

# World's Dullest Pagan Newsletter

April/May 2000: Beltaine

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## President's Pleasure

Spring is here, you can feel it in the air and in the warmth of the Sun. Even the rainy days have the feel of renewed growth. The feeling of spring is running through BAPA too! We have much going on this spring and we are preparing for a wonderful summer.

Last Gaia's Gateway was a wonderful event with Owl Blossom's group Lavender Dragon. This was an event that really moved the Goddess within us all! And, the Lady, I'm sure, was present dancing with us to beat of the drums and various instruments. I, personally, was quite invigorated by this beautiful event. Thanks you Owl Blossom and Lavender Dragon. We hope to see you again at a future Gaia's Gateway.

Our Web Wizard, Jordan, has been busy with features added to our website! Jordan has added a "Non-BAPA Local Events" section for our non-BAPA friends in the area to link their events to our community. Also added is a "Pagan Links" section other Pagan sites and organizations of interest to the local Pagan community. Thanks to Jordan, BAPA is now fulfilling it role as an information resource in the Pagan community. Thanks Jordan! Great job on the Website!

We have a changing of the guard, so to speak, on the Board of Directors. Our beloved Woody Smith has stepped down as Board Chairman.

In his place, Roger Schuelke has courageously stepped up to the task as the new Chairman of the Board. Let us all take a moment to thank Woody for the wonderful work he's done over the last year, and in bringing renewed energy and life to BAPA. Woody will continue as a Board Member for the time being. Thank you Woody!

Roger brings with him experience as a volunteer and board member of other community organizations, and the

sincerity and enthusiasm to help strengthen the BAPA organization. Roger has been an instrumental Board Member over the last year, helping us all reshape BAPA as an organization to be proud of. Let us all welcome Roger in his new role.

Thanks for everyone's continued support of the Bay Area Pagan Assemblies. Just by being a member of BAPA you are helping to continue this organization as service to the Pagan community.

Blessings to all!

David Fletcher

(a.k.a.: Blue Moondancer)

President

Bay Area Pagan Assemblies.

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

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*Editor's Note: If you would like to save a tree and postage and receive the newsletter via email, drop a note to **BapaMailing@yahoo.com** Or view it on our website.*

*If you wish to contribute any articles, recipes, book/video reviews, letters, or calendar items for the WDPN, send them via email to **nevawrites@earthlink.net***

### Submission Deadline:

Submission and calendar deadline for the Litha 2000 WDPN is 6/1/00. Calendar items for the Litha issue should include events through the month of August and into September.

### BAPA Officers

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

### BAPA Volunteers

Network Coord: Yvonne Knebel  
Gateway Coord: Ystradyfodwg/Mr. Y  
Comm. Coord: Jim McCann  
Library: Mark Iennaco  
Web Master: Jordan Avon  
WDPN Editor: Neva Schuelke

### BAPA Basics

#### Location and Directions:

Regular activities are held at the Palo Alto Unitarian Universalist Church (PAUUC) unless otherwise indicated. The church is located at 505 East Charleston Road. From Hwy 101, take the San Antonio Road exit West, turn right on East Charleston. The building is about a half mile down on the right-hand side of the road.

#### BAPA Sponsored Circles:

*Gaia's Gateway* is a monthly open ritual featuring a different Pagan tradition each month. Each Gateway begins with an informative talk, and both the talk and the ritual are led by practitioners of the religion presented.

We request a \$5.00 donation from non-members. Gateways are held on the last Sunday of every month from 6PM-9PM in the Fireside Room at PAUUC.

### Gaia's Gateway Monthly Schedule:

#### **April**

Brendan of Daoine Sidhe Coven, an English Wiccan Beltaine.

#### **May**

Open

#### **June**

Aes Dana Coven, An English Wiccan SummerSolstice

#### **July**

Hammer Oak Kindred

#### **August**

Bridgit's Weaving Coven, an eclectic Wiccan circle.

