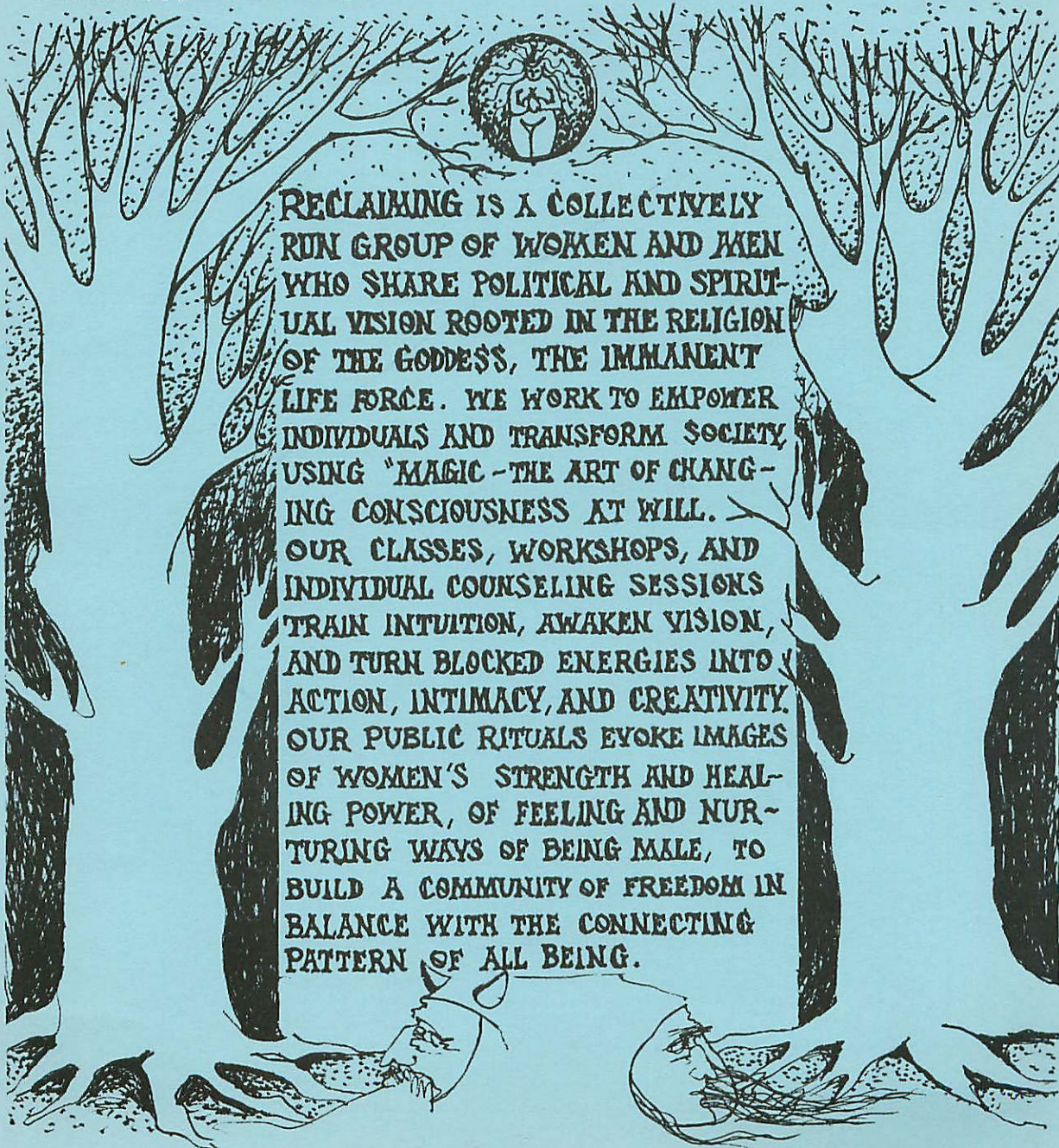


# RECLAIMING: A CENTER FOR FEMINIST SPIRITUALITY AND COUNSELING

WINTER NEWSLETTER 1981

VOL. 1 NO. 4

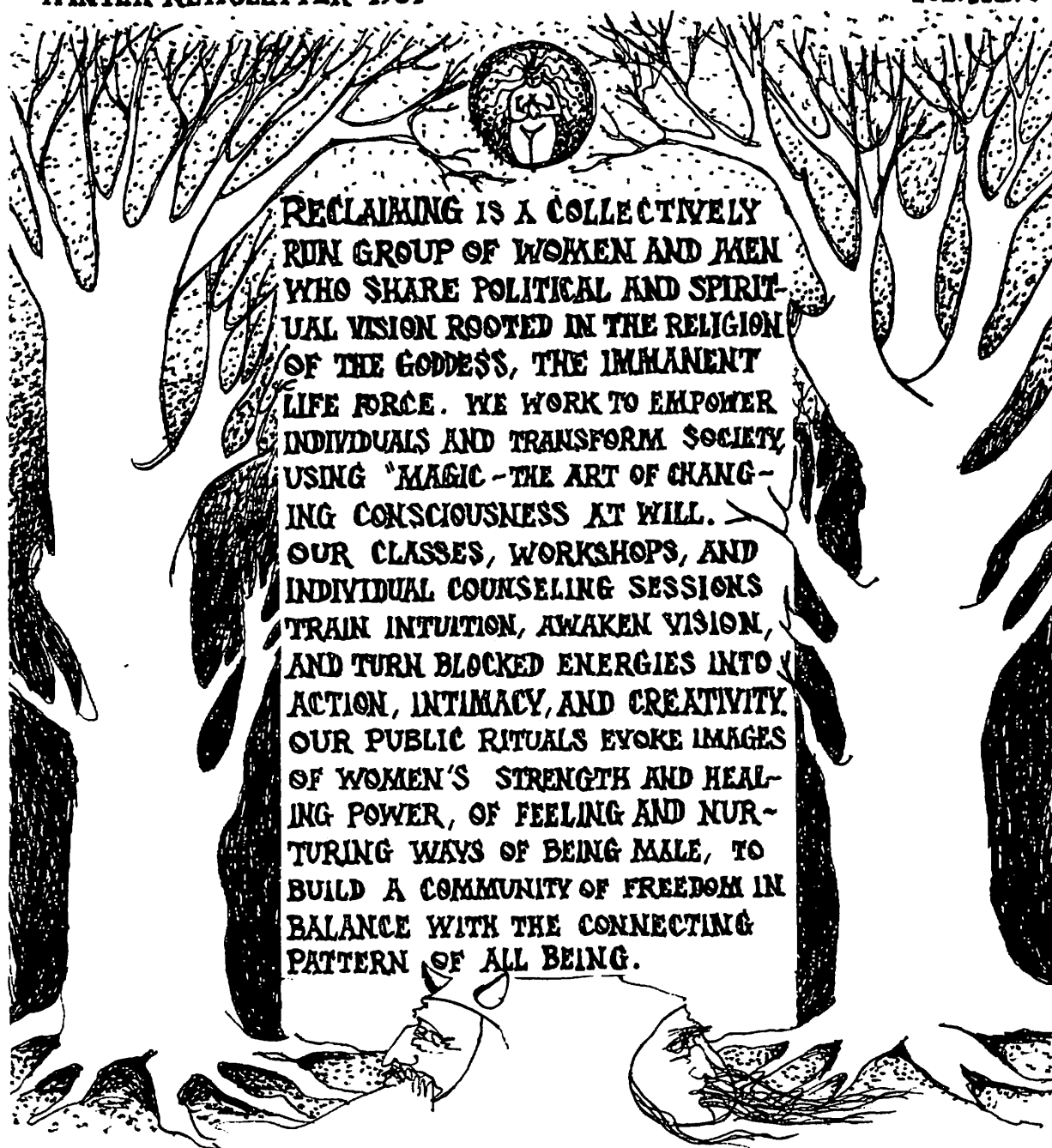


RECLAIMING IS A COLLECTIVELY RUN GROUP OF WOMEN AND MEN WHO SHARE POLITICAL AND SPIRITUAL VISION ROOTED IN THE RELIGION OF THE GODDESS, THE IMMANENT LIFE FORCE. WE WORK TO EMPOWER INDIVIDUALS AND TRANSFORM SOCIETY USING "MAGIC - THE ART OF CHANGING CONSCIOUSNESS AT WILL. OUR CLASSES, WORKSHOPS, AND INDIVIDUAL 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.

