



BAPAN

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

BELTAINE 2005

BAPA NEWS

Greetings BAPA Members!

1. On-going Volunteer openings available - As can be seen from our Survey Update, we could use a few good people. We have your names if you expressed interest in hosting events and will probably be contacting you over the next couple of months as we develop a game plan to bring more events to your neighborhood. If anyone else has further interest, please be sure to let us know!
2. Wanna lead a Gateway? - In addition to the few good folks we desperately need to host events, we need some groups to lead a Gaia's Gateways this year. Email Crystal at crblack95054@yahoo.com and she'll forward you to the right folks.

BAPA Officers:

President: Mercury
Jim McCann
Caelyth Sterling
Trish McNeill
Crystal Black
Stan Mostert

BAPA Volunteers:

Gateway Chiefs: *Your name could be here!*
Volunteer Chief: Gary Mattingly
Librarian: Caelyth Sterling
Membership Coordinator: Gary Mattingly
Web Master: Crystal Black and Sean Schultz
BAPAN Editor: *Your name could be here!*

NEXT GATEWAY

www.bapa.net

Ritual Leader Barbara Des Marais

Sunday, May 29; 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Ritual Leader Barbara Des Marais will be leading us through a ritual of European pre-Christian traditions, but also drawing on others including Native American, Shamanism, Buddhism, etc. with a focus on pre-patriarchal practices.

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 the month from 6pm-9pm in the Fireside Room at the Palo Alto Unitarian Universalist Church (PAUUC).

BELTAINE EVENTS

May 1 – Beltane at the Baylands – Palo Alto

It's May Day morning - Help us dance up the sun! Once again, our favorite local Morris dancers will gather together with their sticks, ribbons, bells, hankies, and baldrics, for music and dance to wake up the sun on MayDay morning and keep it coming back up for a whole year. Besides being a great deal of fun, does this show dedication or what? You may have noticed that it works, too. Be a part of it. Show up while it's dark and watch the Sun make its grand entrance. See the spectacle. Watch the magic. Cheer the dancers. Join in the celebration. Wonder why you're up at this hour. Meet at the Palo Alto Baylands at the East end of Embarcadero Road (go past the Duck Pond and Gate B to the parking lots) by 5:15 am. Coffee and muffins will be available. Join as everyone learns and dances Sellenger's Round (or The Beginning of the World). Yes, we actu-

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BAPA News 1
Next Gaia's Gateway 1
Local Beltaine Events 1
What is Beltaine? 2
Scout's List of Upcoming Events 3

ally teach it. Wear whatever you want, but bring layers - it will be cold this early in the morning. Information: 510-548-1206 or dcmm-squire@rgoldman.org (Recommended - Scout).

May 1 – Morris Dancers Dance the Sun Up – Berkeley

Dance the sun up at Inspiration Point, Tilden Regional Park, from 5:45-7:00am. There will be dancing throughout the day. Information: berkeley-morris@talamasca.com or visit <http://www.berkeley-morris.org/>.

May 1 - Beltane Celebration – San Francisco

Pagan Interest Circle of CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans) hosts a Beltane Celebration at the First UU Church of San Francisco (in the Courtyard), 1187 Franklin St, at 1:00pm. Bring flowers and some food to share, and join us for wreath making, merrymaking, and a dance for the maypole. Information: Carlowe at 415-476-5117 or cconnell@fm.ucsf.edu.

May 1 - Beltane Celebration - San Francisco

Reclaiming will host a Beltane Celebration at New Magic Meadow, Golden Gate Park. Gather/12:00pm, Ritual/1:00pm. Intent: "Global Blessings Given to the Earth." Ritual includes a Maypole dance. Tarot and other readings offered before and after ritual. Please bring flowers, musical instruments, and food or non-alcohol drinks to share. Enter park at 41st Ave. Walk two short blocks into park, enter parking lot on right, look for Pagans and/or signs. Information: george@ground-worknews.org or visit <http://www.reclaiming.org>.

May 1 - Sunday Morning Goddess Celebration (women) - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Sunday Morning Goddess Celebration: Come celebrate Freyja for Beltane, with Nancy Ogilvie from 11:00am-1:00pm. Wanting to explore and celebrate feminine images of the Divine? Wanting a greater connection with the Goddess in your day-to-day life? Whether you're experienced in Goddess spirituality or new and curious, come honor and celebrate the Goddess within and without at these Sunday morning circles. We will create sacred space and invoke a different Goddess each month, sharing Her story and exploring Her influence in our day-to-day lives. A free will offering of thanks will be taken each time to benefit Change Makers for Women. Cost: Free will offering. Information: 510-690-0467, info@ChangeMakersForWomen.com or visit <http://www.change-makersforwomen.com/>.

May 1 – May Day Shamanic Drumming Circle – Boulder Creek

Char Lynn hosts a Shamanic Drumming Circle from 12:00-4:00pm. Within this circle we look at the shamanic approach to moving into non-ordinary reality through what is known as a drum journey. With the beat of the drum we 'travel' into spirit realms with intention and purpose to gather and bring back information pertinent to our lives. After our work together, having raised powerful group energy, we fill ourselves and create a healing circle to send out to those we love and the world. No experience necessary. Open to men and women. Cost: \$10-20. Information: 831-338-2996, charlynn@weavingunity.com or visit www.weavingunity.com.

May 3 – SPIRAL Gateway: Neolithic Beltaine - Berkeley

Fellowship of the Spiral Path (SPIRAL) hosts an outreach circle called "Gateway" on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists (BFUU), 1924 Cedar St at Bonita, at 7:30pm. Tonight's circle will be a Neolithic Beltaine, a reenactment of an ancient agrarian ritual that includes a simulated great rite. We recommend that children not be brought to this ritual. This event is open

to men and women. Information: 510-658-6033 or HDGDPC@aol.com.

May 6-8 - Beltane Celebration - Boulder Creek

Amber Oak Protogrove, ADF invites you to our Beltane ritual on Sunday May 8 at 12:00pm in Big Basin State Park. This is a three-day celebration starting on Friday May 6th and ending May 8th, including camping, hiking and dancing. If you are interested in camping out, you will need to reserve a campsite immediately. This will include a Celtic wedding of the summer Goddess to the Lord of the forest. Join us in the beautiful redwood forest as we re-dedicate our link to the land in the ways of the old ones. Amber Oak Protogrove, ADF honors the Norse and Celtic hearth cultures. A potluck feast will follow the ritual. Please bring a dish to share and something to barbeque. Cost: Free but donations accepted. Information: 650-922-0382 or kestrellamont@com-cast.net

May 8 - Beltaine Celebration - Berkeley

New Reformed Orthodox Order of Golden Dawn (NROGD) will host a Beltaine Celebration, presented by Jeffrey Brown and Friends, at Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck Ave. Gather/3:00pm, Ritual/3:30pm. Come one - come all. Celebrate Beltaine with NROGD - with the War of the Flower (Winter Queen rebirthing/transforming to Summer Queen), 'Obby 'Oss, and Maypole. Cost: \$5-20 per adult; no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Information: <http://www.nrogd.org/calendar.htm>.

WHAT IS BELTAINE?

From DenElder's Glossary

The Fires of Bel or Gaelic for May, depending on which source you are looking at. Astronomically it is when the Sun reaches 15° of the fixed sign of Taurus, symbolized by the Bull. This is the Third Cross-Quarter Day. It celebrates the maturity of the God to manhood and the union of the God and Goddess, and Her fertility.

.....This is one of our most popular Sabbats with the festivity starting at sundown the 30th whether you are Celtic or not, and going through to dawn of the 1st (or correct dating if you use that). Because of the emphasis on fertility, the Christian Fathers didn't have any replacement for this celebration. For this is the time to go into the forest and fields for A'Maying... restrictions are dropped and even old married Folk might slip off wedding rings and what the rings imply. However - consenting adults only!

.....Another aspect of the holiday is to work Water Magick in the dawning light of the 1st (4th this year). Cleansings in streams or natural lakes, the ocean or Dew Magick by the ladies for eternal beauty. Water Witching of all kinds is done but it has to be from the time the Sun first starts peaking over the horizon, to stopping when the grass is dried in the Sunshine. I've also seen this called Wild Watering, but that name makes me think of somebody running through the bushes peeing on everything.

.....*Also called May Day, the old English May Pole tradition was of a phallic symbol, marking the return of vitality, passion and consummated hopes. Old dating occurs May 5th, with the Christian holidays of Walpurgisnacht, Feast of (St.) Walpurga, and something called Roodmas, which I leave to you to learn more about.

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

Upcoming Local Pagan Events ~ May, 2005

May 1 – Women's Rites of Spring Festival - Napa

The Lilith Institute and Daughters of the Goddess present their 2nd annual Women's Rites of Spring Festival celebrating women, ourselves and She of 10,000 names at the Pelusi Bldg, Kennedy Park, 2296 Streblov Drive, from 10:00am-6:00pm; Ritual from 7:30-10:00pm. Join us for a day of celebration, wisdom, words, drums, sacred song, dance and ritual with Luisah Teish, Leilani, Jennifer Berezan, Evelie Posch, Carolyn Brandy, Karen Vogel, Max Dashu and others. Labyrinth facilitator Gloria Good will facilitate at labyrinth walk and meditation. The all-day Marketplace will offer women's art/crafts, ritual objects, jewelry, CDs, candles, herbals and feature the art of Shiloh McCloud. Drug, alcohol and hate-free zone. Cost: by March 15/\$55; by April 15/\$65; Door/\$75; Evening ritual only/\$20. Information: Leilani at 925-787-9247, Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com or visit Events@LilithInstitute.com

May 1 - Goddess Meditation: Quan Yin - Fremont

Allison will host a Goddess Meditation at 39791 Paseo Padre Pkwy, Suite H, starting at 7:30pm. This week we will focus on Quan Yin, Asian Goddess of Compassion for Health and Serenity. Find the solutions to life's dilemmas with the help of the Goddess, the feminine face of Divinity who has been worshiped for eons by people all over the world. Seekers of any creed or religion can use guided visualizations. Please dress comfortably and bring a pillow. Cost: \$7-10, sliding scale. Information: Allison at 510-894-0911, air51594@aol.com or visit <http://goddessguidance.net/>

May 1 - Sunday Morning Goddess Celebration (women) - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Sunday Morning Goddess Celebration: Come celebrate Freyja for Beltane, with Nancy Ogilvie from 11:00am-1:00pm. Wanting to explore and celebrate feminine images of the Divine? Wanting a greater connection with the Goddess in your day-to-day life? Whether you're experienced in Goddess spirituality or new and curious, come honor and celebrate the Goddess within and without at these Sunday morning circles. We will create sacred space and invoke a different Goddess each month, sharing Her story and exploring Her influence in our day-to-day lives. A free will offering of thanks will be taken each time to benefit Change Makers for Women. Cost: Free will offering. Information: 510-690-0467, info@ChangeMakersForWomen.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

