

RECLAIMING: A CENTER FOR FEMINIST SPIRITUALITY AND COUNSELING

Spring Newsletter 1981

Vol. I No 2

RECLAIMING is a collectively-run group of women and men who share political and spiritual vision rooted in the religion of the Goddess, the immanent life force. We work to empower individuals and transform society, using "Magic—the art of changing consciousness at will." Our classes, workshops and individual counseling sessions train intuition, awaken vision and turn blocked energies into action, intimacy and creativity. Our public rituals evoke images of women's strength and healing power, of feeling and nurturing ways of being male, to build a community of freedom in balance with the connecting pattern of all being.

Diana Adler is a teacher, editor, and National President of The Covenant of the Goddess. Lauren Gale is a poet and teacher. Kevyn Lutton is an artist, illustrator, performer and teacher. Starhawk is a teacher, counselor and writer, author of The Spiral Dance: A Rebirth of the Ancient Religion of the Great Goddess.

Associated with RECLAIMING are Bonnie Barnett, vocalist, composer and teacher of vocal resonance, Richard Anderson, researcher, writer, artist, and myth and ritual-maker in the Faerie Men's Movement, and Seline Kumin, dancer, editor, teacher and counselor.



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RECLAIMING'S Weather Report

Welcome to RECLAIMING'S second newsletter. The first quarter of the year has been a time of seed planting and now the sprouts are shooting up everywhere. Our Bridget Ritual, transforming political despair into energy for change, and our Spring Equinox Ritual, mourning the earth's destruction and affirming our power to heal and renew, were each celebrated by close to a hundred people. We're constantly learning how to create large rituals that involve everybody, and would love to get feedback, (written preferably.) What worked for you? What felt flat? What was missing?

We now have three ongoing women's classes. Men's classes begin this spring. We plan to offer two one day workshops each month, and will also participate in conferences, gatherings and other events. Suggestions for workshops are welcome.

Starhawk will be traveling to the mid-west and East Coast in the summer. A trip to Ireland and Britain is in the works for summer 1982—if you'd be interested, let us know your needs as we're now in the process of working out details.

Public Rituals demand enormous amounts of time and energy. We want to form a spin-off circle of public ritual-makers: musicians, artists, performers, poets, anyone who can sing, chant, yell loud, talk, make phone calls, carry heavy objects, or pass a basket, please apply. We're also looking for a resource person who has knowledge of grant writing and fundraising.

RECLAIMING thanks all our friends for their help, support and enthusiasm.



Gossip: Starhawk has signed a contract with Beacon Press for her forthcoming book, Dreaming the Dark: Magic, Sex and Politics. The Spiral Dance has gone into its 4th printing at Harper and Row.

CIRCLE NETWORK NEWS: Quarterly newspaper of Positive Magick, Witchcraft and Paganism, with articles, rituals, contacts and resources. \$5/year \$2/sample copy. CIRCLE, Box 9013, Madison, Wisconsin 53715.

ONE DAY WORKSHOPS:

Through the Underworld: A Journey To Empowerment (For women)

An intensive exploration of our interior underworld: accepting its challenges, meeting our inner helpers and guides, confronting its obstacles, clearing the blocks in our paths, and sharing our personal myths and stories. Trance and energy-release techniques will be taught. Bring a sack lunch, food and drink to share, and a disturbing dream. Taught by Lauren Gale and Starhawk. June 6, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Journey Inn, 3199 Waverly, Palo Alto. Phone 494-0253 for information and registration or Starhawk 681-5857. Sliding fee, \$35-40.

Sound and Movement for Ritual Making (For women)

Developing languages of the voice and body as a means to reclaim an intuitive and mythic relationship to our environment. Using our bodies as channels of energy for change in ourselves and in our reality through ritual. We will explore and extend our ranges of expression, self-tuning and group tuning, and use these sound and movement skills to create and perform a ritual. Taught by Bonnie Barnett, Kevyn, Lauren Gale, and Seline Kumin. Bring a blanket or mat, a snack to share, and lunch. May 9, Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Unitarian Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar, Berkeley. Pre registration before May 4 requested. Phone Lauren 863-0356 or Kevyn 564-7666.

Reclaiming the Goddess: (For women)

An introduction to the heritage and theology of Goddess religion. Reclaiming the Goddess as a connection to our own inner core and creative strength. Visualization, raising and grounding energy, and beginning trance techniques are taught in the framework of the day as a ritual. Bring a snack to share and lunch. Taught by Lauren Gale and Kevyn. May 16, Sat. 481 1/2 Turney off Bridgeway Sausalito (332-0545). And June 27, Sat. S.F. Women's Building, 3543 18th St., between Valencia and Guerrero, 4th fl. "Unity". Childcare available if requested before June 23. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pre registration requested. Limit: 15. Lauren 863-0356 or Kevyn 564-7666.