# RECLAIMING: A CENTER FOR FEMINIST SPIRITUALITY AND COUNSELING

WINTER NEWSLETTER 1981

VOL. 1 NO. 4



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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

A witches' community garden is being started in a backyard in the Haight. Anyone interested call Linda at 552-7641 or Beth at 731-5879.

Faerie Tradition Men's Network: We are joining together to develop a community of feminist men who are combining politics/spirituality/magic. We want to do this by offering: classes in ritual and magic; healing services during times of transformation; and initial facilitation of new groups/covens. We would also appreciate having dedicated faerie spirits join us in birthing this community. Call Shawn (849-1187 or 848-3084) or Feather Singing (between 2 Jan. and 6 Feb. at 658-5327).

Perfect Circles: Personal horoscope necklaces duplicate your chart exactly (including house cusps) in beautiful glass beads. Chart, necklace and consultation \$60. Variations possible, open to barter. Call Judy Foster at 849-0994 or 843-0722.


I see a group of pagan women involved in psychic development, Wicca and feminism working together to form a stable, long-term family/collective household. Age, race and sexual preference important in the strength and diversity they add to the total. Lynn Forrest: days 495-4122, eves. 864-2827. Must be operating from the 4th chakra. Blessed Be!

I would like a 1-bedroom apartment or cottage under \$300. Must be in Berkeley. Peggy 848-8652.

Poetry reading and book party for Isis. Diane Frank and Deirdre Sharette will be reading poems with jazz flute improvisations by Larry Kassin at Noe Valley Poetry, 1021 Sanchez St., S.F. on Sun., 24 January, 7:30 p.m. Isis, Diane's first book of poems, was published in December by Project Press.

Womanblood: Portraits of Women in Poetry and Prose, edited by Aline O'Brien, Chryst Rasmussen and Catherine Costello is available from Continuing SAGA Press, 1822 Mason St., S.F. 94133, for \$9.95 plus tax (total \$10.60). Write or call 668-8990, or ask for it at your local bookstore.

### BRIGID RITUAL

Brigid is the Goddess of the forge, healing and poetry. She is the lengthening of days, the woman rising out of childbed, the bud on the limb. The bud stirring with dreams and vision, about to, almost, on the verge of breaking forth. When we stir in our sleep and wake clean, it is Brigid moving us, when we speak from our centers it is her anvil, her hands, her voice. Join Reclaiming to kindle our spirits, to waken our visions (political and personal, of course) to reclaim our power and to see how we shine. Bring candles, food, drink and musical instruments. Children welcome. Sat., 30 January, 8 p.m. at Sigmund Stern Clubhouse, 19th Ave. and Sloat Blvd., S.F. Contact Lauren Gale at 863-0356. 



#### RECLAIMING GOSSIP:

And it is Yule (Winter Solstice) again. Winter rains and bulb time, green hills where the Goddess rebirths/renews Herself (as the young God, as the days lengthening) and yet remains dark womb, sustainer, midwife of the world.

And so Reclaiming is once again wombing, birthing and passing through. Kevyn leaves us to match body with heart and focus on more direct political work. We (Starhawk, Lauren Gale and Bonnie Barnett) are joined by Spiral Dance Ritual veterans Calypso Iris, Mighty Macha the NightMare (Aline O'Brien), Peggy, Sophia Moondragon, and by Beth Bone Blossom, Gweneth/Rose May Dance, Bonnie Brigid, Cerridwen Falllingstar, Anna Korn and Richard Anderson (feather singing), till we number a loose 13. The offerings within this newsletter are the immediate, visible part of what we are forming/what is forming us. The immediate, invisible part, the process, moves from chaos to consensus, from spotted effect to circular form.

