the time to talk to him and he and his coworker thanked me - the line was very long at this point.

Point is-

You never know - when - or where - or how - you might be observed.

Blessed Be Always, All Ways...

El Rhondda Ystradyfodwg

When I was there, there were no obnoxious visitors (oddly enough, at Faire, the next day, there were no obnoxious rowdy drunks or bikini bimbos in Improbable Heels, either).

We did get some older folks asking vague questions, taking info (we had to refill the table at least twice), and lots of pagan folks happy to see us. There were also some Pagans--that is their family name, and indeed, the nephew of the fellow who runs Pagan Construction Co., whose signs I see on the way to the 5 from SCruz. They seemed to appreciate the humor in the coincidence.

We got lots of kids staring at the Tootsie Pops, and most looked to their parents for permission to take one. There was one little girl who only wanted what her brother chose, so we hunted for another choco/choco one.

I had a pleasant day--I got a decently near parking space, got to chat with interesting folk (several acquaintances wandered by), and spend some time outdoors in comfort. I'll be happy to do it again next year if we are not on travel.
Marina

Roger and I fielded a few serious inquiries and had a couple of weird encounters as well, but the most

heartwarming story I have is of the young mother with her five year old daughter who came up and asked questions and took literature to educate herself because her daughter's father and stepmother are pagan and they want to take the daughter to some of their rituals. The mother wanted to know what Wicca was about before giving her consent. And the most heart-warming remark she made was that eventually the daughter will have to decide for herself - open heart, open mind.

I won't be nearly so nervous about volunteering again next year. Thanks for the opportunity.

Neva



Gratitude can best be defined and understood as the only possible response to a gift, to something recognized as utterly, freely given.

- Ernest Kurtz and Katherine Ketcham in *The Spirituality of Imperfection*



As you bring in the bunch of corn or grain and arrange it in a place of honor where it can remain until Imbolc, chant words such as:

Welcome Corn Mother

We welcome Thee

Welcome Corn Mother

Blessed Be!

- Pauline Campanelli in *Wheel of the Year*



The Greymalkin Gazette, a Pagan and magickal publication which comes out eight times per year, is soliciting good original material, poetry, articles from 300 to just under 1000 words, and short-short fiction in the same length range as the articles. Since we operate on a broken shoestring budget, the only payment will be our gratitude and a copy of the issue in which the piece appears.

If you send the piece by email, please have it be the body of the email. I will also need your snailmail address so that I can send you your copy of the issue.

My email addy is: tezra@earthlink.net

If you want to send hard copy by snailmail my address is

The Greymalkin Gazette
P.O. Box 6775
San Jose, 95150-6775

Drawing Down the Moon, an action-adventure flick, starring Walter Koenig of Star Trek and Babylon 5 fame, is now in distribution. Ask for it at your favorite video stores, and if they don't have it yet, tell them that it's being distributed by Tapeworm Video Distributors at 661-257-4904. And be sure to tell the store manager that you think it would make a great rental.

To order your own copy, here's how:

VHS, NTSC

\$22.95 plus \$3.50 s/h = \$26.45 (PA \$28.04)

1-800-606-9642

<http://www.drawingdownthemoon.com/ecommerce/purchase.html>

Chaos Entertainment

220 N. Second Street

Sunbury, PA 17801

"The Goddess is Alive!"

Just a reminder to save your fall Tuesday nights for the Goddess is Alive! series in Oakland. You are invited to join us for the sixth season of an

extraordinary series of classes, as we share with you the newest research, art, dance, poetry and projects which honor the Sacred Feminine around the world.

September 19th - Iris Stewart *"Sacred Women, Sacred Dance: Awakening the Spirit Through Movement and Ritual"*

September 26th- No Goddess Is Alive

October 3- Tina Stromstead, Ph.D. *Re-Inhabiting the Female Body: An Experience in Authentic Movement*

October 10-Barbara Sellers-Young, Ph.D. *"Dreaming of Dancing: Women, Dance and the Power of Eros"*

October 17- Camila Martinez, *"Shamanism, Power Plants and the Goddess"*

October 24th- Elinor Armer *"Women Set to Music"*

October 31st- Katarzyna Rolzinski, Ph.D.- *"Bringing Mother Home"*

November 7th- Election Day- No Goddess is Alive!