May 1 - Drumming Circle - Montara

ShamanMoon hosts an Open Drumming Circle from 4:00-8:00pm. Potluck snacks are served from 4:00-4:45pm and we begin promptly by 5:00pm. This is an open drumming circle for men, women and older children. Anyone is welcome; no previous experience is necessary. Children are welcome, if they are able to lie still during the journey. Bring a journal, pen, water bottle, pillow, blanket and any drums or rattles if you have them. The purpose of this circle is to connect with our Power Animals and Spirit Guides on a regular basis, and to come together as a community. People are welcome to volunteer to "put on" the circle each month for the group. This includes planning a journey topic, altar focus, check-in, songs, etc. Cost: Free. Information: 650-728-1407, Laura@shamanmoon.org or visit <http://www.shamanmoon.org/pages/2/index.htm>

May 1 – May Day Shamanic Drumming Circle – Boulder Creek

Char Lynn hosts a Shamanic Drumming Circle from 12:00-4:00pm. Within this circle we look at the shamanic approach to moving into non-ordinary reality through what is known as a drum journey. With the beat of the drum we 'travel' into spirit realms with intention and purpose to gather and bring back information pertinent to our lives. After our work together, having raised powerful group energy, we fill ourselves and create a healing circle to send out to those we love and the world. No experience necessary. Open to men and women. Cost: \$10-20. Information: 831-338-2996, charlynn@weavingunity.com or visit www.weavingunity.com

May 1 - Tarot Playgroup - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Tarot Playgroup from 11:00am-1:00pm on the 1st Sunday of every month. Bring your tarot deck or favorite divination tool. We'll learn new spreads and trade readings for each other in a supportive, low-pressure atmosphere. Beginners welcome. Cost: Free. Information: 510-655-2405, info@ChangeMakersForWomen.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

May 1 - Irish Music Session - Sunnyvale

An Irish session will be held at 904 Primrose Ave (a private home) on the 1st Sunday of each month from 6:00-10:00pm. Please RSVP. Information: 408-736-7872.

May 1 - Intermediate Celtic Music Session - Santa Cruz

A Celtic Music Session for intermediate players will be held on the 1st Sunday of every month at 2:00pm at various private homes in the North Santa Cruz Co. area. Information: 831-427-0624.

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Drumming Circle (women) - Aptos

DrumWomyn of Monterey Bay meets every Sunday from 6:30-8:30pm to recognize and celebrate the special connection between women and the drum, providing diversified experience with the drum for all level of drummers. We learn more than rhythms. As we create intricate drum songs using our drums, our voices and our bodies, parts are put together to create a greater whole. We are learning drum rhythms and techniques mainly from West Africa, Central Africa and the Afro-Caribbean traditions. You do not need to own a drum or even have ever touched a drum before coming to DrumWomyn. Cost: \$11. Information: Sandra at 831-684-2408, info@drumwomyn.org or visit <http://www.drumwomyn.org/>

May 2 - Mandala Art and the Music of Mozart - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts Mandala Art and the Music of Mozart with Judy Gardner at 7:30pm. The music of Mozart has a powerful effect on the body, mind, and spirit. The magic art of the mandala can have a transformative effect as well. Combining these spiritual arts can create amazing inner effects. Judy Gardner has painted and taught mandala art for many years. Tonight, she'll share wonderful stories about the healing benefits of art and music. Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

May 2 - Shamanic Healing Circle - Berkeley

The Toltec Center of Creative Intent, 2300 Roosevelt at Bancroft, hosts a Shamanic Healing Circle from 7:00-9:00pm on the 1st Monday of every month. This community gathering is an opportunity to share, explore, give and receive healing energy. Join in creating a magical container, which will bring out your intuition and open you to Spirit. Cost: Free; No need to pre-register. Donations welcome. Information: 510-649-0352, info@spiritweavers.com, or visit <http://www.spiritweavers.com>

May 4 - Healing Ourselves and the World - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts Healing Ourselves and the World: Reawakening to Wholeness Workshop with Bonita Ford at 7:00pm. Do you want to help heal the world? In these turbulent and challenging times, it is so important that we live with wholeness and integrity. Who you

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

are is the greatest gift you give to the world. Engage with your Inner Healer and Visionary through movement, artwork and visualization. Clarify your personal intentions and the next steps needed towards realizing these goals. Together, we will embark on a personal exploration and connect with others who are also on this journey. Beginners welcome. All materials provided. Cost: \$25; no one turned away for lack of funds. Information: 510-286-7915, info@ChangeMakersForWomen.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

May 4 - What is Reiki? - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts What is Reiki? with Donna Gaus at 7:30pm. Reiki Master Donna Gaus will teach this simple method for using life-force energy to stimulate your natural healing abilities. Reiki simultaneously heals and balances body, emotions, mind, and spirit. Endorsed by physicians and hospitals, it encourages integrated functioning of your body's healing systems, reduces pain, and creates a sense of well being. Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

May 5 - Your Hands Can Heal You - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts Your Hands Can Heal You with Stephen Co at 7:30pm. Master Stephen Co is the co-author of *Your Hands Can Heal You*. Master Co, a pranic healer, has helped countless patients recover from serious illnesses. Join us this evening as he gives practical instructions for directing and managing the healing energy called "prana." Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

May 6 - Transformational Healing Circle - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, hosts a Transformational Healing Circle with Carolyn Brandy and Vicki Noble at 7:30pm. The Transformational Healing Ritual, developed in 1990 by Vicki Noble at the Motherpeace School for Shamanic Healers in Oakland, is a form that has effected positive change and brought healing to people around the world. Through the powerful energies generated in the circle, we remember our ancient heritage as people with natural healing abilities. This open circle is an opportunity to reconnect with these energies, as well as a chance for those in our community who are struggling with life-threatening and chronic, debilitating physical illness to lie down and receive vibrational healing in the context of the drumming and group chanting. We gather as a group with our drums and our voices to pray for healing and transformation in our community, laying hands on those members of the group who are especially in need. Those of us in the circle functioning as the "healers" simply make ourselves open to the healing vibration for the good of those who need it, and in the process we get to experience beneficial results ourselves. No experience needed. Beginners and advanced healers and drummers are welcome. Cost: \$5-10. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

May 6 – Sacred Dance – Santa Cruz

Body & Soul, on Squid Row, 738 Chestnut St, invites you to experience oneness with Spirit through sacred dance and soul empowering music of the world on the 1st Friday of every month from 7:00–8:30pm. Let your spirit soar through your body. Express the joy and unity of your entire being. Live your unique dance and creative intention. Together we will: sanctify, energize and free our bodies with the Divine Expression of who we truly are, free ourselves of inhibition and confinement of self-expression, open and free our voices and bodies, expressing our unique truth, dance the magical moment of now, raise our vibration, filling ourselves with expanded love and light, express the dances of our tribal, angelic, masterful, and multidimensional selves sending the collective ecstasy of our experience out to all Creation. Join us as in a healing and empowering dance of life. Allow your dance to be your heartfelt prayer. Cost: \$12. Information: Adora at 831-462-9960, dawnp@got.net or visit <http://www.sanctuary-illumination.com/images/adora/ecstaticdance3-new.pdf>

May 7 - Goddess Service - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, will host a Goddess Service. Cost: Free. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

May 7 - The Human Race - Santa Cruz

The Human Race is a fundraising effort sponsored by the Volunteer Centers of Santa Cruz County from 8:00-11:00am. Bring yourself, your dog(s), your family and your friends to help raise money for Community Seed. It's fun and the location is spectacular. The walk is from Natural Bridges to Dutra Point and will be in lieu of Community Seed's regularly scheduled nature walk/Energy Walk. We will be walking 6 miles (10K) with family and friends, to help raise money to support Community Seed in it's mission to provide our local Earth-Spirit / Pagan community with opportunities to create closer bonds of love and understanding with one another, through community service, spiritually focused events and ritual celebrations. Any amount of donation pledge is appreciated. Information: 831-469-0336, Board@communityseed.org or visit www.communityseed.org

May 7 - Pagan Festival 2005: Weaving Traditions - Berkeley

The Pagan Alliance will sponsor the 4th Annual Pagan Festival: Weaving Traditions at Civic Center Park, Martin Luther King Jr Way, between Center and Allston, from 10:00am-5:00pm. Please join us in celebrating and honoring our diverse Pagan community. There will be a procession that will include floats, ending with a community ritual in the park. The spring day will continue with celebration of our diverse spiritualities through spoken word, music, song, dance and art. The event will include vendors, children's area, author's circle, altars and information booths. We intend to create understanding and foster acceptance of the differences manifested in our interweaving ways. Our mission is to promote improved understanding of our various traditions. Cost: Free. Information: arlynne@thepaganalliance.org or visit www.paganfestival.com

May 7 - The Flame Within: Festival After-Party and Trance Dance - Richmond

The 4th Annual Pagan Festival and Axis Mundi Sonic Shamanic Trance Chant invite you to join us for The Flame Within ~ Festival After-Party and Trance Dance at Bhakti Mandir (House of Devotional Ecstasy), 6225 Doremus Ave, from 8:00pm to 12:30am. Celebrate the diversity of Pantheism with the Wiccan, Goddess and Tantric Tribes as we reclaim our ancient Divine Magic roots. The serpentine and fiery Kundalini transformational energy is the flame within. Thrill to its irresistible, mercurial charm and join us for trance dancing to Axis Mundi's live sacred sound, shakti and shiva fire fan dancing with spoken word, singing bowls and magical crystals with Crystal Bill, Celtic invocations by High Druid Priest James of Taliesin, and the blissful pleasure of shared ecstatic experience in a radiant connected community. Wear your festive finery and have a warm layer so you can enjoy the beautiful views from the spacious 3 level outdoor deck. Cost: \$10 donation; Potluck foods, light libations and beverages are welcomed. Information: 510-232-8262, axismundi@jps.net or visit <http://www.soundclick.com/axismundi>

May 7 – Le Bal du Moulin Rouge – San Mateo

PEERS invites you to Le Bal du Moulin Rouge at the Masonic Lodge of San Mateo, 100 N. Ellsworth Ave. Doors open at 6:45pm; Dance lessons at 7:00pm; Dancing begins at 8:00pm. Join us for an evening of fun and frolic, marvelous dancing and, of course, scandalous Cancan performances at the most notorious night club in Paris. Suggested costume is evening dress 1889-1900, any class, or modern evening dress. (Yes, fantasy creations inspired by Baz Luhrman's amazing movie are welcome, as well as historical-based reproductions.) The celebrated Baguette Quartette will play a

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

variety of exquisite late 19th and early 20th century waltzes, polkas, mazurkas, schottisches, two-steps, tangos and set dances for an evening of lively and romantic ballroom dancing. There will, of course, be a no-host bar and light snack buffet to sustain us through such an exhilarating dance set. And, but of course, the ball will feature the true star of the Moulin Rouge - a spectacular, spectacular performance of Le Cancan. Cost: \$15/by April 30, \$20/door. Information: 510-522-1731, peers@peers.org or visit <http://www.peers.org/index.html>