Making the Obstacle the Path: Befriending Fear (For women)

Women are taught to withdraw from fear, men are taught to mask it, but fear can be a key to the sources of our inner strengths. China Galland, author of Women in the Wilderness (Harper and Row, 1980), organizer of wilderness outings and expeditions, and co-founder of Women in the Wilderness, Inc., with Starhawk will lead a day long ritual, incorporating hiking and climbing in local wild places. A graduated series of exercises help us find our center, and overcome our self-set limits. For beginners—no experience necessary. Bring a packed lunch, snacks and drinks to share—wear sneakers or hiking boots, loose clothing. Limit twelve. \$40-50 sliding scale. \$15 deposit required—non-refundable after July 11. Date: Saturday, July 18. Call for meeting time and place and carpool arrangements, 681-5857.

Wilderness Weekend (For women)

Intensive women's weekend, exploring the wild places within and the wilderness without. An initiatory journey, moving deep into our dreams, our energy, and our spirits, to create a ritual of return. Wilderness camping and moderate hiking. Equipment not provided. \$60-100 sliding scale. \$30 deposit required—non-refundable after July 18. Call for details about transportation and food. Starhawk 681-5857.

Reclaiming Women's Energy (For women)

An intensive workshop in sensing grounding and projecting energy, reading auras, releasing blocks and healing. July 12, Sun., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Taught by Lauren Gale and Diane Adler. Phone for reservations and place. Lauren 863-0356 or Diane 527-4892.





ON GOING CLASSES (six week sessions)

Elements of Magic: (For women) History, philosophy, and theology of Goddess spirituality, the principles of magic as the language of the intuitive. Work in the basic techniques of changing consciousness: relaxation, visualization, concentration, sensing and projecting energy, chanting, trance, and the structure, creation and performance of ritual. Taught by Diane Adler and friend. Next session begins May 6, Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. at Castro and 22nd, S.F. Sliding fee scale \$75-90. Phone Starhawk 681-5857 or Diane 527-4892 (Berkeley). Summer session begins July 9, Thursdays. Installment payments available.

The Pentacle: (for women). Deeper exploration of sensing and projecting energy, further exploration of trance states as ways of working on self, sexuality, emotions, self-esteem and effectiveness in the world. Group dynamics and creating a group bond. For advanced students. Next session begins May 25, Monday, 7:30. Taught by Lauren Gale and Kevyn. Sliding fee scale \$75-90. Phone Lauren 863-0356 or Kevyn 564-7066 for location and reservation. Summer session begins June 30, Thursday.

The Rite of Passage: (for women) Dreams, myths and language, fairy tales as a structure for personal rite-of-passage. Using skills in changing consciousness to discover, explore and transform personal and group myths based on dream material. Culminating in a ritual of emergence created and led by the students. Advanced. Next session begins May 7, Thursday 8:00 p.m. Taught by Starhawk and Lauren Gale. Sliding fee scale \$75-90. Phone for reservation and location, Lauren 863-0356 or Starhawk 681-5857. Summer session begins July 20, Monday.

Elements of Magic for Men: similar to women's class, including world view of Goddess spirituality, and experiences of the ability of ritual to heal and create common unity. Special emphasis on men expressing emotion, nurturing each other, building trust, releasing barriers, getting in touch with the intuitive and feminine within. Personal and political implications of changing men's role models. Taught by Kevyn and Richard Anderson. Begins May 13 Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., North-west Oakland. Sliding fee scale \$75-90. Phone Kevyn 564-7066 or Richard 658-5327. (Ends at summer solstice.) If interest is evident there will be another men's Elements class, or a Pentacle (adv.) class for men starting in July. Watch for a flyer.

INTIMATE DETAILS a performance by Ruth Wallen about her work at Chaco Canyon, New Mexico where she photographed the subtle environmental changes at specific sites in an attempt to include the forces which give the land its power. May 9. 80 Langton Street, between 7th and 8th and Howard and Folsom. 8p.m. Free.

I would like to have "reclaiming" energy in **DOES POPCORN GROW?** a performance in progress by Cheryl Haynes, about a Cherokee woman who exists in the past and the present. Followed by audience response. Bring cakes and wine. Sat. June 13, 2 p.m. 428 #1 Turnay off Bridgeway/Sausalito. 332-0345

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Return of the Goddess: A one day seminar

A multifaceted celebration exploring the unique wisdom of the Goddess through art, ritual, myth and film, as the power of the Goddess emerges in a culture that has been predominately patriarchal for several thousand years. Starhawk will speak on the Rebirth of the Goddess, Luisah Teish: Creation Myths and Goddesses of West Africa and the Caribbean, Antoinette May: The Goddess as Folk Heroine - Barbara Hammer: Goddess Film and Z. Budapest: The Goddess as Working Witch. May 2, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. De Anza College, Rm. L90, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, Ca. 95014 408-996-4673. Write for tickets ahead of time.

Women's Quest: An Exploration of Spirituality

Co-sponsored by John F. Kennedy University and the Association for Transpersonal Psychology. Weekend retreat for 80-100 women, gathering to explore and share myths, stories and paths. Lauren Gale and Starhawk will present two workshops: The Three Aspects of the Goddess: Womenspirit in the Wiccan Tradition and Group Bonding Techniques. Yosemite Institute, Marin Headlands, May 22-24, 1981. \$75-95. For information and registration, contact: Laura Good, Assn. for Transpersonal Psychology, P.O. Box 3049 Stanford, Ca 94305 (415) 327-2066.