#### **September**

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

#### **October**

A woman's hospice presentation followed by Woodhart Weald, an English eclectic Samhain ritual

#### **November**

Open

### BAPA Network Services

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

### What Can You Do For BAPA?

- Volunteer to help out at the BAPA booth for Tapestry in Talent on Labor Day weekend.
- Attend the Annual Meeting and nominate someone really cool (or volunteer yourself) for the BAPA Board.

### Where To Contact BAPA:

Post Office Box 4159  
Mountain View, CA 94040  
408-559-4242

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

### **Clan of Oak Moon Reorganization:**

*Clan of Oak Moon*, a BAPA partnered teaching eclectic group which met twice a month at PAUUC for teaching and ritual, has recreated itself. Woody Smith and Eileen Dempsey have stepped down from their positions as coordinators and the old format has been replaced. Core participants will continue to provide public rituals on the sabbats, and other opportunities for social gathering for the Pagan community.

The reorganization occurred on Thursday, April 10 at a well attended and emotional meeting. It was noted that in it's year and a quarter existence, the Clan has seeded a new Circle, *House of Life*, which focuses on Egyptian deities and teachings, and has provided social contact for members of the local Pagan community.

The Clan will no longer hold its twice monthly meetings at PAUUC. A new discussion group is forming. It will meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM in Sunnyvale. The Clan may also meet for ritual on the 4th Thursday of the month, time and place to be determined. Please email oakmoonclan@yahoo.com for more information and locations. Social gatherings and excursions will occur as the spirit moves.

Participants expressed gratitude to Woody and Eileen for their work in coordinating the group's activities over this last year.

### **Athena's Archives**

#### **BAPA Library:**

The library is a lending and exchange library, therefore any materials such as books, videos, cassettes, or tarot decks circulate, with the inventory being mutable over time. The library is accessible at the *Gaia's Gateway* each month.

(This space needs your pagan book or film review.)

### **Letter from the Chair:**

BAPA Members,

Let me introduce myself. I am Roger Schuelke. I have been a member of BAPA and of the BAPA board since last June. As a board member, in addition to participating in board meetings, I have chaired a bylaws review subcommittee. I am also the volunteer membership list manager. And now I am

the new BAPA board chairperson. At the last board meeting Woody Smith, who has been the board chair since last June, stepped down as he moves to other commitments. Woody has made a great contribution, helping the board and BAPA through a time of growth and change. Thank you Woody for a job well done.

Beltaine is here and Litha is on the way. And that means it is time again for the annual BAPA membership meeting. The meeting will be held on June 25th prior to the June Gateway, at 5PM, in the Fireside room at PAUUC. Look for directions to the church elsewhere in the newsletter.

The membership will have two items to vote on:

1. Approval the nominated board members for the coming year.
2. Approval of a number of changes to the bylaws. These will be voted on separately. Here is a summary of the bylaw changes.
  - a) Restrictions on Vice President actions removed.
  - b) Definition of a quorum at a meeting of the membership.
  - c) The process for amending the bylaws is more explicitly stated.
  - d) Removal of the Board's ability to change the bylaws. Bylaws may only be changed by the membership.

Since it is time to renew the board the current board is accepting nominations for board members. There are a couple of openings, so if you are interested or know someone that is contact us and let us know. Also if you would like detailed information about the bylaws changes, contact me at the

email address below or call the BAPA number and leave a message.

And lastly, I would like to remind everyone that the Gateways is also a place where new and prospective members can meet other members. So the next time you come to a Gateway and you see a new face, go over and introduce yourself. You never know, it might be a new and dear friend.

RogerSchuelke  
BAPA board chair  
BAPABoardChair@yahoo.com

### **Future Goings On**

These are activities that, due to length of description or advanced notice were not listed on Chronos Calendar.

*M.U.S.E.* August 11-13, 2000 a Pagan camp out to enjoy peace, fun, and ritual.

Workshops for children and adults are also planned. Instructors for workshops are still sought. Facilities are available, and the cost is:

Adult-\$60.00, Child-\$30.00

Meal -\$50.00 \$30.00

Parking-\$15.00

These are early bird prices.

Instructors email Denise via  
witsend@ix.netcom.com

General information is at:

<http://www.fullcircleevents.org>

or call San Jose Metaphysical Books at  
408-446-0590.