May 7 - Sweat Lodge Ceremony - San Jose

Seven Circles will host a Sweat Lodge Ceremony at a private residence located at 435 S. 14th St, starting at 5:00pm. The Sweat Lodge is probably the most recognized of all Native American Ceremonies. The Sweat Leader holds the sacred space and helps the participants with prayer and songs. In most of the Seven Circles lodges, the ceremony within the lodge is somewhat akin to a "talking circle". Participants are invited to speak from their hearts about their life and their community concerns. This is a ceremony of purification and prayer. In the heat and the darkness of the lodge, we can come closer to ourselves, closer to Creator, and closer to understanding each other. Kids are encouraged to attend. Bring a towel and loose clothes you can wear into the lodge. Please bring food for the sacred feast afterwards, a plate, a cup and silverware. We wish to honor the Earth by ceasing to use paper goods and plastic utensils. Information: 408-278-1003 or visit <http://www.sevencircles.org/>

May 7 - Women's Circle - Pacifica

Amethyst Light, 1620 Palmetto Ave #A, hosts a monthly Women's Circle facilitated by Ras. Dr. Chandra Alexandre, from 10:00-11:30am. These gatherings are devoted to exploring women's spirituality and the mysteries of the Divine Female or feminine force. Together we will come to let our hearts, minds, bodies and souls experience devotion and teachings based in ancient, pre-patriarchal practices made vital for today. Each month we will work to invoke the presence of the goddess through a variety of techniques, including meditation, visualization, chanting, art and formal ritual, letting her be known to us individually and collectively. She may come to us through a variety of forms carrying many different names and traditions, so we will open to learning the nuances of her energy, cultural heritage and, in some cases, spoken language. All those on a life-affirming path are welcome to participate. Cost: \$12. Information: 650-738-2761, My@amethystlight.com or visit <http://www.amethystlight.com/>

May 7 - Energy Walk - Santa Cruz Mountains

Community Seed sponsors Energy Walks on the 1st Saturday of each month at various locations in the Santa Cruz area. Gather at 9:45am, and depart at 10:00am; returning around 1:00pm. Each walk includes a guided visualization/meditation to help center and become more aware of our bodies and of the earth. Before beginning our walk together, we will take a moment to join hands in a circle and center our minds and bodies. Once we are all fully present, we will begin our journey into the majestic redwood forest, all the while tuning in, listening, and absorbing the energies of the elements, plants, and animals. We will arrive at a pre-selected location to sit in silent meditation and a guided visualization. Please bring drinking water, a small snack, hiking shoes, comfortable clothes, and money for parking. Information: 831-469-0336, info@communityseed.org or visit www.communityseed.org/wallflower

May 7-8 - Time, Women and Song (women) - Ben Lomond

Betsy Rose presents Time, Women and Song: A Retreat for Women at the Ben Lomond Quaker Center from 9:30am-10:00pm/Sat and 9:00am-12:00pm/Sun. Information: 510-525-7082, betsy@betsyrosemusic.org or visit www.betsyrosemusic.org

May 8 - Sweat Lodge Ceremony - Berkeley

Seven Circles will host a Sweat Lodge Ceremony at a private residence located at 1619 Virginia at Sacramento, starting at 5:00pm. The Sweat Lodge is probably the most recognized of all Native American Ceremonies. The Sweat Leader holds the sacred space and helps the participants with prayer and songs. In most of the Seven Circles lodges, the ceremony within the lodge is somewhat akin to a "talking circle". Participants are invited to speak from their hearts about their life and their community concerns. This is a ceremony of purification and prayer. In the heat and the darkness of the lodge, we can come closer to ourselves, closer to Creator, and closer to understanding each other. Kids are encouraged to attend. Bring a towel and loose clothes you can wear into the lodge. Please bring food for the sacred feast afterwards, a plate, a cup and silverware. We wish to honor the Earth by ceasing to use paper goods and plastic utensils. Information: 510-222-3822 or visit <http://www.sevencircles.org/>

May 8 - Sacred Body, Sacred Landscapes - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, hosts Sacred Body, Sacred Landscapes with Alaura O'Dell from 5:00-8:00pm. Alaura O'Dell, founder and owner of Sacred Journeys for Women, facilitates a workshop of chanting, movement and visual slide-show of sacred sites in England and Ireland. Alaura welcomes you on mother's day to embody the sacred mother within yourself, sitting in circle sharing the possibility of life, pilgrimage and sacredness. Information: 510-883-0600, alaura@sacredjourneys.com or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

May 8 - Women's Healing Lodge Ceremony - Boulder Creek

Char Lynn will host a Healing Lodge Ceremony for Women; Fire at 9:00am, Lodge at 12:00pm. Our intention is to create a safe, sacred space where women may come to heal, be honored in their personal process and purify mind, body and spirit. The Lodge is a sacred purification rite; for cleansing body, mind and spirit, through the use of hot stones, water to create steam and sacred space. The lodge itself is a metaphor of the Womb of the Earth Mother, unconditionally receiving and loving. Plan to arrive 30 minutes early. Help before the Lodge is appreciated. Potluck follows (nutritious foods please). Cost: \$20-50; work exchanges available. Information: 831-338-2996, charlynn@weavingunity.com or visit www.weavingunity.com

May 8 - Dark Moon)0(New Moon Circle for Women - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Dark Moon)0(New Moon Ritual with Magick Matriarch, Jules Stept from 7:00-10:00pm. The Magick of Connections, Beginnings and Endings with the Great Triple Goddess: Mother, Maiden and Crone. We honor the Great Goddess in Her Threefold Archetypal form: The Crone - Consummate Endings, The Mother - Creating Connections, and The Maiden - Intentional Beginnings. Our ultimate purpose in gathering is that, through honoring Her phases, we find comfort in our own process of growth and healing gaining wisdom and renewed life energy. Within the Magick circle we focus on transformation and the personal process using skills in healing, banishing, divination, spell casting and manifestation. No prior experience with circling is necessary. Each circle is different according to the desires of the womyn present. Bring item to charge for altar, pillow, water and healthy snack to share. Tea provided. Cost: \$20; work-trade available to those who make advance arrangements with Jules. Information: 415-695-9066, ACircleOfOurOwn@yahoo.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

May 8 - Tarot Playgroup - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Tarot Playgroup from 11:00am-1:00pm on the 1st Sunday of every month. Bring your tarot deck or favorite divination tool. We'll learn new spreads and trade readings for each other in a supportive, low-pressure atmosphere. Beginners welcome. Cost: Free. Information: 510-655-2405, info@ChangeMakersForWomen.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

May 8 – Irish Music Session and Traditional Song Circle – Aptos

Gather every 2nd Sunday from 6:00-10:00pm at Britannia Arms, 8017 Soquel Drive. All singers and instrumentalists are welcome. Information: Jessica at 831-335-7696, or Sheila at 831-464-2128. Sponsored by the Celtic Society of Monterey Bay.

May 8 – Ritual and Potluck Social for Families – East Bay

Scarlet Cord (A member of the Fellowship of the Spiral Path) hosts a brief ritual followed by a potluck and social for families with young children on the 2nd Sunday of every month, beginning at 11:00am. Information: Mary at 510-526-1008.

May 9 - Open Ritual: Goddess Dance Party (women) - Concord

Daughters of the Goddess will host a Goddess Dance Party in honor of Hawaiian Goddess Haumea, Hawaiian Earth Mother, and Moon in Taurus, starting at 7:30pm. This circle is open to all womyn desiring knowledge and experiential work with the multi-faceted aspects of Goddess in ritual. While this is not a drop-in circle, you can confirm with DotG the day of ritual if you want to attend. DotG is a Dianic temple that holds open rituals and celebrations for womyn in the San Francisco Bay Area. Our High Priestess, Leilani, is part Hawaiian and brings the energy of Aloha to the work we do here. She is the ritual director of our Temple. All womyn are encouraged to participate in the facilitation and development of the Temple if they feel called. Information: 925-787-9247, leilani@daughtersofthegoddess.com or visit <http://www.daughtersofthegoddess.com/>

May 9 - Kali Puja: Sacred Ceremony – San Rafael

Rainbow Body Temple Teahouse, Café and Cultural Center, 923 C St, hosts Kali Puja: Sacred Ceremony at 7:00pm. Kali, the Great Mother of joyous ecstasy, compassionate Goddess of the soul is fiercely devoted to the transformation of every being. Traditional worship of the Great Mother with chanting and ritual. Information: 415-457-4191, info@opensecretbookstore.com or visit <http://www.opensecretbookstore.com/>

May 9 thru June 20 - Flower Essence Workshop - Pacifica

Amethyst Light, 1620 Palmetto Ave #A, hosts a 7-part Flower Essence Workshop with Yerevan, from 6:00-7:30pm. This workshop is designed for those who would like to enhance their healing practices with the use of flower essences and related vibrational remedies. Students will learn creative uses of flower essences, how to create their own flower essences, as well as consciously co-create them with the Nature Spirits and Devas. We will discuss the human energy systems/chakras and the use of vibrational remedies for personal and planetary healing. All levels are welcome. Cost: \$150. Information: 650-738-2761, My@amethystlight.com or visit <http://www.amethystlight.com/>

May 10 - Umbanda Ritual - Berkeley

The American Magic Umbanda House hosts a Devotional and Consultation Ceremony on the 2nd Tuesday of most months at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists (BFUU), 1924 Cedar St at Bonita. Doors/7:30pm; Ceremony/8:00-9:30pm. Share the living presence of the African Powers with our community, in faith and charity. We will be invoking Orixas for a consultation. These Orixas will be coming down onto our Mediums and will be available to answer questions, in the same way as any other oracular or divinatory work. While each Orixas has their own "specialty", you can ask any Orixas any question. Anyone wishing to join us afterward for a round of beverage nearby at Au Coquelet is welcome. Wear clean, white clothing, or your normal, everyday street clothes. Cost: Free. Information: listmail@lorendavidson.com

May 11 - World Peace? Kabbalah, Cabala, Qabalah? - Walnut Creek

Dolphin Dream, 1437 N. Broadway, Suite F, hosts World Peace? Kabbalah, Cabala, Qabalah? with Amber Jayanti from 7:00-9:00pm. Discover how this system makes peace between the religio-spiritual traditions of East and West. Celebrities study it, but what is it? Does each spelling of the word have a different meaning? Where in the world does this tradition originate? What does it have in common with Gnosticism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sufism, Shamanism, Wicca and the Native American Way? How can I use it in my daily life? Cost: \$25. Information: 925-933-2342, info@dolphindream.com or visit <http://www.dolphindream.com/>

May 11 - Voices from the Unknown World: Creating Dialogues with the Unconscious - San Francisco

The Association for the Study of Thelema is pleased to present Voices from the Unknown World: Creating Dialogues with the Unconscious, with Bryce Churchill. The lecture will be held at San Francisco State University, Humanities Building, Room 502, 1600 Holloway Ave, from 7:00-8:30pm. Information: thelema@sfsu.edu or visit <http://userwww.sfsu.edu/~thelema/>

May 11 – Open Circle – Berkeley

Hrafnar kindred hosts heathen events and rituals on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, starting at 7:30pm. Open to both men and women, this is a potluck, and contributions of food and drink are welcome. Most meetings are open, but newcomers should contact Hrafnar Circle first to confirm the topic and location. Information: Diana L. Paxson, Box 5521, Berkeley, CA 94705, greyhavn@earthlink.net, or visit www.hrafnar.org.