Midsummer Pagan Festival: Environmental and Spiritual Awareness

Bringing together environmental and pagan groups for a major celebration of life. Four days of workshops, crafts, performance and rituals, attuning our minds and spirits to nature. Crafts fair, Faery Shaman Ritual, Songfest, Love-feast, and Summer Solstice Ritual. Sponsored by Forever Forests, Abbott's School of Magick and Children of the Dawn. Friday, June 19 thru Monday, June 22, 1981. Anthony Chabot Regional Park, Joseph P. Bort Meadow (Big Trees Campground) - Oakland, Ca. Contact: MPF 4010 Granada Road, El Sobrante, Ca. 94803 223-1384. \$15-4 days admission, campsite included, \$10- Saturday admission, \$5 daily admission, Fri., Sun, or Mon.



RECLAIMING'S Summer Solstice Ritual

Daylight meets the dark in fiery passion and love. We die and are reborn to the second half of the year. Come, gather as a tribe at Rodeo Beach to honor the approach of shortening days, and celebrate the Goddess and God within, creativity, union, and commitment. Starts at 2 p.m. for ritualistic ritual preparation; picnicking and building of the Wicker Man, (bring feathers, trinkets, etc. - symbolic objects to be transformed in the fire.) Bring the

children, rhythm makers, lots of flowers for wreaths, food, drink, and firewood. Ritual begins at 5 p.m. Marin Headlands. Sunday, June 21. Open planning meeting June 7, Sunday 8 p.m. Call for place: Lauren 863-0356 or Kevyn 364-7066.

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I WOULD LIKE TO BE A FRIEND OF RECLAIMING

Enclosed is a tax deductible donation of _____. I wish it to be placed in the Scholarship fund ____, Public Ritual fund ____, Childcare fund _____. (Make checks payable to The Covenant Of the Goddess, earmarked RECLAIMING.)

I WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TIME AND ENERGY

name _____ address/zip _____

phone _____ skills _____

I WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER FOR

_____ class _____ date _____
Fee for all classes sliding scale \$75-90. Some barter available. Please phone if childcare is an issue.

_____ workshop _____ date _____
Fee for workshops, sliding scale \$35-40.

_____ "Making the Obstacle the Path: Befriending Fear" July 18, \$40-50 sliding scale. \$15 deposit, non-refundable after July 11.

_____ "Wilderness Weekend" July 25 and 26, \$60-100 sliding scale. \$25 deposit, non refundable after July 18.

Enclosed is a check for _____ full payment _____ installment. Make checks payable to RECLAIMING.

name _____ address _____

phone _____ city/zip _____

Mail to RECLAIMING % COVENANT OF THE GODDESS
P.O. Box 1226 Berkeley, California, 94704

Richard Anderson's SEASONAL CONTEMPLATIONS FOR HALLOWEEN AND YULE are finally ready after six years work. Part of a set of eight guides for reconnecting personal cycles/moods/activities with Mother Earth's seasonal rhythms. Each an 8 1/2" x 14" print with visual and poetic images based on Celtic Mythology, adapted to our current situation. Call 658-5327 or write to 1019 47th St., Emeryville, Ca. 94608.



RECLAIMING'S CALENDAR

May thru July 1981

May

- 1 Fri. Beltane - RECLAIMING'S 1st birthday
 2 Sat. Seminar - "Return of the Goddess" Cupertino 10am.
 5 Tues. "Elements of Magic" class begins. SF 8 p.m.
 7 Thurs. "The Rite of Passage" adv. class begins. SF. 8 p.m.
 9 Sat. Workshop "Sound and Movement for Ritual Making"
 Berkeley 10 a.m.
 13 Wed. "Elements of Magic for Men" class begins. EB. 7:30 p.m.
 16 Sat. Workshop "Reclaiming the Goddess" Marin. 10 a.m.
 23-24 "Women's Quest: A Exploration of Spirituality" Marin Head-
 lands
 25 Mon. "The Pentacle" adv. class begins. S.F. 7:30 p.m.

June

- 6 Sat. Workshop "Through the Underworld: A Journey to
 Empowerment" Palo Alto 10 a.m.
 18-21 Pagan Spirit Gathering - Wisconsin
 21 Sun. RECLAIMING'S Summer Solstice Ritual - Rodeo
 Beach-Marin Headlands 2 p.m.
 19-22 Midsummer Pagan Festival: Environmental and
 Spiritual Awareness-Oakland
 22-26 Starhawk in Madison Wisconsin
 27-July 7 Workshop in New York
 27 Sat. Workshop "Reclaiming the Goddess" S.F. 10 a.m.
 30 Tues. "The Pentacle" adv. class begins S.F. 7:30 p.m.

July

- 9 Thurs. "Elements of Magic" class begins SF
 12 Sun. Workshop "Reclaiming Women's Energy" EB. 10 a.m.
 18 Sat. Workshop "Making the Obstacle the Path: Befriend-
 ing Fear."
 25 and 26 Wilderness Weekend

RECLAIMING a member of
 THE COVENANT OF THE GODDESS
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