Consensus. Near Mabon (Fall Equinox) Starhawk, Rose and Kevyn joined the Diablo Blockage. Sistered many circles, much magic. Found place (inside and out) where politics and spirituality meet and acted from it. Good learning, good teaching, good return. The work continues, more seeds forming, more circles on Mother Earth.

The Spiral Dance Ritual. Big craziness, big success. Still recovering. About 600 people attended. We are working on how to use the money earned most effectively. The magic, at this point, takes care of itself. Again, thank you and blessings to dancers, chorus, musicians, tech people, peace keepers and artists and to those who danced the spiral, raised the power and sent it off to heal, to nurture, to renew. Blessed be, Lauren Gale.

# ONGOING CLASSES, ONE DAY WORKSHOPS, EVENING FORUMS

## MARXISM AND WITCHCRAFT FORUM/WORKSHOP

David Kubrin

Utilizing witchcraft and shamanism as historical examples of women's and third world cultures, David Kubrin will present a critique of the Marxist analysis of religion, using it as a basis for re-visioning the relation of the revolutionary movement to women's, third world, ecological and health issues. Whereas Marx claims that a revolutionary transformation of 19th century German society had to begin with a critique of its religion, Kubrin will argue that a 20th century revolutionary movement must begin with a critique of science, laying bare the modern colonization of human consciousness, and technology. A morning presentation and questions, with small group discussion during the afternoon. Co-sponsored by Reclaiming and the S.F. Socialist School. Sat., 6 Feb., 10 a.m. The Women's Building, 3543 - 18th St., S.F. \$25<sup>00</sup>

## rites of passage for men:

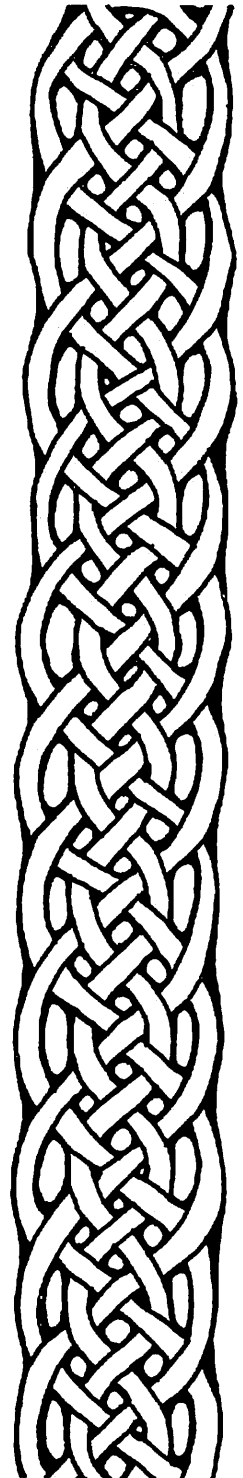
Feather Singing and Sophia Moondragon

We will explore the power of rites of passage in our lives, recalling personal experiences and exploring the role of myth and culture in shaping us. Using dreamwork and trance, drama and mask, we will practice myth-making, and develop a personal hero's journey. Culminates in a 1 or 2-day wilderness vision quest, leading to a personal rite of transformation. Advanced 6-week course, beginning Wed., 10 Mar., 7:30 p.m. East Bay. Call Sophia (824-0274) or Feather Singing (658-5327) for reservation and location. \$75 - \$90 sliding scale.

## THE PENTACLE (FOR WOMEN):

Sophia Moondragon and Brigid

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 Thurs., 21 Jan., 7:30 p.m. For reservation and location, call Sophia (824-0274) or Brigid (527-6385). \$75 - \$90 sliding scale.



**ELEMENTS OF RITUAL:**

Lauren Gale and Bonnie Barnett

Our bodies are our ritual instruments. To fine tune our voices and expression is to fine tune our magic. We will be practicing vocal meditation and invocation, visualization and image making, storytelling and trance, energy chaneling and song making, sound and movement exercises, Mongolian overtone and Tibetan octave chanting, listening, blending and reacting skills on the psychic and physical planes. Open to women and men. 6 weeks beginning Mon., 25 Jan., 7:30 p.m. 18th and Guerrero Sts., S.F. Call Lauren at 863-0356. \$75 - \$90 sliding scale.