November 14th- Lenore Friedman and Susan Moon *"Being Bodies: Buddhist Women on the Paradox of Embodiment"*

November 21st. Caroline Brandy *"The Sacred Drum"*

Tuesdays, 7:00 ^ 9:30 PM

Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Center
1650 Mountain Blvd.

Oakland, California

Sponsored by Serpentina

\$20 Regular admission, \$15 students, \$90 for entire series. No one turned away for lack of funds.

For more information see

www.serpentina.com or call 650-325-2761

How nature loves the incomplete

She knows

If she drew a conclusion it would

Finish her.

- Christopher Fry

The new *Talisman Newsletter* has been posted to the Redwood Circles website. The invitation URL for the upcoming Mabon ritual is...

http://www.5points.com/RWC/September2000/Mabon_Invite/mabon_invite.html

"Standing Stones" - Bedrock Groups of Bay Area Paganism

Organizations:

- (BAPA) Bay Area Pagan Assemblies: in Palo Alto call 408-559-4242
(COG)Covenant of the Goddess: Call Arios at 415-584-2659
(DD) Dragon Dream: in San Francisco call 415-820-1500
(LI) The Lilith Institute: contact Deborah Grenn-Scott at 650-345-5449 or lilith@best.com or <http://www.lilithinstitute.com>
(NROOGD) New Reformed Order of the Golden Dawn: in Berkeley call 510-521-1040 or <http://www.nroogd.org>
(Ph) Phases: in San Francisco call 415-468-5466 or <http://www.phases.org> or lawre@sirius.com
(RE) Reclaiming San Francisco (many areas) 415-256-1766
(RWC) Redwood Circles: in Santa Cruz call 831-335-1501 or <http://www.5-points.com/RWC/>
(SBC) South Bay Circles: in Palo Alto contact Bianca at 408-265-5180

Businesses:

- (13) "13" Book Store: in Santa Cruz, 831-425-1313
(AW) Ancient Ways Book Store: Oakland, 510-653-3244 or <http://www.ancientways.com>
(HL) Her Land Book Store: in Santa Cruz
(LD) Lavender Dragon: in Menlo Park call 650-323-4778; on the web www.lavenderdragon.com
(PE) Psychic Eye Book Store: in Mountain View, San Francisco
(SJ) San Jose Metaphysical Book Store: in San Jose call 408-446-0590

Chronos Calendar

(updated 9/24/2000 for online version)

September

- 24-26** - Woden's Feast, A Norse Teutonic gathering with Hammer of Thor Hearth. in Big Sur, CA. Blessing, feast, music, tent camping. For more info., Please send SASE to: Hammer of Thor Hearth, P.O. Box 222514, Carmel, CA 93922
27 - (SJ) **Energy Healing** with Morly Shapira 7:30-9:30 PM *Find Out What Earth Energy Is & How It Works • Learn About the Body As an Energy System, Our Chakras & the Symbolology of Disease* - \$15
28 - (AW)Glenn Turner of Ancient Ways in Oakland will present a workshop on the 12 Greek Gods and Goddesses of Olympus. Contact Ancient Ways at 510-653-3244 or www.ancientways.com for more information.
29 - Oct.1 - Twilight Gathering 2000 - Sponsored by the Crescent Hellions. The theme of this festival is: "Dancing our Demons, Feeding our Dreams". All traditions of magick and witchcraft are invited to a weekend of transformative ritual, intimate sharing of lore & art and fine company. In the Mendocino Woodlands. Cost is \$125 - \$150, sliding scale. Limited to 60 participants. Email: TwilightGathers@aol.com or call (510) 232-2569.

October

- 11** - (SJ) **The Pagan Path: Passing to the Afterworld** with Mark Cook & Michael Dilts 7:30-9:30 PM *Discussion Series Exploring Topics of Interest to Those on the Pagan Path* \$15
13 - **Luna Circa**. Willow will do a ritual honoring Lakshmi. We are an eclectic women's circle meeting in the San Jose, CA area for thirteen years. Every month on the second Friday after the new moon, we gather and circle, with members taking charge of rituals

on a voluntary rotational basis. If you have any questions, please feel free to write to us lunacirca@yahoo.com.