May 11 - Pagan Meetup – Santa Clara County

Meet up with other local Pagans, Wiccans, Druids, and all walks of pagan life - exchange lore, legends and learning at a vote-determined location in Santa Clara County on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm. Visit <http://pagan.meetup.com/> to sign up, and Meetup.

May 13 - Relaxation of Eyes and Body Through Movement and Massage - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts Relaxation of Eyes and Body Through Movement and Massage with Meir Schneider at 7:30pm. Born without sight, Meir Schneider refused to surrender to his blindness and began an intensive exploration of self-healing systems. He is the author of *Movement for Self-Healing* and many other books. Join us for an evening of pleasant stretching and breathing exercises that will help you see and feel much better. Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

May 13 - Ceili - Santa Cruz

The Clifford-Hoban Branch of Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann sponsors a Ceili (evening of Irish group dancing) on the 2nd Friday of each month at The Loudon Nelson Community Center, 301 Center St. From 7:30-8:00pm learn the basic steps, then from 8:00-10:00pm enjoy live music and dancing (all dances are taught first). No partner or experience needed at this family-friendly event. You don't have to be Irish to enjoy Irish music and dance. Cost: \$10 adult (16 and over); children (10-15) are \$5. Discounts for CCE members. Information: 831-688-5729, fasola@cruzio.com or visit <http://www.folkplanet.com/cce/index.html>

May 13 – Open Ritual – San Jose

Circle of Hearts' Delight, a chapter of the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS), offers rituals at 7:45pm on the 2nd Friday of each month. These are held in the beautiful round sanctuary of the First Unitarian Church of San Jose located at 160 N. 3rd St. Information: moonlet@dslsigns.net, or call the church at 408-292-3858.

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

May 13, 27 - Akasha Mystery School and World Prayer Calls - Aptos

Sanctuary of Illumination hosts Akasha Mystery School and World Prayer Calls, presented by lolani Negrin and Gregory Hyman, on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month from 7:00-9:00pm. Join us for an inspired evening as we come together in heart and Spirit, in song and prayer for Peace on Earth. Together we will: Unite our collective intention as an outpouring of Love, peace and harmony to bless All Creation - Receive the teachings of our Beloved Ascended Master Angels Akasha and Asun through their messenger Craig Russel, from the Akasha Mystery School recordings - Apply the Masters' Teachings in a powerful group invocation to Life, in communion with the Company of Heaven, to stop all destruction, awaken our family of Humanity and create Heaven here on Earth. Unite our voices with heart opening songs of Spirit renewing ourselves in Divine Love. Cost: \$5-12. Information: Gregory at 831-685-1138, gregory@sanctuary-illumination.com, or visit www.sanctuary-illumination.com

May 14 - Solar Plexus Chakra Workshop - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Solar Plexus Chakra Workshop from 11:30am-1:30pm. This is Part 3 of a Spiritual Journey Through The Chakras with Moyosafi Ajabu; a spiritual, transformational journey that will take you through the seven levels of your being one Chakra at a time and more deeply explore The Wisdom of the Chakra. Participants will experience an energy-based approach to spiritual growth, through meditation, crystal therapy, coaching and the healing power of Reiki. Drop-ins welcome. Cost: \$18-25, sliding scale. Information: 510-710-2816, workshops@moyosafi.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

May 14 - Spirit Doll Workshop (women) - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Spirit Doll Workshop from 2:00-6:00pm with Rev. Marche Singh of Path of Illumination. Celebrate the magic of life. Workshop includes: A brief introduction into the concept of spirit dolls. Opening our spirit energy to receive the dolls and Receiving the dolls. Marche' will assist in any way possible, but each doll will be the result of the participant's own communication with spirit. All materials are provided by Marche', however, participants are encouraged to bring any items, totems, stones, etc. they would like to incorporate with their doll. No skills are We close with a ceremony to bless and introduce the dolls. Cost: \$35, includes materials. Information: 510-655-2405, WISEMedicineWmn@aol.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

May 14 - Celtic and Early Music of Spring - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, will host Celtic and Early Music of Spring with Broceliande at 8:00pm. Join Broceliande in a joyous musical Maytime celebration. With a repertoire that ranges from Celtic dances to Renaissance madrigals, Broceliande will sing-in Spring with songs from Ireland, England, Scotland, France, Spain, and Italy and as long ago as the 12th century. Broceliande evokes the fertile styles of Loreena McKennitt, Clannad, and Alan Stivell. Cost: \$12/advance, \$15/door. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

May 14 - The Big Fat Wisdom Track - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, will host The Big Fat Wisdom Track: Ritual and Presentation with Z. Budapest from 7:00-9:00pm. Open to everybody. Gather once a month when the moon is waxing for this exciting new ongoing series. May is the month when humans feel nature's pull to fall in love. It was an ancient time when we relaxed the marriage vows, created celebrations when those who fancied each other could get together and still could go back to their spouses at the end of the month. Yeah Right! Anyway, May and what it stand for is a complicated wisdom. We will do an Honoring ritual and chanting. There will be a discussion of what it means to "relax the marriage vows" which we find in many cultures. Artemis and gay lovers are especially honored in May, when forbidden love is celebrated. Based on Z's online Dianic University Class Series. Cost: \$13; no one turned away for lack of funds. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

May 14 - Open Circle - Santa Cruz

Community Seed invites you to an Open Circle at Pacific Cultural Center in the Studio, 1307 Seabright Ave at Broadway, from 2:00-4:30pm on the 2nd Saturday of every month. We recognize and honor both the male and female aspects of deity, call elemental guardians, cast circle, and make magic together for the good of all. The intention of this circle is to provide a regular meeting place for Pagan worship in Santa Cruz. This is a participatory event, and there will be no "onlookers". New comers are always welcome. Let us meet together in sacred trust to create closer spiritual bonds of love and understanding within our community and within our tribes. A simple feast will follow the ritual, and the opening of circle. (No potluck except on occasion) Please bring: Yourself, your open heart and mind. Cost: \$5-10, sliding scale donation to cover the costs of the hall rental. No one will ever be turned away for lack of money. Information: 831-469-0336, michael@communityseed.org or visit www.communityseed.org

May 14 - Women's Spirituality Workshop: Self-Love - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento St, hosts Women's Spirituality Workshop with Carolyn Hunt on the 2nd Saturday of every month from 1:00-5:00pm. This month's Workshop is Self-Love. No previous experience in women's spirituality or Wicca necessary. Bring notebook and pen, healthy snack to share, and anything you'd like to offer for the altar and/or the ritual. Tea and candles provided. Cost: \$35. Information: 510-883-0600, info@carolynhuntrituals.com or visit www.CarolynHuntRituals.com

May 14, 15 - The Big Fat Wisdom Track Workshop (women) - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, will host The Big Fat Wisdom Track: Ritual and Presentation with Z. Budapest from 7:00-9:00/Sat, and 10:00am-12:00pm, resuming 2:00-6:00pm/Sun. Women only. Gather once a month when the moon is waxing for this exciting new ongoing series. May is the month when humans feel nature's pull to fall in love. It was an ancient time when we relaxed the marriage vows, created celebrations when those who fancied each other could get together and still could go back to their spouses at the end of the month. Yeah Right! Anyway, May and what it stand for is a complicated wisdom. Sun/All women represent the Goddess on earth. We dress as Artemis this time, crowned on our heads with green, bring some honey and cakes as an offering on her altar. We discuss and then perform the Five Fold Kiss on each other as honoring the Goddess of May. Bring poems of love, but higher love as well, the love between the Spirit and the Body. Based on Z's online Dianic University Class Series. Cost: \$85-100/Sat&Sun, sliding scale. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

May 14, 15 - Scottish Games and Celtic Festival - Livermore

The 2nd Annual Livermore Scottish Games and Celtic Festival will be held at Robertson Park. Cost: Adult/\$10, Senior and Juniors/\$7, Under 6/Free. Information: webm5@livermoregames.com or visit <http://www.livermoregames.com/>

May 14-15 - Iron Pentacle Workshop - Boulder Creek

T. Thorn Coyle presents an Iron Pentacle Workshop at Sunbeam Farms on from 9:30am-9:00pm/Sat and 9:30am-2:00pm/Sun. Reclaim the qualities of Sex, Pride, Self, Power and Passion. Call them back to you and claim them as your birthrights. Our culture has twisted these words: we, as Witches, know that we can use these words; they are sacred. They are the building blocks to becoming more human. We will do Devotional Dance

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

especially designed to access these energies. We will explore our blocks to these words and forces. We will journal, sing, and trance. We will run the power of the iron pentacle through our human bodies, beginning the work of healing, beginning the work of strength. Cost: \$90-180, sliding scale; price includes dorm style sleeping or camping. Information: Johanna at 831-278.3568 or ambermoon228@hotmail.com

May 14-18 - Vision Quest - Laytonville

Seven Circles will host a Vision Quest at Buck Rock Ranch. For some of us, the greatest thing in our lives is to go on a vision quest. Away from civilization, forgoing food and water we come to understand the power of prayer and the strength of Creator. The Vision Quest is a ceremony of solitary fasting and prayer that can last up to four days. Seven Circles sponsors Spring and fall Vision Quests, currently in Mendocino. As individuals go up to do this an opportunity is provided for the community to assemble in an Vision Quest camp to support the solitary vision questers up 'on the hill'. The last day of the Vision Quest is marked by the return of the 'questers' to camp, a great feast and a 'give-away' when the questers acknowledge the support of their community through gifts. Please bring food for the sacred feast afterwards, a plate, a cup and silverware. We wish to honor the Earth by ceasing to use paper goods and plastic utensils. Information: Fred at 510-222-3822 or visit <http://www.sevencircles.org/>

May 15 - Goddess Meditation: Shakti - Fremont

Allison will host a Goddess Meditation at 39791 Paseo Padre Pkwy, Suite H, starting at 7:30pm. This week we will focus on Shakti, Hindu Goddess of Primal Energy for Health and Spirit. Find the solutions to life's dilemmas with the help of the Goddess, the feminine face of Divinity who has been worshiped for eons by people all over the world. Seekers of any creed or religion can use guided visualizations. Please dress comfortably and bring a pillow. Cost: \$7-10, sliding scale. Information: Allison at 510-894-0911, air51594@aol.com or visit <http://goddessguidance.net/>

