



BAPAN

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

LITHA 2005

GAIA'S GATEWAY

The June Business Meeting promises to be a bittersweet one for BAPA, perhaps the last such meeting for this venerable organization which has served Bay Area pagans for over 25 years.

It takes a lot of energy to maintain an outreach organization, and in recent years BAPA has seen a continued decline in both membership and attendance at its monthly Gaia's Gateways. On one hand, this is a good thing; we believe it is occurring, in part, because there are now so many other opportunities for pagans to connect up with and practice their spirituality with like-minded others. The return to, and acceptance of, nature-based religions can only be seen as a good thing in the human evolution towards a more peaceful world.

On the other hand, this presents BAPA with a difficult choice. As a "gateway" organization, one of BAPA's purposes has been to connect seekers with that for which they are seeking. In this sense, BAPA has functioned as a "way-station," a place that many pass through on their way to someplace else. And therein lies another part of the problem: How does a gateway organization maintain itself?

Though BAPA has faced, and faced down, this challenge before, we no longer have the financial or personnel resources necessary to keep operating. Without an increase in membership, volunteer support, or the financial support of a benefactor, BAPA will be forced to cease operations in July 2005.

BAPA leadership is inviting all members and interested others to attend the June Business Meeting, and help us generate ideas that will keep BAPA operating and contrib-

uting to this vibrant Bay Area pagan community that BAPA has helped to build.

We hope to see you there! Blessed Be.

Date: Sunday, June 26th

Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm

Location: Palo Alto Unitarian Universalist Church (PAUUC), 505 East Charleston Road. See web site section Gaia's Gateways for directions.

BAPA Officers:

President: Mercury (retiring)
Jim McCann (retiring)
Caelyth Sterling
Trish McNeill
Crystal Black
Stan Morest

BAPA Volunteers:

Gateway Chiefs:
Volunteer Chief: Gary Mattingly
Librarian: Caelyth Sterling
Membership Coordinator: Gary Mattingly
Web Master: Crystal Black and Sean Schultz
BAPAN Editor: