

*Revolutionary*

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

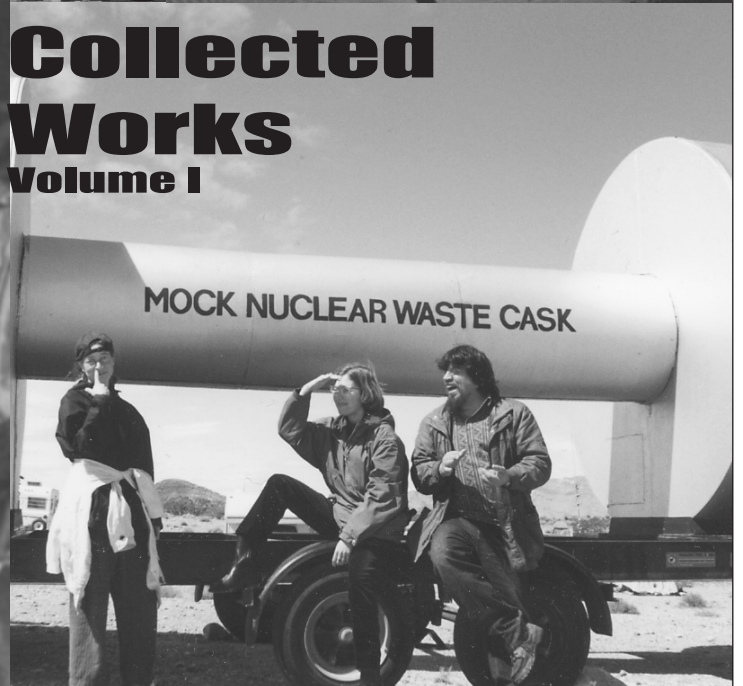
Issues #1-30

The Voice of the Pagan Proletariat

ReclaimingQuarterly.org

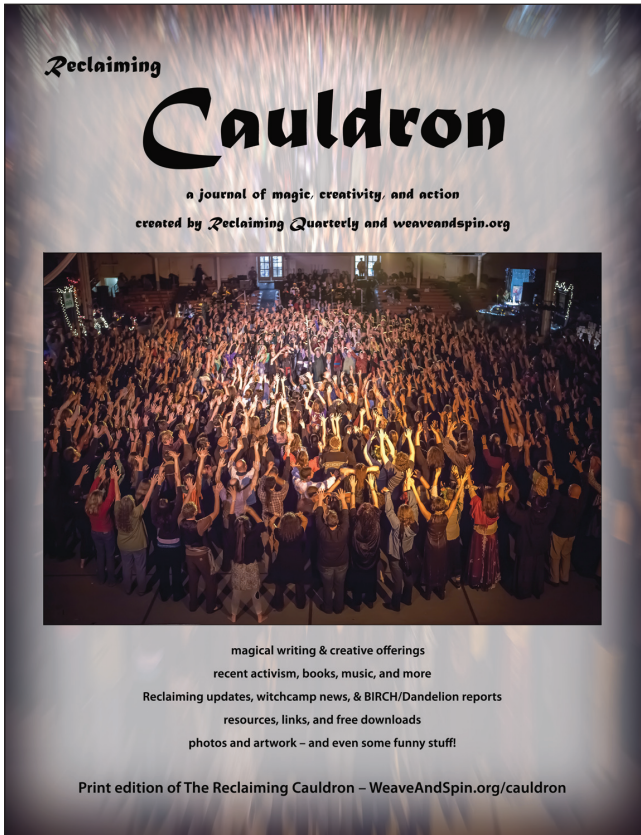


**The  
Collected  
Works  
Volume I**



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# Comrades:

IN YOUR HANDS you hold the complete archives of the Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Vanguard – the voice of the Pagan proletariat.

Your purchase of our collected works supports the labors of the RPWV to throw off the chains of crypto-bourgeois romanticism and forge a mighty tool of global Pagan revolution.

Please also visit our boutique on Union Square in San Francisco – right across from Niketown!

\* \* \*

THE RPWV WAS created as a prospective title for what eventually became Reclaiming Quarterly magazine (see back cover). To name the new magazine, we held a reader poll with several possible titles. "RPWV" was added as a last-minute joke.

Naturally, we received a couple of emails from longtime Reclaiming supporters to the effect of, "So glad you are producing a magazine! But *please* don't name it Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Vanguard!!"

Realizing that the dialectical conditions underlying a revolutionary conjuncture had not yet ripened, we fell back on Plan B – an April Fool's page in the Spring 1998 issue of RQ.

Well, apparently our readers are so starved for humor that they found it funny. No one ever accused Witches of having good taste (for an alternate viewpoint, see Spiral Dance Fashion Musts and Misses at the back of this book).

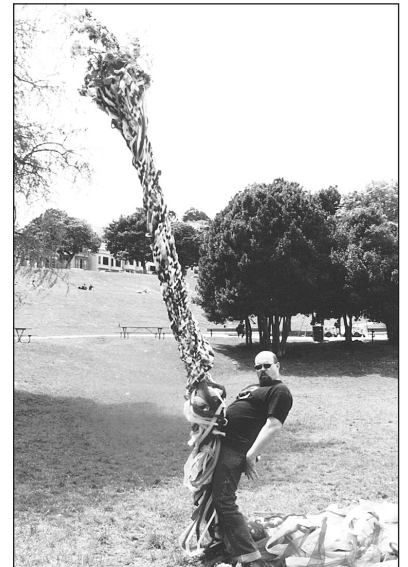
But the RPWV cell gallantly answered the call. Over several dozen issues of servitude, almost twenty people have contributed ideas, writing and photos to the page. And now we celebrate the Vanguard with a Collected Works edition.

We've also added several other satires that have graced the pages of RQ, making this the most thorough and incisive document of Revolutionary Pagan Humor ever assembled.

We hope it will give you a laugh or two, and that on finishing it you will rush to your checkbook and join the Pagan masses donating to Reclaiming Quarterly – the only place you'll find future editions of the RPWV!

Yours in struggle,

*The RPWV cell*



## Credits and Otherwise

In addition to the credited photographers and authors, the following people are to blame for the contents of this publication:

George Franklin, Kat Lolith, Elka Eastly, John Fox, Rain, Darach, JP, Aimee Vincent, Snow, Suzanne, Lisa Dillon, Lynx, Wolf, Georgie Dennison, July, Lisa Dillon, Jim Negrette, Lily.

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## Organize the Masses to Seize Power-From-Within!

### May 1st Set for Uprising

The Central Committee of the Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Cell has set May 1st (Beltane) as the target date for seizing power from the decadent Crypto-Bourgeois forces who presently control the Reclaiming community.

Addressing the recent mass meeting of revolutionary pagan cadre, Cell Chairman Gusty Hail outlined the takeover strategy. "While the running dogs of Anarcho-Paganism are jumping over the Cauldron, our advance forces will seize the Maypole, proclaim a Pagan Workers' Democracy, and strike up our new chant:

*"We are the Vanguard of Everyone  
We'll seize control of the Moon & Sun"*

Fellow-travelers of the RPW Cell have already infiltrated the Reclaiming Teacher's cell, and are prepared to

### Elvis Spotted at Spiral Dance

Legendary rock icon Elvis Presley was spotted by numerous revelers at the 1997 Spiral Dance, re-opening a bitter debate between partisans and skeptics.

"This proves he isn't dead," exclaimed noted Reclaiming Elvisologist D. Quirky. "I saw him with my own eyes!"

"It proves nothing of the sort," retorted renowned Reclaiming Elvis-debunker T. T. Quarrel. "It just means that the veil was thin down at the end of Lonely Street."

Despite desperate attempts at mediation, the dispute remains unsettled, and has been placed at the top of the agenda of the next Reclaiming Wheel meeting.

announce a new Elements of Dialectical Magic class. The course will include invoking the ancestors (Mao in the East, Castro in the South, Gramsci in the West, and Lenin in the North), as well as a thorough study of Karl Marx' little-

known first book, "Das Ritual." Pagans showing a reluctance to enroll in this course will be sent to Reclaiming's new Indoctrination Camps, which will replace the ineffectual Witchcamps.

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### Surgeon General Warns on Dangers of Witchcamp

The Office of the Surgeon General has released this frightening photograph documenting an actual trance-overdose at Reclaiming's infamous Witchcamps. This is just one of the dangers awaiting neophyte pagans who are lured into the Witchcamps, which take place across the continent. Parents are especially

*continued on page C-97*

### Reclaiming Opens Drive-thru Franchise

Reclaiming today announced the opening of its first drive-thru franchise, located on trendy Valencia Street in San Francisco.