May 15 - Moon Circle - Berkeley

The Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists (BFUU), 1924 Cedar St, hosts The Moon Circle on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 7:00pm. All are welcome to these ritual celebrations of the seventh UU principle respecting the interdependent web and the sacred circle of life. This is an earth-centered and goddess-honoring exploration which was born out of the UU curriculum, *Rise Up and Call Her Name: A Woman-Honoring Journey into Global Earth-Based Spiritualities*. The circle provides a space and time for direct experience of the transcending mystery and wonder which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and openness to the forces that create and uphold life. Information: Lois at 510-841-9016, office@bfuu.org or visit <http://www.bfuu.org>

May 15 – Women's Spiritual Circle – Walnut Creek

Dolphin Dream, 1437 N. Broadway, Suite F, hosts a Women's Spiritual Circle with Valerie Donner on the 3rd Sunday of every month from 1:00-4:00pm. What can be more powerful and healing than a women's circle? Women need the wisdom, assistance and love of other women. Through sharing, opening hearts, supporting, gathering, and being wonderfully spiritual this group of women will assist each other in maneuvering through these intense times of change. We will follow each other's process towards a shift in consciousness. Who knows what a powerful group of women can co-create together? We already have several powerful women who are committed to this group. Bring a friend and enrich your life. Cost: \$35. Information: 925-933-2342, info@dolphindream.com or visit <http://www.dolphindream.com/>

May 15 - Beginning Level Irish Music Sessions - Santa Cruz

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann hosts a Beginning Level Irish Music Session on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 2:00-4:00pm at a private home. Are you curious about playing in Irish sessions (jams)? Join us as we play slow and easy in a supportive atmosphere. Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann ("coal-tuss kyol-tory air-un"), has been promoting Irish music, dance, language, and culture worldwide since 1951. Cost: Free. Information: 831-426-9113, fasola@cruzio.com or visit <http://www.folkplanet.com/cce/index.html>

May 15 – Radical Fairies Ritual – Santa Cruz

The Radical Fairies of Santa Cruz gather on the 3rd Sunday of the month to celebrate full moons and solstices, our love for the earth our mother, each other, and the spiritual gift which that love is. Join them for a potluck at 6:00pm, and ritual at 7:00pm. Information: 831-335-5861 or 831-429-1388.

May 15 – Womens' Spirit Circle – San Rafael

Womens' Spirit Circle meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 5:00pm at the Marin Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Marin located at 240 Channing Way, San Rafael. A light to heavy potluck will follow, depending on participation. This is a circle open to all women, whether interested in UUism or not. Volunteers provide a safe space for sharing, healing, community in a Pagan, or earth centered spirituality. Information: Marina at 415-893-9999 or songster@cmc.net, or Wendy at 415-892-6983 or foxglove@slip.net or visit <http://www.mindspring.com/~uucm/>

May 17 – Local Legends: Charlene Spretnak - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, presents Local Legends: Charlene Spretnak at 7:00pm. Belladonna Local Legends is a monthly series that honors and celebrates the achievements and contributions of local scholars of the feminist spirituality movement. Presenters will read from their body of work and discuss the scope of their writing and visions. Charlene Spretnak is one of the Founding Mothers of the Women's Spirituality movement. Cost: \$10, suggested donation. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

May 17 - Tools for Healing - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts Tools for Healing with David Elliott at 7:30pm. Join David Elliott, author of *The Reluctant Healer*, in a breathing meditation that results in feeling powerful, vibrant energy, and causes deep inner opening. Many people report the most profound experience in their lives. Using his skills of clairaudience (intuitive hearing), David will help you work through energy blocks, whether physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual, so that healing can begin. Come prepared for major change. Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

May 17 – Runa Workshop – San Francisco

The American Vinland Association hosts a Runa Workshop on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7:00-9:00pm at 22 Terra Vista #C-1 (no meeting October, 2005). Study runes and sagas with fellow Heathens. All levels of knowledge welcome, and you do not have to be a member of the Rune Guild to attend. Cost: Free; munchies welcome. Information: Prudence@freyasfolk.org or visit <http://www.freyasfolk.org>

May 17 - Pagan Lunch Hour - Capitola

Let's do lunch! The Black Cats invite you to join them for lunch and fellowship on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 11:30am-12:30pm at the Fresh Choice restaurant, 3555 Clares St (off 41st Ave, next to Kinko's). Kids are welcome with parental supervision. Look for the Black Cat on the table. Information: 831-479-9873 or Index@cyprion.org

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

May 18 - Women's Sacred Song and Chant Circle - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Women's Sacred Song and Chant Circle with DJ Hamouris from 7:30-10:00pm. Come sing with your Sisters. Women have always joined in song, singing of our lives and traditions. Sitting in a circle we will exchange our sacred songs, learn from each other and celebrate the turning of the seasons. Bring songs to share and also plan to learn new ones. Attendees should also bring rattles or small drums. Cost: \$5-10, sliding scale. Information: 510-595-3915, info@ChangemakersForWomen.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

May 18 - Wiccan Wednesdays - Concord

Arborvitae Grove and The Witches of East Bay host a Wiccan Wednesday, Open Study Circle, on the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 7:00-8:30pm. We will be studying Wicca in a once-a-month meeting. We welcome any and all to participate. Meeting topics will be contingent on the needs and interests of the group. Bring pen and paper. Contact for location and registration. Cost: Free. Information: i_fly_brooms@yahoo.com or visit www.arborvitae Grove.com

May 19 - Pagans and the Law - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, presents a Pagan Alliance Lecture Series: Pagans and the Law, with James L. Bianchi from 7:00-9:30pm. In Pagans and the Law, you will receive an overview of how the First Amendment protects us from government assault and interference. We will explore what freedom of speech and assembly means. You will be given strategies to confront discrimination in housing, employment and in child custody conflicts. There will be a discussion on Pagans and Conscientious Objectors. With this knowledge you can become a sword and a shield for our community. Cost: Free will offering. Information: 510-595-3915, jbawyer@pacbell.net or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

May 19 - Healing Demonstration and Lecture - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts a Healing Demonstration and Lecture with Timothy Dunphy at 7:30pm. Fifth-degree black belt and international Taekwondo champion Master Timothy Dunphy has helped hundreds open their lives to greater peace, prosperity, and freedom. Timothy will explain advanced healing techniques of Chi Aura Integration, and give an audience healing demonstration. Join us to experience relief from physical pain and emotional trauma. Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

May 19 - Shamanic Drumming Circle (Experienced) - Menlo Park

Earth Caretakers hosts a Shamanic Drumming Circle for experienced journeyers on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 7:00-9:30pm. We focus on earth and personal healing, and on developing reciprocal relationships with the spirits of nature using chanting, drumming, and journeying. RSVP required prior to first visit. Information: 650-328-4347, megbeeler@earthlink.net or visit <http://www.earthcaretakers.net/>

May 19 – Pagan Pizza Night – Modesto

You're invited to a Pagan Pizza Night hosted by local Pagan groups every 3rd Thursday of the month at the Round Table Pizza, 2401 E Orangeburg in the Century Shopping center, beginning at 7pm. Join local Pagans / Wiccans / Witches and others for fun and fellowship. No hard-core "meeting" - just pizza and conversation. Fliers and information about upcoming local Pagan events will be available at most times. Each person will be required to buy his or her own food and drink if desired. Information: DragonHawk at 209-549-1727.

May 19 - Magickal Discussion Group - Santa Cruz

The Sacred Grove, 924 Soquel Ave, hosts a Magickal Discussion Group from 7:00-9:00pm, on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Join a bunch of folks getting together and discussing things of a magickal nature. Bring your insights, knowledge and an open mind. All experience/skill levels generally welcome. Information: 831-423-1949, sacredgrove@onebox.com or visit www.the-sacredgrove.com

May 19 - The White Goddess Book Study Group - Oakland

Ancient Ways, 4075 Telegraph Ave, hosts The White Goddess Book Study Group with Kitty Crowe and Deborah Bender on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 7:30-9:30pm. Robert Graves' classic gave the concepts of the Triple Goddess and the Celtic Tree Calendar to neopaganism. This ongoing discussion group tries to untangle a difficult book, separating fact from fancy and wisdom from nonsense. Bring your copy of The White Goddess. Newcomers welcome. Sponsored by NROOGD. Open to both men and women. Cost: Donations to the store accepted. Information: 510-845-0433, dbendr@aol.com or visit www.ancientways.com

May 19, 26 - Beginning Level Irish Music Sessions - Monterey Area

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann hosts a Beginning Level Irish Music Session on the 3rd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 7:00pm at a private home. Are you curious about playing in Irish sessions (jams)? Join us as we play slow and easy in a supportive atmosphere. Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann ("coal-tuss kyol-tory air-un"), has been promoting Irish music, dance, language, and culture worldwide since 1951. Cost: Free. Information: Janet at 831-429-1691 or visit <http://www.folkplanet.com/cce/index.html>

May 20 – Women's Spiritual Journey – Monterey Peninsula

Join us the 3rd Friday of each month from 7:00-9:00pm at the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula for Women's Spiritual Journeys: A Safe Place to Explore. This is a unique opportunity for women of various faith perspectives, lifestyles, ages, and stages to come together for meaningful dialogue, shared ritual, and the Goddess within. Together we will share our stories, celebrate our lives, and explore our spiritual journeys. Cost: Free. Information: Sheree at 831-899-3565, or Phyllis 831-659-4585.