14 - (SJ) Psychic Fair! 11AM - 6PM *Clairvoyants * Tarot Readers * Aura Photos * Energy Healers * Angel Workers * Numerology * Raffles & Prizes * FREE ADMISSION*
18 - Recognize the Nature of Your Own Gifts with Scout Bartlett 7:30-9:30 PM *Your Life Purpose & Life Path are Encoded in the Talents You Carry Within You - Scout Will Give You Several "Tried & True" Methods for Self-Identifying Your Natural Gifts - He Will Also Illustrate the Concept of Personal Talents by Doing "Single Gift" Mini-Readings for 20 Random Members of the Audience - \$15.*

21 - Come. Join 300 of your closest friends at the First Annual Witch's Ball sponsored by Full Circle. This magikal Costume Ball will take place at the Lucy Stern Center in Palo Alto. Come enjoy music, dancing, and refreshments. Contact Full Circle Events at <http://www.fullcircleevents.org/> for more information.

25, Nov.1 - (SJ) Mirror, Mirror with Fernalia (Initiated Wiccan, 7-Year Practitioner) 7:30-9:30 PM *Have You Ever Wanted to Make Your Own Scrying Mirror But You Didn't Want to Go it Alone - Here is Your Chance - Design, and Decorate Your Mirror on the First Evening of the Class - Charge it Magickally on the Second Evening - \$15 (Includes Materials)*

27 - Join "The Shrieking Sisterhood", WyrdWeavers Collective's women-only Dark Moon circle, in Campbell. Experienced Witches and other Pagan women with many years of experience doing magick only. Strictly a no-novices circle, open to solitaires as well as those who are working with other groups. Contact ShriekingSisterhood@wyrdweavers.org for more information.

31 - Samhain. Join WyrdWeavers Collective for a traditional Dumb supper during which we honor our beloved Dead. There will be an evening ritual and journey that is deeply Initiatory in nature and should only be attempted by those who feel ready for the messages they might receive. Children are welcome to join in the afternoon festivities but will not be permitted at the evening ritual. Contact WyrdWeavers Collective at netwitch@wyrdweavers.org for more information.

November

3 - (SJ)Practicing the Presence of the Goddess with Barbara Ardinger 7:30-9:30 PM *Mini Workshop and Book Signing with the Author of "Goddess Meditations" - Explore How the Presence of the Goddess Manifests in Our Everyday Lives - Shares Ways We Stay Centered on Her While Washing Dishes, Sitting at Our Computer Screen, Trying to Stay Sane on the Freeway - \$15*

8 - (SJ)The Pagan Path: Basics of Wicca with Mark Cook, Michael Dilts & Lady Sharon 7:30-9:30 PM *Discussion Series Exploring Topics of Interest to Those on the Pagan Path - \$15*

15 - (SJ)Life Insights with Scout Bartlett 7:30-9:30 PM *Topic to Be Announced - \$15*

17 - Lecture and Book Signing with Raven Grimassi 7:30-9:30 PM *Noted Author of "Wiccan Magick," "Wiccan Mysteries," "Hereditary Witchcraft" Will Introduce His Recently Published "Encyclopedia of Wicca & Witchcraft" - \$15*

December

1 - Phases is hosting their fifth annual Medieval Manor Yule Feast in San Francisco. Come and give thanks for the Earth's sustenance and bid for a gentle passing of the sleeping time of the Earth. There will be dancers and entertainment to pass the winter evening away, and a feast like the days of old. Contact Phases at 415-468-9664 or www.phases.org.

2 - Yuletide Crafts Faire 11 AM - 5 PM *Sign Up Now to Show Your Wares at this Fun Holiday Event - Even If You're Not the Crafty Type, Reserve This Day to Start Your Quest for the Perfect Yule Gift - Takes Place at the Divine Science Center in Willow Glen - FREE*

ADMISSION - Call San Jose Book Shop at 408-446-0590 For More Information.