"This is clearly the cutting edge of Earth-based spirituality," declared Reclaiming CEO J. Alfredo Money. "The future is now."

As they enter from Valencia Street, car-based pagans will order from a menu of Groundings and Invocations. Drivers then proceed to the Tunnel of Trances, where they can commune with the ancestors while dining on veggieburgers and amazake shakes (2% of net profits benefit the Witchcamp Scholarship Fund). A special all-in-one devotion exit will speed ritualists on to their next destination.

Some members of Reclaiming's Executive Committee demanded special paths for bicyclists and skateboarders, but the majority wisely vetoed these proposals as inconvenient for automobile drivers. "We need to be clear about whom Reclaiming is trying to serve," stated Money.

Rumors that all of Reclaiming's in-person rituals are being cancelled were dismissed by Money. "We will continue to cater to pedestrians for at least another few months."



*An unidentified Witchcamper trances out and slips towards the Exit of No Return — just one of the many dangers of Witchcamp, according to the Surgeon General. Photo by RPWV staffer Randy Ralston.*

## Alchem Lab Discovers Sixth Sacred Thing

In a terse announcement that sent shock waves through the Pagan community, Reclaiming Alchemical Laboratories today disclosed the discovery of a sixth sacred element.

Euro-pagan traditions have long built their theology around the veneration of earth, air, fire, water and spirit. The new discovery could shake this faith to its roots.

"We've hoped against hope that our experiments were mistaken," said Alchem Lab President J. Log-On. "But we can no longer deny the facts." Log-On refused to reveal preliminary findings concerning the nature of the sixth sacred thing, describing it only as a

"trans-centric element of uncertain magical properties."

Stunned members of Reclaiming groped for words. "Obviously, our tapes and CDs are obsolete," lamented spokesperson H. Hava DayDream. "Now we'll have to write new verses to all of our chants and invocations."

Meanwhile, Reclaiming Enterprises, Inc., was frantically recalling copies of Starhawk's best-selling novel, *The Fifth Sacred Thing*, from bookstores around the world. And thousands of pentacle necklaces were reportedly being melted down, to be re-cast as hexacles in time for this summer's Witchcamps.

## Reclaiming Rituals to Adopt Corporate Sponsors

In a major financial move, the Board of Directors of Reclaiming has agreed to corporate sponsorship of its 1999 cycle of rituals.

Already, Timberland has signed exclusive rights to the Fall Equinox, while the June 21st celebration will henceforth be known as the "Dr. Pepper® Summer Solstice."

"This will mean a few slight changes in the content of our rituals," admitted Reclaiming Treasurer P. Martian. "For instance, at the Winter Solstice, our west invocation will be of Evian Mineral Water®. And the Spiral Dance will be re-choreographed by our new sponsor, Arthur Murray Studios."

At press-time, only five of the eight rituals have sponsors, but others are in negotiation. The Trojan and Kimono companies are reportedly engaged in a bidding war for the rights to Beltane, while the Thrifty Drug Store chain has tendered an offer to sponsor the flaming cauldron at the Brigid ritual.

In a related move, the Witchcamp Scholarship Fund has signed a contract with Hallmark to produce a line of Samhain greeting cards, using the always-popular Peanuts cartoon characters to deliver snappy seasonal slogans such as "Blessed Be!™" and "May You Never Hunger!™"

Martian denied corporate sponsorship would alter Reclaiming. "Just because we work between the worlds doesn't mean we can't do a little business in this one."

### Obituary

## Lúgh Lamented by Pagan Community

Lúgh, god of light and Celtic lord of every skill, died June 21 from natural causes.

Beloved son of Cian (of the mighty Tuatha Dé Danann) and Eithne (of the Fomóiri), Lúgh was raised by the Fir Bolg queen Taitiu, who singlehandedly cleared the central plain of Ireland for agriculture. A distinguished war veteran, he killed his Fomorian grandfather, Balor, during the great police action at Mag Tuired.

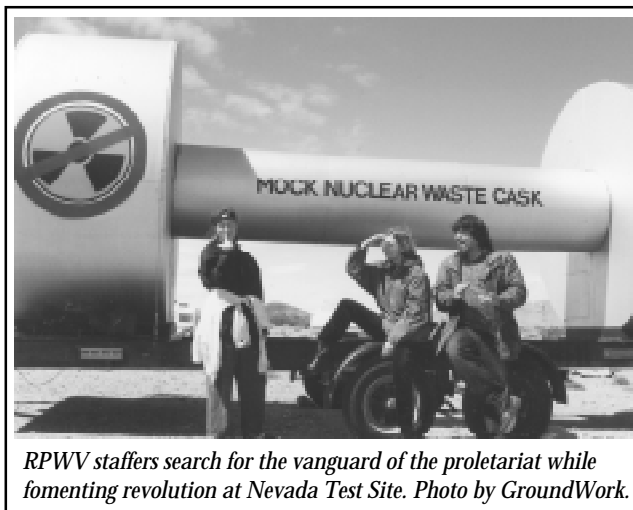
When Lúgh, aka the "Long Handed," sought to enter at the gates of Tara, he was challenged to define his distinctive craft for initiation. Lúgh was distinct as master of all crafts: the Samildánach, the "Many-Gifted One."

He is survived by his hurling buddies "the Lúghnatics," and Celtic pagans everywhere. A memorial for Lúgh is planned for Lúghnasadh, August 1. Donations may be made to the Goddess in his memory.

## Failed Uprising Haunts Pagan Workers' Cell

The failure of the Beltane uprising (*see last issue*) has set off a bitter internecine struggle within the Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Cell. RPW Chairman Gusto Hail, who tripped over the flaming cauldron and became entangled in the Maypole ribbons, triggering the debacle,

*continued on page D-17*



*RPWV staffers search for the vanguard of the proletariat while fomenting revolution at Nevada Test Site. Photo by GroundWork.*

## Reclaiming Squad Off to Pagan Olympics "Quest for the Crystal"

With a rousing sendoff following the Lammas ritual, Reclaiming's Pagan Olympic Team left for the 1998 Games in Glastonbury, England. The Lammas ceremonies were highlighted by the blessing of the wand to be used by the 1000-meter Triple Spiral Relay squad.

Long an international power in Synchronized Aspecting and Speed Trancing, Reclaiming hopes to enter the upper echelons of such old-world specialties as Veiled Labyrinth Walking and Three-legged Maypole Dancing.

While Reclaiming-style Pagans still fare poorly in events such as Hex Dueling, the Reclaiming team shocked the field in last year's Between-the-Worlds Cup by taking the Crystal medal in the Spell-Casting Marathon.

But Reclaiming's hopes for top honors revolve around the Magical Decathlon. This grueling competition, which requires contestants not only to ground, invoke all directions and deities, lead a drum-trance, and devoke in

reverse order, but to anchor the ritual and sell newsletter subscriptions at the same time, has long been dominated by the older Wiccan groups from England.

Pundits agree that this year may be different. "With several groups now doing rituals in the Bay Area each Sabbat, the level of competition has gone up considerably," said a team spokesperson. "I think we'll reap the

*continued on page D-17*

## Witchcampers Sue: Defective Cones of Power

Seven California Witchcampers have brought a class action suit against Reclaiming, alleging defective Cones of Power at the 1998 camp.

According to court documents obtained by the RPWV, plaintiffs contend that the Cones of Power — the climax of Reclaiming rituals during which participants chant and tone in ecstatic harmony — failed to meet advertised standards, resulting in irreversible psychological damage.

A Reclaiming spokesperson who identified herself as "Matterhorn" pointed out that the fine print in the Witchcamp contract disavows any guarantee of conal harmony or duration. However, an anonymous top-level source confirmed that Reclaiming is negotiating an out-of-court settlement to this embarrassing case. "We're offering them an all-expense-paid trip to Disneyworld's new RitualLand theme park if they will drop their suit," the source told the RPWV.

## Loch Ness Monster Repairs Stalled Car

Reclaiming community member Sue Pyrstitious reports strange auto mechanic activities during a recent trip to Loch Ness, Scotland.

"My car stalled as I was driving along the Loch one night," she stated, "and I was forced to leave it there to find a pay phone to call a tow truck."

According to Ms. Pyrstitious, that's when the monster went to work.

"When I returned to my car, there was a puddle of water on the ground, and a set of wet footprints led into the Loch. I checked my car, and it worked!

"The Loch Ness Monster is Mr. Goodwrench!"