**RECLAIMING THE GODDESS: An Introduction to Ritual and Magic:**

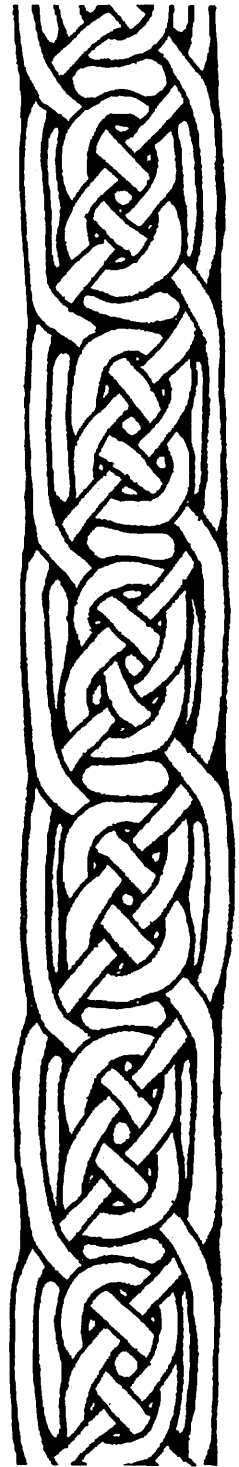
Starhawk

An evening with Reclaiming, and an introduction to our philosophy and our classes. Starhawk speaks on the history and rebirth of The Goddess as a powerful change in cultural consciousness, and a movement that unites spirit and politics. Lauren Gale, Alan Acacia, Gweneth/Rose and Shawn Usha will lead small groups in meditations and exercises that teach 'magic,' the art of changing consciousness at will. The evening will end with a ritual. Open to women and men. Sun., 17 Jan., 8 p.m., The Women's Building, 3543 - 18th St., S.F. Child care by pre-arrangement; contact Lauren at 863-0356. \$2 - \$5 donation, sliding scale. ♀

**MAGIC, SEX AND POLITICS:**

Starhawk

Starhawk will speak on the interrelationship of consciousness and power, beginning with an excursion into the history of the Witch persecutions in the 16th and 17th centuries, and culminating with tales of the Diablo Canyon blockade. She may also read from her newly-completed book, Dreaming the Dark: Magic, Sex and Politics (forthcoming from Beacon Press, 1982). Small group discussions, exercises and a ritual follow her presentation. Open to women and men. Sun., 28 Feb., 8 p.m. The Women's Building, 3543 - 18th St., S.F. Child care by pre-arrangement; contact Lauren at 863-0356. \$2 - \$5 donation, sliding scale. ♀



**HERB MAGIC AND MEDICINE:**

**Beth Bone Blossom and Anna Korn**

---

In this hands-on class we will turn the kitchen into a pharmacy, as we learn to make our own poultices, tea mixes, cough syrup, salves, hand creme, vinegars, massage oil, and build a general first aid kit. Other uses of plants to be covered, according to interest, include homeopathy, natural dyeing, women's remedies, making baskets, corn dollies, incense, Bach flower remedies. Mythology and ritual uses of plants will also be covered. The last two classes will be identification in the field. Open to women and men. 6 weeks: 4 Monday evenings in Feb., 2 Sat. mornings in March. Call Beth (731-5879) or Anna (886-5917). \$75 - \$90 sliding scale.