May 20 - Open Pagan Networking Meeting - Santa Rosa

The Sonoma County Pagan Network (SCPN) gathers on the 3rd Friday of every month from 7:30-11:00pm at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa. Guest Speakers, lectures and divination are among the activities that happen each month. We are a network of groups and individuals who like to share in community and social activities. We welcome Pagans of all paths and persuasions. We do not generally hold public rituals, but have members that do. If you are interested in an open circle stop by and see what is going on. Information: info@scpagans.net or visit <http://www.scpagans.net/>

May 20-22 - Healing Retreat for Women - Geyserville

Isis Oasis, 20889 Geyserville Ave, will host a Healing Retreat for Women. Receive a massage, time in our past life chamber, tarot reading, hot spa, sauna, meditation in the Temple of Isis, animal tour of our exotic birds and endangered cats, farm animals and living unicorn, ceremony in our Grand

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

Temple, all meals and beautiful private room fit for a Goddess. Cost: \$250. Information: 1-800-679-7387, isis@isisoasis.org or visit <http://www.isisoasis.org/>

May 21 - Pagan Garage Sale - San Jose

Wyrd Sisters, in cooperation with Full Circle Events, presents a Pagan Garage Sale at North Colonial Apartments, 357 Richfield Dr, from 10:00am-3:00pm. We've cleaned out our Pagan closets for Full Circle. Come shop for Pagan Goodies like: books * CD's * ritual items * jewelry * costumes and clothing * books * nicknacks * puzzles * crafting supplies * incense and candles * sculpture, art and more. * This is a benefit sale for Full Circle Events. Information: info@fullcircleevents.org

May 21 - Medicine for the Earth Gathering - Menlo Park

Earth Caretakers hosts Medicine for the Earth Gatherings at various sacred places near Menlo Park on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 1:00-4:00pm. In these ongoing gatherings we will explore practices for transmuting both personal and environmental toxins. We will work with energy and formlessness, divinity and shadow, intention and imagination, learning how to shift our perceptions and our state of consciousness on an ongoing basis. We will focus on transmuting toxins in specific places in the Bay Area and strengthening our practice of transfiguration. Prerequisites: journeying experience, and reading Sandra Ingerman's *Medicine for the Earth: How to Transform Personal and Environmental Toxins*. Cost: Donation requested. Information: 650-328-4347, megbeeler@earthlink.net or visit <http://www.earthcaretakers.net/>

May 21 - Beach Cleanup with Community Seed - Bonny Doon Beach

Join us for fun and frolic, food and friendship, service and sanitation and maybe even a dip into the beautiful Pacific Ocean on the 3rd Saturday of every month, April through September from 12:00-3:00pm. We will provide the bags if you will do your part and help us fill them. Bring your drums, songs, chants and food to share. The more the merrier. Bonny Doon Beach has ample free parking, and there is the benefit that it is clothing optional. The cleanups are not part of any program, so we are on our own as far as hauling away the trash and recycle. We will supply bags for nails, glass, and trash. Please bring: a picnic lunch, or snacks to share, your own drinking cup, drinking water, sunscreen, sunglasses, work gloves and something to sit on. Remember it is usually colder along the water, so dress according to the weather and or in layers. Be advised there are No Potties Available, so come prepared. Directions: Bonny Doon Beach is located on Highway 1, near Bonny Doon Road. From Santa Cruz, Bonny Doon road is on the right; we will leave a marker near at the entrance to the parking area on the coastal side of the Highway. If you pass Bonny Doon Road, you've gone too far. Information: 831-469-0336, John@communityseed.org or visit http://www.communityseed.org/CS_-_Events/Beach_Clean-up/beach_clean-up.html

May 21 – Drumming Circle – Walnut Creek

Dolphin Dream, 1437 N. Broadway, hosts a drumming circle every 3rd Saturday from 6:30–8:00pm (except December). Bring your drums and rattles or use theirs to beat away the stresses of the outside world and find that place within where the heartbeat dwells. Cost: Free. Information: 925-933-2342, info@dolphindream.com or visit <http://www.dolphindream.com/>

May 21 – Bardic Circle – Palo Alto

Bardic Circle usually meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 8:00pm, with potluck dinner between 6:30-8:00pm. We sit around in a circle and take turns "pick, pass, or play". You can pick someone to do something, pass your turn, or play by singing, reciting stories or poetry, drumming etc. We have people bringing instruments as diverse as guitars, flutes, drums, didgeridus, to bagpipes. Most music is pagan related but funnies, folk songs, etc. are all welcome. For location and information: richard@imagecraft.com

May 22 - The Magic of the OverRealm - Ben Lomond

Coleston Brown presents The Magic of the OverRealm at Amity Center, 11737 Alba Road, from 10:00am-4:30pm. The OverRealm Workshop is one in a series on the Magic of the Three Realms. The Three Realms (OverRealm, UnderRealm, MidRealm) are a contemporary expression of an ancient, meaningful pattern for embracing life through magical and spiritual principles. This workshop focuses on the Mysteries of the OverRealm and will culminate in an empowered ceremony aimed at opening up and strengthening our connections with the primal energies embodied in the sky and in the high places of the landscape. Topics include: The Magic of the Stars and Planets ~ The Mystery of the Riven Sun ~ The Three Realms and the Three Wheels ~ Primal Astronomy ~ The Milky Way as a Path of Initiation. Cost: \$60-40, sliding scale. Information: 800-694-1957, treeofstars@earthlink.net or visit www.magicalways.com

May 22 - Sweat Lodge Ceremony - San Geronimo

Seven Circles will host a Sweat Lodge Ceremony at a private residence located at 14 Morelos, starting at 5:00pm. The Sweat Lodge is probably the most recognized of all Native American Ceremonies. The Sweat Leader holds the sacred space and helps the participants with prayer and songs. In most of the Seven Circles lodges, the ceremony within the lodge is somewhat akin to a "talking circle". Participants are invited to speak from their hearts about their life and their community concerns. This is a ceremony of purification and prayer. In the heat and the darkness of the lodge, we can come closer to ourselves, closer to Creator, and closer to understanding each other. Kids are encouraged to attend. Bring a towel and loose clothes you can wear into the lodge. Please bring food for the sacred feast afterwards, a plate, a cup and silverware. We wish to honor the Earth by ceasing to use paper goods and plastic utensils. Information: 510-222-3822 or visit <http://www.sevencircles.org/>

May 22 – The Circle of Life: The Mother (women) – Boulder Creek

Char Lynn hosts a Monthly Circle for women from 12:00-4:00pm. Our focus this year is on the archetypes of a woman's life as discussed in the book, *'The Circle of Life: Thirteen Archetypes for Every Woman'*, by Elizabeth Davis and Carol Leonard. Each month we will look deeply into one of the archetypes and create time together that will honor that archetype within us. Today's focus is 'The Mother' archetype; woman at her zenith, when we become the Creatrix. We'll share stories and create our own Divine Mother Symbology. Bring images of the Goddesses. Open to women of all ages. Cost: \$15-25. Information: 831-338-2996, charlynn@weavingunity.com or visit www.weavingunity.com

May 22 – Kali Puja Circle – San Francisco

Sharanya presents a Community Open Circle: Kali Puja, Devi Worship at 5:30pm. Our ongoing puja, or worship ceremony, is dedicated to the Goddess Kali and to those who are recognized in myriad forms as the Dark Mother. Ceremony is held in the Sha'can tradition and lead by Chandra, who brings together her dedication to the Goddess as an initiate of both The Craft and Shakta Tantrick traditions. This puja infuses methods and practices from east and west in order to create a sacred space for worship and the path of bhakti, or devotion, within the western context. Offerings for the main altar are welcome. It is customary to bring flowers, fruit or sweets and to refrain from wearing black to our public rituals. You are also invited to bring an object you would like to have blessed. Cost: \$8-13 is suggested to cover the cost of the puja supplies and prasad (blessed food); however, no one will be turned away and any donation is happily accepted. Information: 415-351-0213, info@sharanya.org or visit <http://www.sharanya.org>

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

May 22 - Orisha Worship Services: Four Cowrie Divination - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, hosts Orisha Worship Services with Ile Orunmila Oshun from 1:00-3:00pm. This month there will be a very special workshop that will introduce the participants to the basics of Four cowrie divination. Four cowrie divination is the first and most accessible divination system in the Yoruba/Orisha tradition and can be used by uninitiated people to perform simple divinations with their ancestors. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

May 22 – Irish Music Session and Traditional Song Circle – Felton

Don Quixote's, 6275 Highway 9, hosts an Irish Music Session and Traditional Song Circle on the 4th Sunday of every month from 6:00-10:00pm. All singers and instrumentalists are welcome. Sponsored by the Celtic Society of Monterey Bay. Information: Jessica at 831-335-7696, or Sheila at 831-464-2128.

May 22 - Celtic Music Session - Sunnyvale

Scruffy Murphy's, 187 S. Murphy Ave, hosts a Celtic Music Session on the 4th Sunday of every month from 5:30-8:00pm. Information: John at 408-269-1752.

May 23 - Women's New, Full and Dark Moon Rituals - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, hosts Women's New, Full and Dark Moon Rituals with Heaven Walker from 7:00-9:00pm. Come and celebrate the moon mysteries with us. Join us as we honor the changing of the moon cycles and the changing of our lives. Let us come together and celebrate our birthright as women through song, chant, movement, meditation and ritual. Cost: \$1. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

May 23 - Full Moon Gathering (women) - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Full Moon Gathering, Moon in Sagittarius from 7:00-9:30pm. All women and girls are invited to share an evening of nourishment and sisterhood. Join us for fun and surprises like: music, poetry, dance, storytelling and tarot; always something different. You are invited to make an offering of your special gifts. Please bring drums, rattles and potluck dish to share. Festive moon attire encouraged but not required. Please RSVP and let us know if you'd like to contribute a song, poem or group exercise. Cost: Free with potluck dish. Information: 510-655-2405, info@ChangeMakersForWomen.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

May 23 - Open Ritual: Honor Artemis (women) - Concord

Daughters of the Goddess will host an Open Ritual: Honor Artemis, connect with your totem animals, and Moon in Sagittarius starting at 7:30pm. This circle is open to all womyn desiring knowledge and experiential work with the multi-faceted aspects of Goddess in ritual. While this is not a drop-in circle, you can confirm with DotG the day of ritual if you want to attend. DotG is a Dianic temple that holds open rituals and celebrations for womyn in the San Francisco Bay Area. Our High Priestess, Leilani, is part Hawaiian and brings the energy of Aloha to the work we do here. She is the ritual director of our Temple. All womyn are encouraged to participate in the facilitation and development of the Temple if they feel called. Information: 925-787-9247, leilani@daughtersofthegoddess.com or visit <http://www.daughtersofthegoddess.com/>

May 24 - Waking Up to What You Do - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts Waking Up to What You Do with Diane Rizzetto at 7:30pm. Diane Rizzetto's book, *Waking Up To What You Do: A Zen Practice for Meeting Every Situation with Intelligence and Compassion* shares Zen precepts for engaging in events in a mindful way and tapping the intelligence within. Diane is the Abbess of the Bay Zen Center. Tonight she will share ways to incorporate these inspiring precepts in daily life. Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

May 24 - Witches Meetup - San Jose, Santa Cruz

Meet up with other witches in your town. Exchange lore, legends and learning at a vote-determined location near San Jose on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm. Visit <http://witches.meetup.com/> to sign up, and Meetup.