## Revolutionary Pagan Cell Purges Dissidents

On the heels of the failed coup at the Beltane Ritual [see last issue], the Revolutionary Pagan Workers Cell has instituted a purge of dissident members.

"Purity of doctrine is preferable to mass complacency," stated RPW Chairman Gusty Hail. Using a purgative spell gleaned from Karl Marx' classic work "Das Ritual," Hail pronounced "nay-saying lackeys and crypto-bourgeois anarchists" anathema to the cause of worldwide Pagan revolution. The chairman then rallied the faithful cadre in the traditional RPW dance: "One step forward, two steps back..."



A NEAR-RIOT erupted at the Ms. Witchcamp 1998 competition at California Camp. Above, Goth Witch's rendition of demonic poetry upstages Trendy Witch's handcrafted costume. When Hippie Witch invoked the spirit of Jerry Garcia, the audience had to be restrained from storming the stage. Photo by RPWV staffer Morgaine Wilder.

## Sluggish Start for Reclaiming TV Network

"X-Trances" is only breakout hit

Ratings are in for the Fall television season, and the numbers are not good for the fledgling Reclaiming Broadcasting Network. Locked in a duel for advertising dollars with Warner Brothers, UPN, and the Christian Brothers, UPN, and the Christian-sponsored PAX network, RBN set record lows for viewers during the Fall sweeps.

One program, "Let It Begin Now," in which the famed Reclaiming chant was sung non-stop for the entire hour, drew only 17 viewers, all of whom were family members of the chorus. "Maybe we picked the wrong chant," admitted producer N. Shibar.

And "Mathilda the Middle-Aged Witch" lost half of its already small audience after devoting an entire show to Spells for Relieving Garlic-Induced Heartburn.

On a hopeful note, the Pagan Olympics broadcasts were among the

highest-rated programs for October, and the soap opera, "As the Wheel Turns," based on gossip from an actual pagan community, was picking up steam as the Fall season closed.

But most shows failed to draw a substantial audience. Even "Gwydion's Island," a comedy where seven Spiral Dancers are cast adrift on the Isle of Apples and have to contend with cantankerous ancestor spirits, appears to be little more than a cult favorite in its Sunday evening slot.

The one break-out hit of the season has been the critically-acclaimed "X-Trances," where special agents Mulley and Sculder investigate mysterious absences of paranormal phenomena at Reclaiming rituals.

Overall, however, RBN remained mired in last place among the eight national networks, finishing behind even the abysmal PAX network. "It's not a fair comparison," lamented a Reclaiming spokesperson. "Our membership has better things to do than watch TV."

## Reclaiming Rituals Go On-Line

In a first step toward eliminating costly and anachronistic live rituals, Reclaiming will launch a series of on-line interactive rituals for 1999.

Beginning with Spring Equinox, on-line pagans will access the complete cycle of casting, grounding, invocations and trances that comprise a Reclaiming ritual.

Minor changes in the content of rituals are to be expected. For instance, the on-line grounding, rather than envisioning a cord running from the base of your spine to the center of the Earth, will begin as follows:

"Place your left hand on your mouse. Feel the mouse cord going deep, deep into the computer. Pull up all that hot, flowing data. Feel it coursing through you, flowing up and out into cyberspace..."

In addition, earth, air, fire and water will be replaced by the new quadrad of plastic, javascript, fiber optics and silicon. Spirit, the fifth sacred element, will be replaced by invoking one's Internet Service Provider.

Basic Ritual Service begins at \$20 per month, with a set-up fee of \$25. Chakra cleansing will be slightly more.

## Gentrification Hits Isle of Apples

Condo developments on the Isle of the Ancestors?

That's just one of the changes in store for the famed Isle of Apples, which is visited by Spiral Dance trancers each Samhain.

As increasing numbers of yuppies pass over the Sunless Sea, the seemingly changeless land of the dead cannot help but be impacted.

"I'd expect with the influx of baby boomers," said renowned authority Petunia MayBloom, "we're going to see a dramatic rise in property values. Beachfront lots are already escalating

*continued on page D-17*



*In a controversial move, Reclaiming replaced the ancestor's trance at the 1998 Spiral Dance with The Big Spin. "The only problem," said an organizer who asked to remain anonymous, "was a lot of grumbling from the losers. But isn't that always the case?" RPWV photo by Robin Roberts.*

## Reader Alert: Brigid Pledges Recalled!

In a major public relations snafu, Reclaiming was forced to recall over 200 pledges made at the San Francisco Brigid ritual when it was discovered that the flame used to light the cauldron was not

## Party Chief Impeached for Sexual Misdemeanors

Lucifer "Larry" Hieronymus, High Priest of the People's Pagan Party (archrival of the Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Cell), has been impeached for violations of the PPP's strict code of sexual conduct.

Long a stalwart of the Party's hard core fundamentalist wing, Hieronymus was undone by the moral Byzantinism that he rode to power.

"Great Rite-gate" erupted when it was revealed that Hieronymus had never actually had sex on Beltane. "I usually have a headache," he pleaded in a televised hearing.

But after a lengthy investigation that also turned up receipts for Disney Videos and Pop Tarts®, impeachment

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## Seeds of Revolution Rendered Sterile?

In a startling demonstration of the impact of technological change on social development, Monsanto corporation has isolated the seeds of revolution and is in the process of rendering them sterile.

Monsanto's nefarious genetic experiments with sterilizing seeds were described last issue.

Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Cell chairman Gusty Hail was downcast when he heard the news. "The worst part is that the seeds of crypto-romantic dilettantism will continue to flourish,"

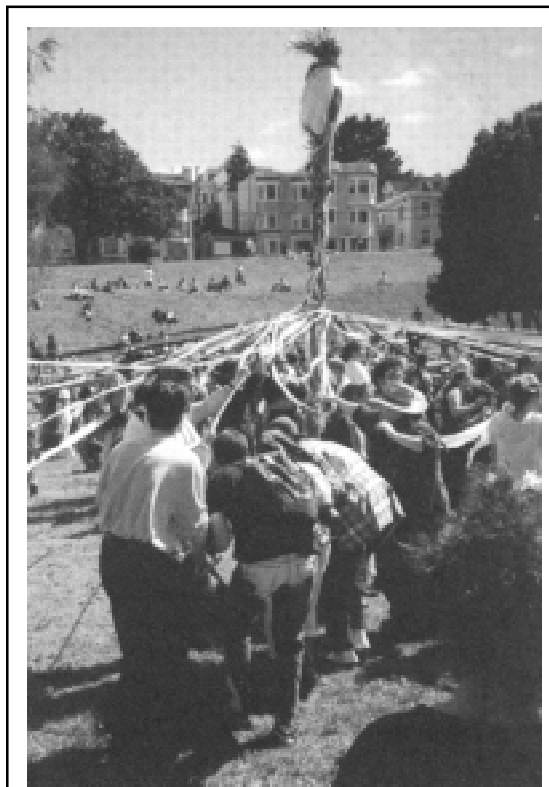
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from Brigid's Sacred Well in Ireland, but was from a candle left over from Petunia MayBloom's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday party.

Organizers realized that something was amiss when the ritual's spiral dance turned into the macarena. "No one except Al Gore does the macarena anymore," lamented a spokesperson.

Those who made pledges are urged *not* to implement them, but to attend a special purgative ritual on the last full moon before the first day of the trimester

*continued on page D-66*



*International pagan revolution was foiled last May Day, when the Revolutionary Pagan Workers Cell attempted to seize the Reclaiming maypole in Dolores Park. Tragically, RPW Chairman Gusty Hail tripped over the flaming cauldron and became entangled in the maypole ribbons, and was nearly trampled to death by the anarchist fringe element who insisted on continuing the frivolous dance. This year, Hail vows victory at all costs. Photo courtesy Art & Revolution Convergence.*

## Furor Erupts Over Filming of Beltane Ritual

A bitter conflict over decision-making process tore into Reclaiming last month when word spread that the Southwestern East Bay Ritual Planning and Performance Cell (SWEBRPPC) has contracted with Frances Ford Coppola to film this year's Beltane Ritual.

"Coppola?" declared an angry H. Hava DayDream. "What about Jim Jarmusch? Or Jane Campion? How could a decision like this be made without input from all the planning cells?"

Controversy already surrounded the SWEBRPPC's proposal to make a feature-length film of a actual Reclaiming ritual (which will require severe editing to fit the usual 2-hour format). Last week, however, dissent subsided somewhat when Golden Globe® winner Gwyneth Paltrow agreed to play the role of Starhawk.