Ongoing Events ~~

BAPA sponsors Gaia's Gateway, a public ritual featuring a different Pagan tradition each month. Each Gateway begins with an informative talk, and both the talk and the ritual are led by the practitioners of the religion presented. Gateways are held on the last Sunday of every month from 6 - 9 PM at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church located at 505 E. Charleston Rd. (Except December) Call 408-559-GAIA for more information or <http://www.batnet.com/bapagan/bapa.html>

Wicca classes for women begin every six weeks at Lavender Dragon in Menlo Park. Learn to create sacred space by casting a circle and calling the elemental energies of air, fire, water and earth. Learn to know the Goddess within you. The classes are taught by Owl Blossom, owner of Two Sisters Bookshop, and healer, and teacher who has been practicing witchcraft for 17 years. Call the Bookshop at 650-323-4778 for more information or www.lavenderdragon.com

There are open Sabbat celebrations in the Bay Area by invitation only. In the Palo Alto area, please contact Bianca of South Bay Circles at 408-265-5180. In the Santa Cruz area, contact Redwood Circles at 831-335-1501 or <http://www.5-points.com/RWC/> And in the San Francisco area, contact Phases at 415-468-5466, or <http://www.phases.org> for upcoming dates and locations, and details on how to obtain an invitation.

Stone Soup Social -- A Pagan Potluck Discussion every third Thursday evening of the month in the El Cerrito area. People may show up at 6:30 if they like, dinner starts at 7. Moderated discussion until 9 PM, followed by social time until 11. The discussion topics will be suggested and agreed upon each time by those participating. A donation of \$2-5 is requested, although no one will be turned away for lack of funds. For information, call 408-559-8580 or Email:StoneSoupSocial-subscribe@onelist.com <http://www.onelist.com/subscribe/StoneSoupSocial>

Dragon Dream offers ongoing workshops, monthly circle gatherings and astrology classes for women. Call 415-820-1500 for more information or visit www.dragondream.com

A Women's Healing Circle is held every second Sunday in San Francisco. Guided meditation, chanting, toning and drumming are used to call in the spirit healers to assist women in need of healing. Contact Lupa at 510-601-1428 or Nancy at 510-839-5292 for more information. "All healing is self-healing."

Moon~Ways offers classes, workshops and full moon circles to women in San Francisco. Call 510-601-1428 for event updates and information.

"Creativi-tea" art and tea parties for women are hosted in North Oakland on a TBA basis. Projects such as candle making and magic fairy wands are created while sipping tea and nibbling cookies. Call 415-601-2488 for information and registration.

Fellowship of the Spiral Path (SPIRAL) offers ongoing classes and teaching circles, open rituals and clergy services in the Berkeley area. Phone Diana at 510-658-6033 for information.

New Reformed Orthodox Order of the Golden Dawn (NROOGD) holds open sabbat celebrations in the San Francisco and East Bay. Contact <http://www.nroogd.org/> for more information.

Sabbat celebrations and classes are being offered by Reclaiming in San Francisco, Marin County and Sebastopol. Call their events line at 415-339-8150 for more information.

The 3rd Road is a school of Celtic shamanism and center for spiritual healing, founded by Franchesca De Grandis. Classes and workshops and long term shamanic training are available. Call 415-750-1205 or contact <http://www.well.com/user/zthirdrd/francescadbrchr.html>

Monthly open circles for families with young children are being offered by Scarlet Cord in the East Bay area. Call Mary at 510-526-1008 for more information.

Seekers' Lunch meets weekly at Hobe's in Palo Alto. Curious, new to the Craft, or Pagans new to the area are welcome to gather on Tuesdays, 12:30 to 2:00 at 4224 El Camino Real. Ask the hostess for the "duck people". Call 650-813-1816 for information. Reservations not required.

Rainbow Path, a group of three holiday-based Dianic circles, meets monthly in the East Bay. The Circles are Persephone's Journey (for girls and boys age 8 and up), Demeter's Quest (women only), and Pomegranate Circle (lesbians). Contact Margaret at 510-525-7184 for information.

There are two CUUPS chapters established in the Bay Area. Official contact information is: Pagan Interest Group (San Francisco) Meets every Sunday morning and full moons at First Unitarian Society in San Francisco. For info contact Sally Amsbury, at (510) 595-1341 or email sally@lionslair.com, or write to FUS at 1446 46th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122-2903, church phone (415) 242-1608.

Circle of Heart's Delight (San Jose) Meets at First Unitarian Church of San Jose, 160 N. 3rd St. For more information contact Jo Balzer at (408) 274-6288, or email sestes@scu.edu

Visit <http://www.cyprian.org/Index> for additional bay area events and listings.

Note: Please save this copy of The BAPAN through the end of the calendar year as event listings in upcoming issues may not be as complete and will be included on a space available basis. Also, if you notice any errors in the information printed here, please direct your corrections to nevawrites@bigfoot.com