**LIVING WELL IS THE BEST REVENGE: A  
Workshop on the Magic of Forgiveness:**

**Cerridwen Fallingstar**

---

When the spirit is bitter, the body sickens; resentment tightens creativity, passion and juice into stagnation. Learn to release your natural flow of creativity and health through trance, meditation and other techniques focussing on developing the power of forgiveness. To forgive is not to forget, but to remember, change and transform into positive action. Sun., 24 Jan., 1 - 5 p.m. For reservations and location, call Cerridwen at 383-6687. \$20.00

**TRUCE AND TRUTH BETWEEN THE SEXES: Peace  
Councils for Women and Men:**

**Cerridwen Fallingstar**

---

Imagine a world in which the war between the sexes is over - and everyone won (one). Through vulnerability and genuineness, opening our ears and hearts to each other and to our own deep inner wisdom, we will begin to envision and create that future. We will seek inspiration and new paths for communication through trance, meditation and talking from the heart. Sun., 10 Jan., 7:30 - 10:30 p.m., 42 Miller Ave., Mill Valley. Sauna and hot tub available until midnight. Call Cerridwen at 383-6687. \$20.00

HOW TO SHED LIKE A SNAKE - AND RISE LIKE A  
PHOENIX: Journeys through Reincarnation:  
Cerridwen Fallingstar

Reincarnation memories can: help explain  
your personal interactions with others, your  
limitations and your dreams; help you to  
understand who you deeply are and what your  
path is in this life; restore ancient wisdom  
of other cultures which has been lost to us;  
heal your fear of death with an awareness of  
personal immortality. Sun., 31 Jan., 1 - 5  
p.m. For reservation and location, call  
Cerridwen at, 383-6687. \$20.00



NOTES ON TEACHERS/FACILITATORS:

STARHAWK is the author of The Spiral Dance: A Rebirth of  
the Ancient Religion of The Great Goddess (Harper & Row, 1979),  
a teacher, counselor and political activist.

LAUREN GALE is a poet, story teller, ritual maker and teacher.

BONNIE BARNETT teaches vocal resonance and vocal multiphonics  
and sings with Avalanche, a women's vocal quintet.

SOPHIA MOONDRAGON is a batik artist, teacher and mother.

GWENETH/ROSE MAY DANCE is a healer, teacher and writer.

BETH BONE BLOSSOM is a gardener, weaver and mother.

BONNIE BRIGID is a woodworker, bodyworker and teacher.

CERRIDWEN FALLINGSTAR writes, lives and teaches in the future  
and past that are Now.

RICHARD ANDERSON (FEATHER SINGING) is an artist and ritual  
maker, a researcher of Celtic seasonal customs and rituals  
and a writer in the feminist men's movement.

DAVID KUBERIN is a writer, political activist and industrial  
designer.

ANNA KORN is a botanist with an interest in herbal medicine.

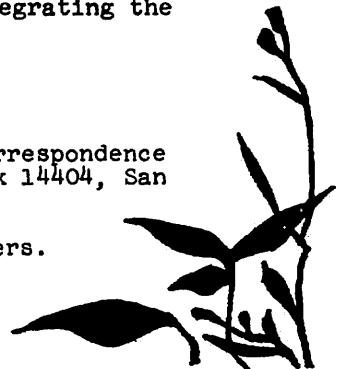
SHAWN USHA is an upholsterer, Tarot reader and men's community  
organizer.

ALAN ACACIA works in the men's movement integrating the  
political and the spiritual.

Feedback, donations, blessings and other correspondence  
should be addressed to RECLAIMING, P. O. Box 14404, San  
Francisco, CA 94114

Newsletter prepared by Macha and Eleanor Myers.

**WHEELCHAIR ACCESS - 2**





Non-profit org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 4540  
Oakland, CA

THE COVENANT OF THE GODDESS  
2927 Harrison Street  
Oakland, CA 94611

# CALENDAR

## January

- 10 Truce and Truth between the Sexes: Peace Council for Women and Men, Mill Valley
- 17 Reclaiming The Goddess: An Introduction to Ritual and Magic, San Francisco
- 21 The Pentacle for Women
- 24 Living Well Is the Best Revenge: A Workshop on the Magic of Forgiveness
- 25 Elements of Ritual, San Francisco
- 30 Brigid Ritual, Sigmund Stern Clubhouse
- 31 How To Shed Like a Snake - and Rise Like a Phoenix: Journeys through Reincarnation

## February

- 1 Herb Magic and Medicine, San Francisco
- 6 Marxism and Witchcraft Forum/Workshop, San Francisco
- 28 Magic, Sex and Politics, San Francisco

## March

- 10 Rites of Passage for Men, East Bay