But when Coppola was selected to direct, the simmering tensions erupted. "I thought we'd seen an end to these sorts of closed-door meetings and behind-the-scene manipulations," said

*continued on page D-68*

## The Vanguard Needs You!

### The Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Vanguard needs writers!

Send your articles, story ideas, and photos to: RPWV, c/o Reclaiming, PO Box 14404, San Francisco, CA 94114



## Vanguard Alert! Y2K Disaster Looms for Reclaiming Panic threatens to overwhelm Fall Equinox

Several recent bills, rumored to have originated in the office of Americans United for the Unification of Church and State, have come to our attention.

These bills, in clear violation of our fundamental rights, call for a five-day waiting period for the purchase of crystals, mandatory past-life background checks, and trigger locks for magic wands.

"This clear insertion of tyrannical Big Sister government into what is clearly a private matter cannot and will not be tolerated," declared RPW Chairman Gusty Hail. "As we all know, crystals don't hex people, Witches

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A crisis threatens to engulf Reclaiming's Fall Equinox celebration, as word spreads that no one has been testing 1999 rituals for Y2K compliance.

"We've already missed our chance to test Brigid, Spring Equinox, Beltane, and Summer Soltice," charged Abysma Jankins. "We will enter the new millennium ignorant of the viability of half of our rituals."

### TESTING OPTIONS?

Luckily, alternate testing options have emerged. By a quirk of the ancient Celtic calendar, the town of Terre Haute,

Indiana happens to celebrate Beltane on September 12 this year. According to one source, Reclaiming representatives plan to infiltrate the Terre Haute planning group and surreptitiously conduct the necessary tests.

For Spring, some experts believe that a test of the Fall Equinox will suffice. Summer likewise can be tested at Winter.

But a furious Paracelsus Wilson of Reclaiming Alchemical Laboratories charges a cover-up. "As if a harvest festival can nurture the new seeds! That's just plain bad magic."

### THE BRIGID THING

Even if it does work, however, what is rapidly becoming known as the "Brigid Thing" remains. "We have no idea what will happen when we do our invocations and pledges," admitted a spokesperson.

Reclaiming is not the only Pagan group in trouble. Only a handful of astrologers have filed compliance statements, and tarot card manufacturers are resigned to massive lawsuits when practitioners use pre-millennial decks.

## Sordid Spy Scandal Rocks Alchem Lab

As the RPWV goes to press, the first shadowy details are emerging in what could be the spy scandal of the century.

According to inside sources, the Peoples' Pagan Party has gained access to the most sensitive magical formulas and meditative trances at Reclaiming Alchemical Laboratories. If proven true, the thievery would severely compromise

*continued on page 63, column 7*



In a stirring blow for global pagan revolt, RPW cadre seize the Maypole at the Reclaim May Day celebration [see page 10]. The ploy backfired, however, when the RPW realized that they were now responsible for storing the 30-foot pole until next Beltane. Photo by Bob Thawley.

## Gap Boycott Traumatizes Reclaiming

As the boycott of the Gap and Old Navy chains drags on, members of the Reclaiming community are experiencing severe wardrobe hardship.

The Gap is partly owned by the Fisher family, whose logging practices have drawn the ire of environmentalists.

The Summer fashion season is nearly a complete loss, as Reclaiming Witches have been forced to wear Wranglers and even hopelessly untrendy Levi's. "Thank Goddess the revolution won't be televised," lamented Reclaiming fashion maven E. Westly. "Otherwise, we'd be forced to make a choice between two contradictory

*continued on page 63, column 6*

## Spiral Dance Canceled

# Drawing Down Whitey's Moon

In a shocking development, the Spiral Dance will not be performed this year. "The Beloved Dead will just have to roll over," said Dawg Eve, spokesperson for RPW Chairman Gusty Hail.

The change was partly in response to the tragic psychomagical trauma suffered by longtime Reclaiming Priestess Starhawk [see photo below], who often plays a key role in the Spiral Dance ritual.

But a further complication involved the content of the ritual. The feeling had been developing for years that the Spiral Dance had become too multi-cultural. "It's time to get back to our Euro-Pagan roots," declared Eve. "Enough of this diversity nonsense."

The replacement ritual, "Drawing

Down Whitey from the Moon," will focus on redistributing the planet's power and money to white people.

In addition, the traditional Samhain songs of the Spiral Dance ritual have been scrapped. The cone of power will instead be raised to Gil Scott-Heron's hit song, "Whitey's On The Moon," complete with new verses especially crafted for Reclaiming.

## Bridge Lane for Psychic Vehicles?

Caltrans announced that, as part of the new plan for the Bay Bridge expansion, it will study building a special lane for

vehicles fueled solely by psychic powers. The plan, which started due to pressure from the local activist organization, Psych-out Gas, was hailed by RPWV spokesperson Shar Truce, "We have known for some time that there is a wealth of psychic power held by Witches, Pagans and Shamans, and are pleased to see it being put to some practical use."

## Alchem Lab Deciphers Ancient Runes: Parking Permits?

The ancient Nordic runes, long believed to contain the mysteries of the universe in cryptic form, have finally been deciphered by researchers at Reclaiming Alchemical Laboratories.

"I fear we're in for a bit of a letdown," said Roy L. Crown. "It appears that most of the runes pertain to parking permits for horses, carts and carriages."

The rune known as "Yr," for instance, entitled the bearer to unlimited parking in ritual sacrifice zones, while vehicles bearing the lowly "Feo" rune had to be moved every two hours.

Norse aficionados were naturally dismayed at the news, and called for a complete investigation into the Lab's research.

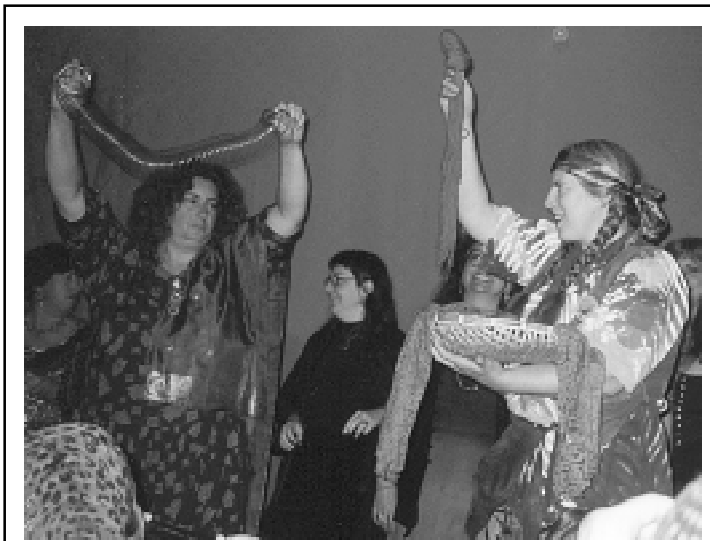
But Reclaiming priestess Petunia MayBloom shed a different light on the discovery. "Anyone who has ever arrived late to a San Francisco ritual and tried to find parking will stand in awe of the power of the ancient runes."

## RPWV Chairman Gusty Hail's Travel Schedule

**September 23**, Amherst, MA Book-Signing of "The RPWV Chantbook." Includes favorite chants such as "Hey Hey, Ho Ho, Bourgeois Paganism's Got to Go!" and "What Do We Want? The Maypole! When Do We Want It? Mabon!" Beyond Revolution bookstore, 1 Castro St., 9-11 p.m.

**September 30**, Kalamazoo, MI Workshop: "The Mysteries of Karl Marx's 'Das Ritual.'" Benefit for the

*continued on page 22 (really!)*



*In a tragic development, two teachers suffered schizomagical breakdowns at the 1999 California Witchcamp. One became mesmerized by the mystical Slinky™ spiral, while the other was transfixed by the yarn used in Camp rituals, and spent the rest of the week badgering campers to take small strands of yarn from her basket. According to expert Reclaiming sources, there are no known cures for these maladies, and neither teacher is expected to recover from the trauma. Photo by Leona.*

## Reclaiming Rituals to Offer Pre-Blessed Food

IN A DEPARTURE from traditional ritual etiquette, Reclaiming will begin selling pre-blessed food at rituals this year.

“Our rituals aren’t getting any shorter,” admitted spokesperson Sunshine Moonbeam. “By the time we get to the blessing and sharing of food, everyone is getting cranky.”

But no one wants to be caught nibbling on unblessed food. Hence the new plan: Graces wearing vending-trays will circulate through the crowd selling sacred snacks and drinks to ritual celebrants. Since the effort is a benefit for Reclaiming, food will be priced according to expected demand. Wheat-free fig bars will be 50 cents apiece, while packs of M&M’s will cost \$25.