Jay Langlois is presenting various classes in the Santa Cruz area at Heathenwood. For information contact: email Greenman@5points.com or call 831-454-1746

*Sex and Spirituality* a series of five facilitated discussions on aspects of sexuality and how they relate to our spiritual nature:

*Sacred Eroticism*, How we connect to the Divine through our sexual self began...4/12, and continues ...5/10  
*Alternative Models of Loving*—Singles, Couple, Group, Monogamy, Polymony, Celibacy,...6/14 *BDSM/Fetishism*—What does our shadow play show us about ourselves?, ...7/12 *Sexual Orientation/Preference*—What happens when we 'own' our sexual identity, ...8/9 *Golden Sex*—Discussing sexual expression as we age, Each night is at 7pm and may be attended separately. A donation of \$3-6 is requested.

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### ***The Lilith Institute Presents...***

#### ***A Summer Solstice Ritual For Women***

Saturday, June 17, 2-5 PM

Rollnick Auditorium, Jewish Community Center, Palo Alto

Tickets (in advance): \$25

contact Deborah Grenn-Scott at 650-345-5449 or [lilith@best.com](mailto:lilith@best.com)

Mail reservations to: The Lilith Institute, P.O. Box 1705, San Mateo, CA 94401

see updates on the website at [www.lilithinstitute.com](http://www.lilithinstitute.com)

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***“Standing Stones” - Bedrock Groups of Bay Area Paganism***

**Organizations:**

(BAPA) Bay Area Pagan Assemblies: in Palo Alto call 408-559-4242

(COG)Covenant of the Goddess: Call Arios at 415-584-2659

(DD) Dragon Dream: in San Francisco call 415-820-1500

(LI) The Lilith Institute: contact Deborah Grenn-Scott at 650-345-5449 or lilith@best.com or <http://www.lilithinstitute.com>

(NROOGD) New Reformed Order of the Golden Dawn: in Berkeley call 510-521-1040 or <http://www.nroogd.org>

(Ph) Phases: in San Francisco call 415-468-5466 or <http://www.phases.org> or [lawre@sirius.com](mailto:lawre@sirius.com)

(RE) Reclaiming San Francisco (many areas) 415-256-1766

(RWC) Redwood Circles: in Santa Cruz call 831-335-1501 or <http://www.5-points.com/RWC/>

(SBC) South Bay Circles: in Palo Alto contact Bianca at 408-265-5180

(WWC) Wyrd Weavers Collective: in Campbell/Los Gatos at “The Nexus” use the web at <http://www.primeval.com/www.html> or [wyrd-weavers@primeval.com](mailto:wyrd-weavers@primeval.com)

**Businesses:**

(13) “13” Book Store: in Santa Cruz, 831-425-1313

(AW) Ancient Ways Book Store: Oakland, 510-653-3244 or <http://www.ancientways.com>

(HL) Her Land Book Store: in Santa Cruz

(LD) Lavendar Dragon: in Menlo Park call 650-323-4778

(PE) Psychic Eye Book Store: in Mountain View, San Francisco

(SJ) San Jose Metaphysical Book Store: in San Jose call 408-446-0590

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**Chronos Calendar**

**May**

1 Beltane

1 (SJ) Intro. to Numerology

2 (13) Wicca 101 class

6 (BAPA) Oak Moon Beltaine

11 (BAPA) Oak Moon Disc. Grp.

17 (SJ) Secrets of Manifestation

24 (SJ) Manifestation with Tarot

28 (BAPA) Gaia’s Gateway

31 (SJ) Rock Medicine

17 (LI) A Summer Solstice Ritual for Women

20 Summer Solstice/ Litha

23 (SJ) Healing with Color

24 (BAPA) Oak Moon Litha

25 (BAPA) Gaia’s Gateway

**July**

13 (BAPA) Oak Moon Disc. Grp.

30 (BAPA) Gaia’s Gateway

**June**

7-11 (AW) Ancient Ways

8 (BAPA) Oak Moon Disc. Grp.