May 25 – Life Cycles: An Animal's Perspective – Walnut Creek

Dolphin Dream, 1437 N. Broadway, Suite F, hosts Life Cycles: An Animal's Perspective with Cathy Malkin from 7:00-9:00pm. Why do animals come into our lives and why is it so hard to say "good-bye"? This class, co-facilitated with Kobe Bear and KC the Keeshond (in Spirit), will look at these questions by focusing on how animals perceive the cycle of life. Through interactive lecture you will explore domestic and wild animals' viewpoints on major life transitions from birth; life purpose on Earth; why they choose their people; the dying process and death; and where they go once they return home to Spirit. Bring pictures of your animal companions (alive or in Spirit) so Cathy can talk with them. All animal lovers welcome. Cost: \$30. Information: 925-671-9208, info@dolphindream.com or visit <http://www.dolphindream.com/>

May 25 - Trance Drumming Workshop - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, hosts a Trance Drumming Workshop with Sondra Slade, lead percussionist from Axis Mundi Sonic Shamanic Trance Groove, from 7:00-9:00pm. There will be specific instruction on basic technique, care and tuning, proper breathing, posture and the optimum natural body positioning for ease and endurance, holding and hand positions for healthy playing, hand and finger strokes, how to get the best sounds out of your particular drum, and world rhythm patterns. I will focus on a blend of world styles and the core foundation for understanding and manifesting "Trance Rhythm" in a way that is accessible and joyous, without years of time consuming and expensive training. The class is appropriate for all levels, from relative beginners to those who want to fine-tune their playing and learn to journey and communicate musically and spiritually in the mystical realm of Trance Drumming. For all it is a way to navigate the rapturous Shamanic terrain of Trance. Drums will not be supplied; you will have to bring your own. Open to men and women. Drop-ins welcome. Cost: \$40/first time; \$30/returns. Information: 510-883-0600, axismundi@jps.net or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

May 25 - Tribal Community Gathering - Berkeley

The Toltec Center of Creative Intent, 2300 Roosevelt at Bancroft, hosts a Tribal Community Gathering from 7:00-9:00pm on the 4th Wednesday of every month. These Community Circles provide an opportunity for individuals to connect with their divine and creative self as a community. Each evening includes guided meditation, chanting, ritual and snacks. All are welcome. Cost: Free; Donations accepted. Information: 510-649-0352, info@spiritweavers.com, or visit <http://www.spiritweavers.com>

May 25 – Linking Circles – Santa Cruz

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

The Sacred Grove, 924 Soquel Ave, hosts an open meeting, Linking Circles, on the last Wednesday of every month from 7:00-9:00pm. This is a space for all groups to meet and organize, and shall not be a recruiting platform controlled by any one group. Meet in a safe and comfortable environment where solitaires can meet groups, groups can meet groups and solitaires can meet solitaires. Information: 831-423-1949 or [the-sacredgrove@the-sacredgrove.com](mailto:sacredgrove@the-sacredgrove.com)

May 27-29 - Mind States VI - San Francisco

Mind States VI: Technology and Transcendence will take place at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, 3301 Lyon St. Visionary art ~ brain fingerprinting ~ sensory substitution ~ electronic trance-dance ~ cutting-edge science as art ~ current psychedelic research ~ video game environments ~ EEG-mapping of altered states ~ techno-biological enhancement ~ virtual reality ~ art gallery ~ vendors. Cost: \$225/by March 1, \$250/by May 15, \$275/door. Information: mindstates@prodigy.net or visit www.mindstates.org

May 29 - Sweat Lodge Ceremony - San Geronimo

Seven Circles will host a Sweat Lodge Ceremony at Solstice Grove Lodge, 550 Nicasio Valley Road, at 5:00pm. The Sweat Lodge is probably the most recognized of all Native American Ceremonies. The Sweat Leader holds the sacred space and helps the participants with prayer and songs. In most of the Seven Circles lodges, the ceremony within the lodge is somewhat akin to a "talking circle". Participants are invited to speak from their hearts about their life and their community concerns. This is a ceremony of purification and prayer. In the heat and the darkness of the lodge, we can come closer to ourselves, closer to Creator, and closer to understanding each other. Kids are encouraged to attend. Bring a towel and loose clothes you can wear into the lodge. Please bring food for the sacred feast afterwards, a plate, a cup and silverware. We wish to honor the Earth by ceasing to use paper goods and plastic utensils. Information: 510-222-3822 or visit <http://www.sevencircles.org/>

May 29 - Gaia's Gateway - Palo Alto

Bay Area Pagan Assemblies (BAPA) sponsors Gaia's Gateway on the last Sunday of every month from 6:00-9:00pm at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd (except December). Each Gateway begins with an informative talk, and the practitioners of a different religion lead both the talk and the ritual each month. This month, Ritualist Barbara Des Marais will be leading us through a ritual of European pre-Christian traditions, but also drawing on others including Native American, Shamanism, Buddhism, etc. with a focus on pre-patriarchal practices. Cost: \$5 donation requested from non-members. Information: 408-559-GAIA (4242), or visit www.bapa.net

May 29 – Open Goddess Ritual: Liturgy of the Lady – Berkeley

Fellowship of the Spiral Path (SPIRAL) invites you to an open Goddess service on the last Sunday of every month at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists (BFUU), 1924 Cedar St at Bonita, starting at 7:30pm. Information: 510-658-6033 or HDGDPC@aol.com

May 31 - Sacred Feminine Book Club (women) - Oakland

Change Makers for Women, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Sacred Feminine Book Club, with Julie Leary from 7:00-9:00pm. This time we are reading *The Earth Path* by Starhawk. "The Earth Path addresses the profound spiritual and conceptual disconnect at the root of our environmental destructiveness, and shows how we can re-root our spirits, our politics, and our day-to-day life in deep relationship with the Earth. It also includes much of the synthesis of Earth-based spirituality and practical permaculture". This book club reads books involving all aspects of the Sacred Feminine, with no emphasis on any particular religion or faith. You only need to relate to the feminine as sacred to enjoy this gathering. We meet approximately once a month. Read the book and come. Cost: Free. Information: Julie at 510-847-0239, info@ChangeMakersForWomen.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

June 2 - The Healing Medicine of the Shaman - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, will host The Healing Medicine of the Shaman with Brant Secunda from 7:00-9:00pm. Brant Secunda, shaman healer in the Huichol tradition, completed a 12-year apprenticeship with Don Jose Matsuwa. We'll learn shamanic practices for healing, share the Dance of the Deer ceremony, and engage in healing rituals that will bring alive our connection with nature. The workshop will include a slide show and exhibition of sacred Huichol Art. Cost: \$15/advance, \$20/door. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

June 3 - Womansong Circle - Berkeley

Betsy Rose invites you to Womansong Circles: participatory singing for peace, healing, joy and transformation at the First Congressional Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way at Dana. Potluck/6:45pm; Singing/7:15-9:30pm. All women's voices are welcome. Come sing, and experience your voice as a sacred and joyful instrument to awaken body, mind and spirit, and bring healing and renewed power to the wider world. Connect with your deeper self, other women and the earth. The repertoire includes songs of peace, justice, the many concerns and joys of women. Chants, folk songs, sacred songs, humor, and spirit are woven through the evening. No skills needed- just an open heart and a willing spirit. Drop-ins are welcome. Cost: \$10-15 donation requested. No one turned away for lack of funds. Information: 510-525-7082, betsy@betsyrosemusic.org or visit www.betsyrosemusic.org

June 3 - Bio-Energetic Healing Meditation - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts a Bio-Energetic Healing Meditation with Larry Harris at 7:30pm. Still recycling the same core issues? Our limitations get locked into our energy. Come learn how bio-energetic healing can clear blocks, illusions, and buried feelings. Through dreams and visions, Larry Harris was given simple energy mastery skills from the Egyptian Ascended Master Serapis Bey to empower others for rapid self-transformation. Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

June 4 - Sweat Lodge Ceremony - San Jose

Seven Circles will host a Sweat Lodge Ceremony at a private residence located at 435 S. 14th St, starting at 5:00pm. The Sweat Lodge is probably the most recognized of all Native American Ceremonies. The Sweat Leader holds the sacred space and helps the participants with prayer and songs. In most of the Seven Circles lodges, the ceremony within the lodge is somewhat akin to a "talking circle". Participants are invited to speak from their hearts about their life and their community concerns. This is a ceremony of purification and prayer. In the heat and the darkness of the lodge, we can come closer to ourselves, closer to Creator, and closer to understanding each other. Kids are encouraged to attend. Bring a towel and loose clothes you can wear into the lodge. Please bring food for the sacred feast afterwards, a plate, a cup and silverware. We wish to honor the Earth by ceasing to use paper goods and plastic utensils. Information: 408-278-1003 or visit <http://www.sevencircles.org/>

June 4 - Heart Chakra Workshop - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Heart Chakra Workshop from 11:30am-1:30pm. This is Part 4 of a Spiritual Journey Through The Chakras with Moyosafi Ajabu; a spiritual, transformational journey that will take you through the seven levels of your being one Chakra at a time and more deeply explore The Wisdom of the Chakra. Participants will experience an energy-based approach to spiritual growth, through meditation,

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

crystal therapy, coaching and the healing power of Reiki. Drop-ins welcome. Cost: \$18-25, sliding scale. Information: 510-710-2816, workshops@moyosafi.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

June 4 - Transformational Healing Circle - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, hosts a Transformational Healing Circle with Carolyn Brandy and Vicki Noble at 7:30pm. The Transformational Healing Ritual, developed in 1990 by Vicki Noble at the Motherpeace School for Shamanic Healers in Oakland, is a form that has effected positive change and brought healing to people around the world. Through the powerful energies generated in the circle, we remember our ancient heritage as people with natural healing abilities. This open circle is an opportunity to reconnect with these energies, as well as a chance for those in our community who are struggling with life-threatening and chronic, debilitating physical illness to lie down and receive vibrational healing in the context of the drumming and group chanting. We gather as a group with our drums and our voices to pray for healing and transformation in our community, laying hands on those members of the group who are especially in need. Those of us in the circle functioning as the "healers" simply make ourselves open to the healing vibration for the good of those who need it, and in the process we get to experience beneficial results ourselves. No experience needed. Beginners and advanced healers and drummers are welcome. Cost: \$5-10. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

June 5 - Drumming Circle - Montara

ShamanMoon hosts an Open Drumming Circle from 4:00-8:00pm. Potluck snacks are served from 4:00-4:45pm and we begin promptly by 5:00pm. This is an open drumming circle for men, women and older children. Anyone is welcome; no previous experience is necessary. Children are welcome, if they are able to lie still during the journey. Bring a journal, pen, water bottle, pillow, blanket and any drums or rattles if you have them. The purpose of this circle is to connect with our Power Animals and Spirit Guides on a regular basis, and to come together as a community. People are welcome to volunteer to "put on" the circle each month for the group. This includes planning a journey topic, altar focus, check-in, songs, etc. Cost: Free. Information: 650-728-1407, Laura@shamanmoon.org or visit <http://www.shamanmoon.org/pages/2/index.htm>

June 5 - Healing Lodge Ceremony - Boulder Creek

Char Lynn will host a Community Lodge, open to all men, women and children; Fire at 9:00am, Lodge at 12:00pm. Our intention is to create a safe, sacred space where all people may come to heal, be honored in their personal process and purify mind, body and spirit. The Lodge is a sacred purification rite; for cleansing body, mind and spirit, through the use of hot stones, water to create steam and sacred space. The lodge itself is a metaphor of the Womb of the Earth Mother, unconditionally receiving and loving. Plan to arrive 30 minutes early. Help before the Lodge is appreciated. Potluck follows (nutritious foods please). Cost: \$20-50; work exchanges available. Information: 831-338-2996, charlynn@weavingunity.com or visit www.weavingunity.com

June 5 - Sweat Lodge Ceremony - Napa

Seven Circles will host a Sweat Lodge Ceremony at a private residence, **starting at 1:00pm**. The Sweat Lodge is probably the most recognized of all Native American Ceremonies. The Sweat Leader holds the sacred space and helps the participants with prayer and songs. In most of the Seven Circles lodges, the ceremony within the lodge is somewhat akin to a "talking circle". Participants are invited to speak from their hearts about their life and their community concerns. This is a ceremony of purification and prayer. In the heat and the darkness of the lodge, we can come closer to ourselves, closer to Creator, and closer to understanding each other. Kids are encouraged to attend. Bring a towel and loose clothes you can wear into the lodge. Please bring food for the sacred feast afterwards, a plate, a cup and silverware. We wish to honor the Earth by ceasing to use paper goods and plastic utensils. Information: 510-222-3822 or visit <http://www.sevencircles.org/>

June 6 - Women's New, Full and Dark Moon Rituals - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, hosts Women's New, Full and Dark Moon Rituals with Heaven Walker from 7:00-9:00pm. Come and celebrate the moon mysteries with us. Join us as we honor the changing of the moon cycles and the changing of our lives. Let us come together and celebrate our birthright as women through song, chant, movement, meditation and ritual. Cost: \$1. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

June 6 - Dark Moon)0(New Moon Circle for Women - Oakland

Change Makers, 6536 Telegraph Ave, hosts a Dark Moon)0(New Moon Ritual with Magick Matriarch, Jules Stept from 7:00-10:00pm. The Magick of Connections, Beginnings and Endings with the Great Triple Goddess: Mother, Maiden and Crone. We honor the Great Goddess in Her Threefold Archetypal form: The Crone - Consummate Endings, The Mother - Creating Connections, and The Maiden - Intentional Beginnings. Our ultimate purpose in gathering is that, through honoring Her phases, we find comfort in our own process of growth and healing gaining wisdom and renewed life energy. Within the Magick circle we focus on transformation and the personal process using skills in healing, banishing, divination, spell casting and manifestation. No prior experience with circling is necessary. Each circle is different according to the desires of the womyn present. Bring item to charge for altar, pillow, water and healthy snack to share. Tea provided. Cost: \$20; work-trade available to those who make advance arrangements with Jules. Information: 415-695-9066, ACircleOfOurOwn@yahoo.com or visit <http://www.changemakersforwomen.com/>

June 6 - Kali Puja: Sacred Ceremony - San Rafael

Rainbow Body Temple Teahouse, Café and Cultural Center, 923 C St, hosts Kali Puja: Sacred Ceremony at 7:00pm. Kali, the Great Mother of joyous ecstasy, compassionate Goddess of the soul is fiercely devoted to the transformation of every being. Traditional worship of the Great Mother with chanting and ritual. Information: 415-457-4191, info@opensecretbookstore.com or visit <http://www.opensecretbookstore.com/>

June 7 - Open Ritual: Honor Vesta (women) - Concord

Daughters of the Goddess will host an Open Ritual: Honor Vesta, Goddess of the Hearth and Keeper of the Sacred Flame; celebrate the New Moon, starting at 7:30pm. This circle is open to all womyn desiring knowledge and experiential work with the multi-faceted aspects of Goddess in ritual. While this is not a drop-in circle, you can confirm with DotG the day of ritual if you want to attend. DotG is a Dianic temple that holds open rituals and celebrations for womyn in the San Francisco Bay Area. Our High Priestess, Leilani, is part Hawaiian and brings the energy of Aloha to the work we do here. She is the ritual director of our Temple. All womyn are encouraged to participate in the facilitation and development of the Temple if they feel called. Information: 925-787-9247, leilani@daughtersofthegoddess.com or visit <http://www.daughtersofthegoddess.com/>

June 8 - Hand Analysis - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts Hand Analysis with Judy Gardner at 7:30pm. Certified palmist Judy Gardner will share the fascinating art of hand analysis, which studies lines, shapes, color, and fingerprints. These physical patterns reflect activity in the brain and reveal how you respond to life. Judy has read hands for 13 years. Come learn what your hands are saying about you. Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

Scout's List of Local Pagan Events (and Stuff)

ScoutGhst@sbcglobal.net | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFBayAreaPagans/>

June 8-12 - Ancient Ways Festival – Middletown

Ancient Ways will host the 22nd Annual Ancient Ways Festival: an eclectic pan pagan gathering of magical folk at Harbin Hot Springs. This is a time when the tribe gathers in a big village, where one can be skyclad in nature, dip into the natural warm and hot pools and gaze at the starry sky. This is an intimate and friendly event that includes camping, workshops and rituals. Information: 510-653-3244, festival@ancientways.com or visit www.ancientways.com

June 10 - Stories of the Animal Tribes - Mountain View

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St, hosts Stories of the Animal Tribes with Carla Person at 7:30pm. Shaman and animal communicator Carla Person will share ancient shamanic teachings for helping animals become well. Carla, whose new book, *The Calico Shaman*, will draw you into the shamanic realm with her touching tales of rescued strays, life after death, and miraculous healings. Bring your questions. Please no pets. Free spot readings. Cost: Free; Reservations required. Information: 800-909-6161, info@eastwest.com or visit <http://www.eastwest.com/>

June 10 - The Big Fat Wisdom Track: Hera - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, will host The Big Fat Wisdom Track: Ritual and Presentation with Z. Budapest from 7:00-9:00pm. Open to everybody. Gather once a month when the moon is waxing for this ongoing series. This weekend celebrates the Goddess Hera (Juno), whose name means courage. We build an altar to summer, and place on it our own wishes to be fulfilled like the fruits that are now ripening. We do the Honoring ritual and chanting as usual. Focus on Pax, the Goddess of Peace. Based on Z's online Dianic University Class Series. Cost: \$13; no one turned away for lack of funds. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

June 10, 11 - The Big Fat Wisdom Track Workshop: Hera (women) - Berkeley

Belladonna, 2436 Sacramento, will host The Big Fat Wisdom Track: Ritual and Presentation with Z. Budapest from 7:00-9:00pm/Fri, and 10:00am-12:00pm, resuming 2:00-6:00pm/Sat. Women only. Gather once a month when the moon is waxing for this ongoing series. Morning: Preparation to welcome Hera the Queen of Heaven. Discussion of her survival through the Ages. Discussion of the altar and what we do to build it properly. Writing our wishes on nice papers. Practicing chants we are going to use later on, dances as well. Practice raising power. Afternoon: Altar building, placing our wishes to be fulfilled. Lighting candles in adoration of the presence of the goddess. All support each other in prayer. We chant many names for the Queen of Heaven. We pass the Goddess kiss. We raise power. Blessings on couples. Blessings on children. Blessing on the leaders. We pray to Carna to open doors of life for those who want to get pregnant. Focus is Fors Fortuna, the Goddess of Good Luck. We bless each other with Good Luck and create little Talismans that we carry with us from then on. Closing session. Closing ritual. Goddess kiss. Based on Z's online Dianic University Class Series. Cost: \$85-100/Fri&Sat, sliding scale. Information: 510-883-0600, info@belladonna.ws or visit <http://www.belladonna.ws/>

June 11 - 7th Annual Celtic Festival - Fremont

Wee Hand Productions presents their 7th Annual Celtic Festival at Ardenwood Historic Farm, 34600 Ardenwood Blvd, from 10:00am-5:00pm. Featuring Celtic music, step dancing, pipe bands, historical reenactments, ethnic food, Celtic vendors and children's activities. Cost: Adults/\$9.50, Seniors/\$6.50, Children (4-17)/\$5, under 3/Free. Information: 510-796-0663, info@ebparks.org or visit <http://www.ebparks.org/>

June 12 – Shamanic Drumming Circle – Boulder Creek

Char Lynn hosts a Shamanic Drumming Circle from 12:00-4:00pm. Within this circle we look at the shamanic approach to moving into non-ordinary reality through what is known as a drum journey. With the beat of the drum we 'travel' into spirit realms with intention and purpose to gather and bring back information pertinent to our lives. After our work together, having raised powerful group energy, we fill ourselves and create a healing circle to send out to those we love and the world. No experience necessary. Open to men and women. Cost: \$10-20. Information: 831-338-2996, charlynn@weavingunity.com or visit www.weavingunity.com

June 12 – Kali Puja Circle – San Francisco

Sharanya presents a Community Open Circle: Kali Puja, Devi Worship at 5:30pm. Our ongoing puja, or worship ceremony, is dedicated to the Goddess Kali and to those who are recognized in myriad forms as the Dark Mother. Ceremony is held in the Sha'can tradition and lead by Chandra, who brings together her dedication to the Goddess as an initiate of both The Craft and Shakta Tantrick traditions. This puja infuses methods and practices from east and west in order to create a sacred space for worship and the path of bhakti, or devotion, within the western context. Offerings for the main altar are welcome. It is customary to bring flowers, fruit or sweets and to refrain from wearing black to our public rituals. You are also invited to bring an object you would like to have blessed. Cost: \$8-13 is suggested to cover the cost of the puja supplies and prasad (blessed food); however, no one will be turned away and any donation is happily accepted. Information: 415-351-0213, info@sharanya.org or visit <http://www.sharanya.org>

June 12 - Sweat Lodge Ceremony - Napa

Seven Circles will host a Sweat Lodge Ceremony at a private residence, starting at 1:00pm. The Sweat Lodge is probably the most recognized of all Native American Ceremonies. The Sweat Leader holds the sacred space and helps the participants with prayer and songs. In most of the Seven Circles lodges, the ceremony within the lodge is somewhat akin to a "talking circle". Participants are invited to speak from their hearts about their life and their community concerns. This is a ceremony of purification and prayer. In the heat and the darkness of the lodge, we can come closer to ourselves, closer to Creator, and closer to understanding each other. Kids are encouraged to attend. Bring a towel and loose clothes you can wear into the lodge. Please bring food for the sacred feast afterwards, a plate, a cup and silverware. We wish to honor the Earth by ceasing to use paper goods and plastic utensils. Information: 510-222-3822 or visit <http://www.sevencircles.org/>

June 13 - Sweat Lodge Ceremony - Petaluma

Seven Circles will host a Sweat Lodge Ceremony at Magic Ranch, 6315 Bodega Ave, at 12:00pm. The Sweat Lodge is probably the most recognized of all Native American Ceremonies. The Sweat Leader holds the sacred space and helps the participants with prayer and songs. In most of the Seven Circles lodges, the ceremony within the lodge is somewhat akin to a "talking circle". Participants are invited to speak from their hearts about their life and their community concerns. This is a ceremony of purification and prayer. In the heat and the darkness of the lodge, we can come closer to ourselves, closer to Creator, and closer to understanding each other. Kids are encouraged to attend. Bring a towel and loose clothes you can wear into the lodge. Please bring food for the sacred feast afterwards, a plate, a cup and silverware. We wish to honor the Earth by ceasing to use paper goods and plastic utensils. Information: 510-222-3822 or visit <http://www.sevencircles.org/>