“Sure, it’s a lot of money,” said Moonbeam. “But when you consider how long it will take us to bless each one of those M&M’s, it’s a bargain.”

## WTO Hexes Reclaiming

WTO MINISTERS met in secret session last week and pronounced a solemn hex on Reclaiming, according to sources close to the Danish delegation.

In response, Reclaiming’s Wheel went into special sessions, poring over Z Budapest’s “The Goddess in the Board Room” for an appropriate binding spell related to international trade and finance.

## Whitey’s Moon Ritual a Hit

### But Tragedy Strikes Priestess

THE DEBUT OF “Drawing Down Whitey’s Moon,” this year’s replacement for the Spiral Dance ritual, found supporters in a most unexpected demographic — San Francisco EMT’s.

An ambulance was called when Twinklestar Goodwitch, the high priestess invoking Whitey, began having seizures. It was determined later that the cause of the seizures was the extraordinarily high amount of glitter in her brain. She was declared the victim of glitter addiction and overdose, and sent to the Betty Ford Center for recovery.

The high point of the ritual, designed to redistribute power and money to white people, was the fact that it lasted only an hour — with 45 minutes for invocations and devocations. Shell Oil, the Fisher Family, and Maxxam Corporation were the proud sponsors.

## Fundamentalist Rift Threatens Unity

FUNDAMENTALIST WITCHES, brandishing wooden wands and quoting from the first edition of “The Spiral Dance,” have seceded from Reclaiming in a dispute over the twentieth anniversary edition of the Pagan classic.

“The new edition is a travesty of everything we hold sacred,” charged Jimmy Bob Cernunnos, leader of the dissident sect. “Thou shalt not alter one jot or tittle of the sacred texts.” He also

*continued on page D-142*

*continued on page D-117*



Reclaiming Witchcamps are an excellent forum for Pagan men to get in touch with their feelings. Here, a Reclaiming teacher models emotional expression for an eager student. Photo by RPWV staffer Leona.

## Charges of Eastism Rock Reclaiming

IN A BLISTERING critique of Reclaiming’s style of circle casting, Esmeralda RagingWitch has leveled charges of “rampant Eastism” against the Ritual Planning Cell.

“The pattern is all too clear,” stated RagingWitch. “When is the last time we started our invocations with West?”

While denying the potentially explosive charge of Eastism, Reclaiming’s Wheel quickly responded by adopting an entirely new set of culturally-relative directions — frontwards, backwards, sideways, and

## Witchcamps Focus on Tolstoy Classic

In response to complaints about last year's Witchcamp rituals not being built around a myth or sacred story, organizers have elected to focus this year's rituals around Tolstoy's *War and Peace*.

"We realize that this may make the rituals a bit longer," conceded teacher Sunshine Moonbeam. "But if they want a story, we'll give them a story."

Camp rituals will recreate the lives of peasants, villagers, soldiers and aristocrats in Czarist Russia. The climactic ritual will cover Napoleon's invasion of Mother Russia, with the cone of power being raised to Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture." Camp kitchen staffs have been alerted to adapt their menus accordingly, and campers should expect a steady fare of stale rye

bread and cheap vodka.

Rumors that the Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Cell was planning its own ritual cycle which would recreate the 1917 Russian revolution could not be confirmed at press time.

## RPWV Celebrates Second Anniversary

This issue marks the second anniversary of the Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Vanguard — two years of bringing earth-based dialectical analysis to the Pagan masses. Chairman Gusty Hail marked the anniversary by calling for renewed struggle against crypto-reformist

*continued on page D-94*

### Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Classes

#### Rites of Historical Materialist Passage

Join us for a six-week journey recreating the historical epochs leading up to the present revolutionary juncture. Students will relive primitive accumulation, feudalism, mercantilism, early industrial capitalism, and the disco era. The final session will attempt to overthrow post-industrial finance capitalism. Please read the first six chapters of Karl Marx' "Das Ritual," and be committed to global Pagan revolution. Pre-requisite: Elements of Dialectical Magic or equivalent.

#### Levitation 101

In this introductory class, we will explore the magical arte of levitation. Participants will learn to ground, unground, deground and reground. We will begin by levitating imaginary objects, moving on to pencils, toaster ovens and small animals. For the final class, students will be expected to levitate themselves. Please bring a cushion, kneepads and a bicycle helmet.

#### Magical Apathy Weekends

This weekend workshop will focus on working with the forces of nature to nurture political and social apathy. Kick back with Bacchus and Dionysus in the California redwoods as we drink Budweiser and watch reruns of 1950's professional wrestling. Learn basic magical techniques of denial, repression and scapegoating, and discuss how spellcrafting can enhance an already active indifference. Our connection to this magical realm can fuel our struggle to avoid the rest of reality. No fee for this workshop, but please bring Pringles and Cheetos to share.



Reclaiming's new exercise video, "Groovin' with the Goddess," was released to rave reviews last month. Join Artemis, Isis, and Aphrodite as they raise your consciousness and lower your blood pressure. Order your copy now to have buns of steel in time for the Summer Solstice ocean plunge! Photo by RPWV staffer Randy R.

## RitualLand Opens to Rave Reviews

Despite the presence of nay-saying protesters, Reclaiming's new RitualLand entertainment center opened in downtown San Francisco on Beltane eve, drawing capacity crowds and rave reviews from the local media.

"We haven't seen this kind of excitement in our town since they opened the Old Navy store with the built-in Starbucks," declared Mayor Willie Brown as he waited in line to ride the "Fool's Journey," a tarot-based amusement ride. "I might have to try the Spiral Tilt-a-Whirl, too," he confided.

But the Mayor was steering clear of "The Descent of Inanna," a thrill-ride which drops riders an incredible five stories in just 2.7 seconds.

For the younger crowd, GoChartres features a game of laser tag with 3-D faeries and space aliens inside the Chartres labyrinth.

And in the Grand Hall of Samhain, video-helmeted visitors can experience the entire Spiral Dance ritual, in 72-track simulcast, in just over three minutes.

Protesters, meanwhile — led by the ever-vigilant Esmeralda RagingWitch — decried the venture as crass commercialism and a betrayal of Reclaiming's Vision of Unity.

"I don't see a single ride concerned with environmental justice," said RagingWitch. "The closest thing to a conscience in the whole operation is the Luna ride."

RagingWitch referred to a thrill ride where customers sit on platforms a hundred feet up a synthetic redwood tree eating granola and trying to talk to reporters on cell phones while being buzzed by helicopters.

Spellbound crowds thronged to see

*continued on page D-113*

## Reality-TV Series Features Reclaiming

Auditions are being held for a Reclaiming-based "reality" TV show, to air this Fall on the PAX Network.

The premise — 13 Witches are cast adrift on the Isle of Apples, where they cavort with the Beloved but also rather cantankerous Dead. Each week, at a community ritual, one of the Witches is turned into a toad, until only two remain. Those two will then be contestants on a special edition of Magical Jeopardy for the grand prize: Samhain dinner with the ancestor of their choice at the SpiralDancer Café.

*See page D-147, column 7, for complete details!*

## Reclaiming Launches New Product Line

### INSTANT WATERS OF THE WORLD

Each packet contains a tiny sample of mud, sludge, micro-organisms, or toxic waste from dozens of different sources. Just add bottled water, and voila! Waters of the World!

Send \$19.95 for one packet, or just \$999.99 for our "Solstice Special" — enough for an entire ritual or Witchcamp!

### "THE SPIRAL DANCE" KARAOKE CD

Yes, finally *you* can sing along with all the hits from the Spiral Dance! Join in on the harmonies, or step out and belt a solo on "Let It Begin Now." Relive all the excitement at your next karaoke party. Comes with free bonus karaoke CD, "The Tree of Life Grounding."

Entire package just \$29.99.

*All products now available exclusively at your neighborhood Reclaiming store!*



*RPWV dialectical metaphysicians debate the proper angle by which to bring the maypole into alignment with both the Earth's transmagnetic axis and the historical conjuncture, thereby ensuring the ripening of revolutionary conditions in the coming year. Photo by RPWV staffer Steve Nadel.*

## Reclaiming Sweatshops Exposed

Coerced labor revealed at annual Witchcamps

IN A STARTLING revelation that sent shockwaves through the Pagan world, the RPWV has uncovered evidence of systematic use of sweatshop labor by Reclaiming.

The break came when sources confirmed that the new Reclaiming banner was manufactured by indentured labor at California Witchcamp.

Under the guise of a “summer intensive,” participants in the weeklong retreat were lured into sewing the elaborate five-sided banner depicting earth, air, fire, water and spirit.

The banner is part of an intricate pyramid scheme. It was shipped to Los Angeles for the protests at the Democratic Convention, where it was used to recruit further Witchcampers, who will be pressed into similar labor at the 2001 Camp.

If successful, the scheme will be exported to other Witchcamps in 2002.

The first evidence of this sordid scandal came to light when it was revealed that California Campers are systematically denied access to meat and brand-name soft drinks. Investigative research soon established that sugar is rationed on a once-per-day basis.

Further reports that the top-selling Reclaiming Chants tapes were also produced by coerced labor could not be confirmed at press time, but the accounting department at Reclaiming was unable to

provide any proof of payment for musical services.

And new evidence began to emerge that Reclaiming Quarterly, the tabloid publication of the group, is produced entirely by volunteers.

“But they like volunteering on the magazine,” protested a spokesperson in what is sure to become the standard

*continued on page D-113, column 6*



*Taken Water Path too many summers at your usual Witchcamp? It's time for Surf Path at the all-new Maui Witchcamp®, where every teacher is a lifeguard. Or take Spirit & Mystery (S&M) Path, where the scourge is the magical tool of choice!*

## Movie Review

### The Goddessfather

IN THIS Neo-Pagan sequel to the classic mafioso series, Michael Corleone's grandson Dylan goes to MidAtlantic Witchcamp, where he aspects Aphrodite, changes his name to StregaDove, and dedicates his life to healing the bloody rifts among the feuding Sicilian families.

But at the Ancestors Ritual, the young heir to the bitter Corleone legacy communes with the spirit of his great-grandfather, the legendary Don Corleone, who demands that StregaDove take over the entire Witchcamp operation. When Camp organizers balk, StregaDove channels a spell they can't refuse, and

*continued on page D-117, column 7*

## Surf's Up at Maui Witchcamp®

CONCERNED WITH A drop-off in attendance at several Witchcamps last summer, Reclaiming has taken the wraps off its latest marketing venture: Maui Witchcamp®.

A select group of campers were invited to the trial run on Maui this summer. RPWV's Georgeanne reports:

“The accommodations were first rate. I slept so well in my luxury condo's queen size bed that I was afraid I would oversleep and be late to Path. But then I remembered, Path doesn't start until I get there.

“Another wonderful thing is I never had to listen anyone else all week. After all, it's all about me at Maui camp. As the Camp motto says: ‘Ask not what you can do for your community, ask what your community can do for you!’”

## Reclaiming to Wire Isle of Apples

### Reclaiming stocks soar in wake of announcement

IN A MAJOR COUP, Reclaiming has obtained the rights to wire the Isle of Apples – home of the beloved ancestors – for the internet.

By next fall, full DSL capabilities are expected, and people attending the annual Spiral Dance are encouraged to bring laptop computers to the ritual. “The new high-speed capabilities should make for much faster connections with the ancestors,” said J. Log-On, chief engineer for Reclaiming’s internet services division.

A Reclaiming-affiliated group in Seattle, Turning Tide, also got the contract for cellular service on the Isle. With the spread of pagers among the beloved dead, the ancestor trance that has often turned the Spiral Dance into an endurance marathon is expected to run much more smoothly.

In response to the announcement,

## Labyrinth Scandal Rocks Pagan Party

ALREADY REELING FROM accusations that he has never had sex on Beltane, High Priest Lucifer “Larry” Hieronymus of the People’s Pagan Party (archrivals of the Revolutionary Pagan Workers’ Party) has been caught cheating on a labyrinth walk.

Surreptitious photographs appear to show Hieronymus furtively slipping from the eighth to the seventh circuit of the Chartres-pattern labyrinth inscribed inside party headquarters near Leadmine, West Virginia. If confirmed,

*continued on page D-194*

Reclaiming shares traded on the Neo-Pagan Stock Exchange (NPSE) rose

*continued on page D-112*

### Correction

In a recent issue of the RPWV, it was stated that Reclaiming co-founder Sunshine Moonbeam was arrested for masterminding an international drug-and-sex ring. In fact, she was arrested for overdue library books. The RPWV regrets this inadvertant misprint.

## Las Vegas Show Features Reclaiming

A NEW LAS VEGAS musical extravaganza stars members of Reclaiming. WitchFest 2001®, which opened in January at the Golden Nugget, includes a topless chorus performing Reclaiming chants, while other members of the ensemble lap-dance their way into the hearts and souls of the audience.

The show consists of five acts, each geared to an “elemental” theme. The Air portion features aerial acrobatic stunts, while the Fire segment involves flame-twirlers and fireworks.

While WitchFest 2001® is expected to be a major drain of energy for Reclaiming, it is compensated by the fact that the new show can replace the Spiral Dance ritual. “We’ll just add a two-hour ancestor trance in the middle, and make people sit on the concrete floor for five hours without any food or drink,” said Mistress of Ceremonials Sunshine Moonbeam. “They’ll never notice the difference.”

Tickets to WitchFest 2001® can be purchased at any Reclaiming ritual.



*The earth invocation at WitchFest 2001®, Reclaiming’s new musical show premiering in Las Vegas in January, was an instant hit with audiences tired of the usual secular fare. Photo by RPWV staffer Leona.*

## Reclaiming Conclave Revises Articles of Faith

BRINGING TO A close a tumultuous — some would even say “anarchistic” — era in Reclaiming’s history, the first Conclave of the new Millennium has issued Revised Articles of Faith which will immediately be binding on all Reclaiming-tradition communities.

Unlike recent Conclaves which skirted controversy in favor of superficial consensus, the 2001 gathering dared to face the thorniest internal feud of recent years: how to spell the

Reclaiming sabbats.

Putting to rest the bitter disputes over what to call May Day, the Conclave came down firmly in favor of “Behltaeighne.”

And the festival around Halloween will henceforth be known as “Souwgh’ma’whain,” following the ancient usage in the southeast corner of the region of Paughcastle in Cornwall. *[Please note that these letters — u, g, h, m, a — are not pronounced.]*

The Conclave also took steps to shorten rituals. Most notable is the merging of directional invocations. Henceforth, Reclaiming events will invoke north and east together (element: dust). South and west will also be merged (element: steam).

Regarding matters of personal practice, the Conclave ruled that grounding cords in private spellwork are not to exceed four inches in diameter. For public rituals, up to eight inches is allowed. And the expression “so mote it be” is to be used only under careful

*continued on page D-114*

Diversity documentary

## The Color of Beer

IN THIS STIRRING documentary about race relations in the United States, fourteen men from seven different ethnic groups gather for an intense weekend retreat in Northern California. As the cameras roll, the men discover that their beer preferences are in inverse relationship to their skin color: the lighter one’s skin, the darker the preferred beer. This leads to bitter exchanges as participants devolve into shouting “Tastes great!” or “Less filling!” at each other.

The retreat takes a dangerous turn when it is revealed that one of the white men’s ancestors was a German brewer who held Mexican and Japanese beer in disdain. The white man’s inability to grasp the depth of his cultural conditioning threatens to undermine the entire weekend.

Just when the situation seems hopeless, though, a dramatic breakthrough occurs. During halftime of the Sunday afternoon football telecast, the fourteen men discover they can all agree on one thing: Budweiser sucks!

*Running time 1:45.*

*Comes with discussion guide, tasting kit and calorie chart. Customized beer mugs extra.*

## Letters to the Vanguard

Dear Vanguard:

I have been having trouble getting out of bed lately, especially since you-know-who won you-know-what. Any advice?

X.L., Terre Haute, IN

*RPWV responds:*

*In times of travail, always remember the words of RPWV Chairman Gusty Hail: “Out of the dialectical interplay of the opposing forces of the present will emerge a new synthesis — the future.”*

*As far as getting up in the morning, we would suggest buying a very uncomfortable mattress.*

Dear RPWV,

As far as I can tell, you’re neither Revolutionary, Workers, nor a Vanguard of any sort. You might be Pagans, but I sure can’t tell from your newsletter. But hey, I admire your consistency.

A.R., Shreveport, LA

*RPWV responds:*

*Says you!*



*Members of the Portland-based group “Reclaiming Our Wealth” proudly carry on Reclaiming’s tradition of magical activism. Photo by RPWV staffer Rowan Phillips.*

## The RPWV’s Greatest Hits

Coming this Fall: the collected works of Chairman Gusty — a complete bound edition of the RPWV, plus other humor and satire from the pages of RQ. Don’t miss it!



## Factory-Occupation Witchcamp — Proletarian Alternative to Village Camp

In a striking and timely riposte to the quasi-peasant/crypto-bourgeois “Village Camp,” [see page 39], the Revolutionary Pagan Workers’ Vanguard has announced its first Factory-Occupation Witchcamp.

Modeled on the little-known 1848 occupation of the Acme gumball factory in Terre Haute, Indiana, the Camp re-creates the actual conditions of the 1840s — fourteen-hour days in a stifling warehouse, chained to a gumball-coating machine. Camp rituals lay careful groundwork for the Friday uprising, in which workers occupy the factory, seize control of the means of

production, and produce non-exploitive gumballs for the masses.

Like Village Camp, Factory-Occupation Camp is for all ages. Children as young as twelve can take full part in the daily work. Younger children can work half-days (seven hours).

Unlike Reclaiming Witchcamps, where you rarely see a pointed hat or a foaming cauldron, Factory Camp aims to be the most authentic experience possible. Organizers are researching clothing, diets and customs of the 1840s. And Camp teachers will tour Nike factories in southeast Asia to sharpen

*continued on page D-117*

## New Study Claims Lugh’s Death a Fake

Recent research into the life and death of famed Celtic God Lugh, said to have died on Summer Solstice, has called into question the celebration of Lammass (aka Lughnasad) — the Wake of the Sun God.

A new Glasgow Metaphysical University study presents convincing evidence that Lugh didn’t die at all, but moved to suburban Amsterdam, assumed an alias, and lived out his days in obscurity.

“Lugh-sightings can no longer be dismissed as a collective hallucination,” said Professor Xavier MacKilpatrick. “It’s time to set the record straight.”

For centuries, such claims have been dismissed as fantasy and wish-fulfillment. Even today, most scholars are dubious that Lugh was ever actually seen in chain supermarkets.

But the notion of Lugh’s Solstice death dies hard. In San Francisco, Reclaiming lit its Summer bonfire with copies of the Glasgow study. And BC Witchcamp, which will be in session over Lammass, pronounced the report anathema and vowed

*continued on page D-162*

public service announcement

## Regarding Your Reclaiming Grounding-Cord Warranty

Following this spring’s earthquake in Seattle, Reclaiming received numerous inquiries about warranties on grounding cords acquired at our Witchcamps and rituals.

While it has always been Reclaiming’s policy to guarantee the craftsmanship of all of its products, we are constrained to point out that every warranty contains the following clause:

Section VI:32(f) — “This warranty does not cover damages due to violence or mayhem committed by non-Reclaiming deities (‘Acts of God,’ etc).”

We are truly sorry for the many damaged grounding cords suffered by our customers in the northwest. And we do sincerely hope that you will re-ground with us.

See page D-117 for complete details.



*Plans by Reclaiming Alchemical Laboratories to market a new men’s supplement called Pentagra® suffered a setback when tests conducted at Beltane revealed unexpected side effects. Further tests will be conducted at Witchcamps, with the projected release date for Pentagra® pushed back to Samhain 2001. Photo by RPVW staffer Susan.*

## Reclaiming Adopts Self-Invoking Deities

Combining a respect for scholarship with a desire for shorter rituals, Reclaiming announced that its 2002 Wheel of the Year cycle will work exclusively with self-invoking deities.

Recent research at Reclaiming ParaHistorical Academy strongly suggests that the adoption by the ancient Celts of these auto-activating gods and goddesses played a decisive role in the development of Western culture.

While the self-invoking deities will speed up rituals, a problem remains — timing. Researchers are conducting

*continued on page D-117*

## RPWV Holiday Giftshop

- Acme Inflatable Labyrinth® — Comes in 7- or 11-circuit models.
- Genetic Gerbils® — Kids will have a blast altering the genetic code of these furry pets and watching them mutate.
- Baby's First Athame® — Double-bladed for extra excitement!
- Junior Alchemy Sets® — Includes one Brigid's Flame bunsen burner, a collapsible cauldron, dehydrated Waters of the World, and 13 exciting elements to mix and match.
- Little Miss Goddess® beauty kit, for the divine in every child. Complete with crown of Aphrodite, glitter gel, and a talking affirmation mirror.
- PrestoMagic Knot-Tying Kit® — Dozens of knots and how to use them to enhance your binding spells and your love life.
- Kitchen Witch Easy-Bake Solar Oven® — perfect for Witchcamp or your Elements Backpacking trip.

## Spiral Dance Gets 'Real' Makeover

Concerned that Reclaiming's annual Spiral Dance ritual was losing ground to reality-based programming, organizers this year took the dramatic step of altering the ritual script.

"We have to get 'real,' if you know what I mean," said Sunshine Moonbeam. "Magic is fine, but we need a healthy shot of down-and-dirty competition."

The changes start right at the entrance. While the timid will enter through the usual veiled passage, participants will have the option of passing through a flaming tunnel. Those who make it to the other end earn five bonus points.

The altars, while retaining their directional focus, will present element-based challenges. The West altar, for instance, will require people to submit to an ordeal by water. Those who last through three dunkings get 10 points.

### STYLE POINTS

At the North altar, participants will be invited to eat eye of newt, wing of bat, and other traditional delicacies. Points will be assessed according to size and texture. Style points will also be awarded.

The trance will still visit the Isle of Apples, but instead of communing with the Beloved Ancestors, people will engage in a struggle for survival with a group of Reclaiming teachers aspecting the spirits of dead professional wrestlers.

Insufficiently competitive participants will get voted off the island by their peers, until only 13 remain. Those 13 will engage in a Reclaiming trivia contest to determine who gets to stand in the middle of the spiral.

Meanwhile, fundamentalist Witches led by Jimmy Bob Cernunnos vowed to cast a picketing spell on the ritual: "Thou shalt not tamper with the holy words of our most sacred ritual."

But Reclaiming planned to press on  
*continued on page D-113*



*Two Witchcampers demonstrate the Full-Contact Spiral, which will be used for the first time at this October's Spiral Dance ritual. Photo by RPWV staffer Otter.*

### announcing

## Karaoke Invokee Lounge

Avalon Hotel presents the grand opening of Reclaiming's newest hot spot, the Karaoke Invokee Lounge. Sip organic mead while you chant along to all of Reclaiming's classics. Don't know the words? Just follow the bouncing pentacle!

*Reserve the Lounge for your coven's next initiation or dark moon ritual!*

## Protection Spells Wreak Triple Havoc

SEVERAL CITY blocks were devastated today by uncontrolled protective magic, prompting renewed calls for licensing of occult powers.

The incident started when Magnus Surespell cast a protective ward about his person, enhancing it with a three-fold multiplier. Apparently jealous of Mr. Surespell's creativity, Zeus Biggergod cast a similar spell with an equivalent reflectivity multiplier.

According to eyewitnesses, the two "big wands" literally ran into each other in front of an occult bookstore. Magnus was reportedly distracted by a pentacle-shaped cloud when the two magi collided. Magnus spat in the gutter. "May

the fleas of a thousand camels infest your armpits!"

Zeus glared back. "Fire burn your nasal hair!"

Before either could blink, the thrice-amplified protection spells called down a horde of giant fire-breathing fleas and an enormous freestanding firestorm. Four city blocks were obliterated before a Paramagic Squad headed by Morgaine Moonbeam was able to create a reduction spell that shrunk the two apparitions to a small collection of fleas with "a really painful bite."

Ms. Moonbeam was heard muttering about men and magic as she

*continued on page D-141*

## Ritual Planning Cell Adopts Entry Policy

IN A BOLD move aimed at stemming criticism that it is a closed leftist clique accountable to no one but itself, Reclaiming's SouthWestern East Bay Ritual Planning Cell has adopted new guidelines for entry and membership.

"This shows we're open to new blood," said SWEBRPC spokesperson Lucifer "Larry" Hieronymus.

Effective immediately, applicants will be asked to take a five-part written examination as well as a brief practical test covering grounding, centering, anchoring, and parallel parking.

After completing this process, the prospective planner begins their year-

and-a-day pre-probationary period, during which time they are on permanent clean-up duty. If that year goes well, the person is invited to apply to be a probationary member, pending review by the entire cell at its next three annual business meetings.

The toughest issue, however, concerned former members who wished to rejoin the cell. Some people favored fluid membership, while others advocated a stringent re-entry process. The matter came to a head when Esmeralda RagingWitch left the room to use the toilet, and on her return had to be re-consensed into the cell.

Provisional consensus was reached that returning members must take the written exam, but do not have to pass the driving test.

A standing committee  
*continued on page D-117*

## SimSpiral Sales Smash Holiday Record

RECLAIMING's much-touted new video game, SimSpiral®, defied the economic downturn to become the hottest gift of the recent holiday season.

The game, in which competing priestesses try to organize the climactic spiral dance at a virtual Samhain ritual, is expected to become the top-selling Reclaiming title of all time.

The magic of the game is its appeal to all levels of skill. Beginners delight in corralling SimCelebrants® into a single circle. Success at this daunting task takes players to the advanced level, where unruly participants try to disrupt the dance by cracking the whip. Points are lost every time a dancer sustains a broken arm or fractured skull. Bonus points are gained when the player manages to put a binding spell on the disrupters.

The highest level of the game is the Cone of Power®, where players must achieve conal harmony, volume, and

*continued on page D-112*



*Participants in this year's Spiral Dance faced heightened security measures as they prepared to step through the veil into the land of the ancestors. Photo by Robin Parrott.*

## Film version of *Spiral Dance Tanks*

The film version of *The Spiral Dance*, released in direct competition with *Harry Potter* and *Lord of the Rings*, took a nosedive after a promising opening.

While a good pre-release buzz produced healthy first-weekend crowds, the deluge of critical reviews soon translated into empty theaters.

The film — six hours with no intermission — opens with a bang, as giant puppets and fire-breathing stiltwalkers invoke the sacred elements. But excellent performances by Drew Barrymore (as a chorus member suffering from a sore throat) and Tom Cruise (in a tour-de-force turn as Starhawk) are wasted as things bog down during the interminable reading of names of the beloved dead.

The plot regains momentum during the trance journey to the Isle of Apples, but crashes and burns during the hour-long spiral dance.

As filming begins on the sequel, "Winter Solstice at Ocean Beach,"

*continued on page D-112*

## Meters Planned for Ritual Center

Frustrated that certain celebrants monopolize the inner-ring positions at Reclaiming rituals, organizers plan to set up meters around the inner perimeter of the sacred circle.

The meters will require a deposit of 50 cents for every five minutes. Net proceeds will be used to buy booster-boots for short Witches.

If the plan is successful, it will be

*continued on page D-113*

## Reclaiming Missionaries: Into the World

Building on the stunning success of the 1996 Conclave (which sent out the first Reclaiming missionaries), the 2002 assembly has adopted a five-point program aimed at converting the entire world to our way of belief by the year 2013.

Thousands of new missionaries will be trained immediately, in all of the classes listed in this issue. In place of the

usual devotional, ecological, or healing-oriented classes offered at Witchcamps and by local communities, initiates will be schooled in techniques of mass outreach as part of the "Reclaim Earth for the Goddess" drive:

- "The Gideana Project," which will place a hardbound copy of *The Pagan Book of Living and Dying* in every hotel room in the world.

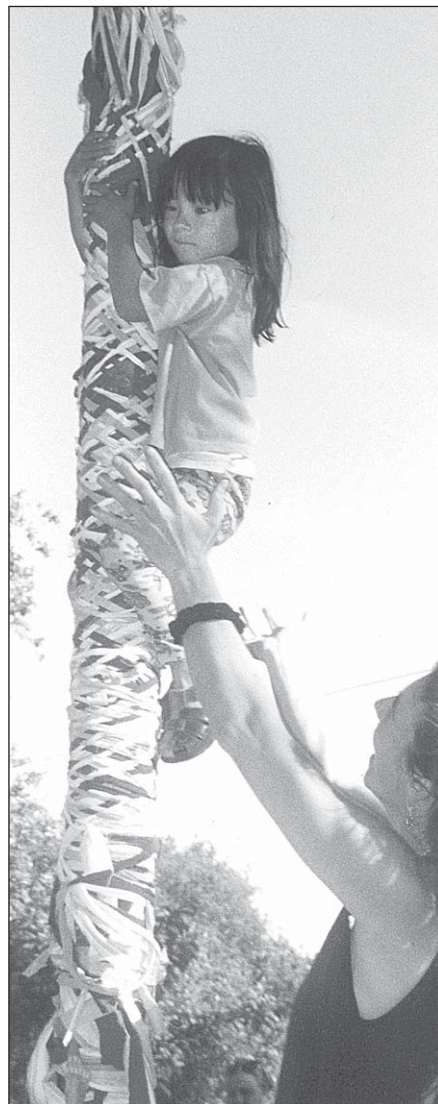
- "Operation Bright Candle," a synchronized spell aimed at getting all six billion humans to convert to the Goddess, or at least to subscribe to RQ.

- "Erishkigal's Underworld," a chain of rave-clubs to appeal to today's youth.

- "Brigid Brigades," specially-trained outreach squads which will work in particularly hostile territories.

- "Through All the World Below," a year-and-a-day commitment to preach the Charge of the Goddess at every opportunity, including supermarket lines, mass transit platforms, and anywhere else people can't escape.

Beginning in 2003, all Pagans between the ages of 18 and 21 will be expected to complete a full year of missionary fieldwork. Deferments will be available for priestesses in training, Witchcamp organizers, and members of Reclaiming's Pagan Olympic squad.



## Beltane Youth Uprising Foiled

*A daring and inspired attempt by the Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Vanguard Youth Brigade (RPWVYB) to seize the Beltane Maypole and launch the international Pagan revolution was foiled when the RPWVYB chairperson's mother (a known sympathizer of the rival People's Pagan Party, which promotes crypto-bourgeois reformism behind a veneer of Goldmannesque anarcho-leftism) intervened at a critical juncture.*

*Photo by RPWV staffer Bob Thawley.*

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

## Hieronymus Establishes New Diversity Record

LUCIFER "LARRY" HIERONYMUS, Chairman of the People's Pagan Party, shattered the modern record for diversity by attending services, sabbats, masses, meditations, celebrations, sacred dances, passion plays, and bingo sessions sponsored by 37 different faiths during March 2002.

His feat easily surpassed that of the late Ebenezer Ezekial Rossellini, whose mark of 34 was once considered unapproachable.

Entering the final week of March, Hieronymus' tally was 22 — already one of the ten best scores of modern times. But it was a late burst that etched his name in the record books, particularly a brilliant quadruple when he attended Equinox, Passover, Easter, and Rosicrucian events in a single weekend.

Exhausted from his efforts, Hieronymus cost himself a shot at the GoodWitch Cultural Sensitivity Award when he inadvertantly invoked Dionysus during Easter Vespers at St. Dennis the

*continued on page D-119*

## 1013 Practical Jokes for Wiccans and Other Pagans

Now YOU can be the life of any ritual, with our all-new catalog of crazy jokes and zany tricks. Play them on your coven — or try them at the next Spiral Dance! Choose from these favorites, and many more:

- Brigid's Electric Well — seal those Brigid pledges with a jolt. Ideal for long-winded celebrants.
- Miracle of Life Tadpole Farm — drop it into Waters of the World and watch the fun begin!
- Exploding Doumbek — comes in three sizes.
- Wodin's Whoopee Throne — get one for your deep anchor or your Witchcamp teacher. They'll love it!
- Whacky Compass — perfect for groups who decide which way is North by consensus.

## New Psychic Malady Deletes Past Lives

OFFICIALS WITH the Institute of Trans-Personal Biology and Para-Physical Psychology have confirmed the existence of a debilitating new meta-mental disease. Characterized in the early stages by an inability to remember details of past lives, the degenerative condition eventually destroys entire former lifetimes. People in the terminal stages often believe that the present incarnation is one's only life.

Progress is being made on a treatment which involves implanting pre-birth fetal memories into the meta-psyche of individuals suffering from the disease. Individuals receiving "stem-dream" implants have shown marked improvement in many cases.

The research is controversial. It has

been condemned by the Right to Past-Life Coalition, fundamentalist Witches who hold that pre-birth fetal memories are lives, too, and that the implanting procedure robs those past lives of their right to exist.

Researchers vowed to continue their  
*continued on page D-137*

### Global Warming — Endless Summer

Wicker-man fans rejoice — soon, every Sabbat will be Summer Solstice!

SEE LIFESTYLE — SECTION E

### Violence Mars Rugby Championship

Vermont tops Texas in disputed match to capture Witchcamp League title

SEE SPORTS — SECTION F



*A sordid sex scandal rapidly becoming known as "Abstinence-gate" has rocked an already-reeling Reclaiming to its foundations. On Beltane Eve, the RPWV caught Reclaiming High Priestesses Sunshine Moonbeam and Esmeralda RagingWitch in the heat of a passionate political debate — at the very moment they were supposed to be performing the Great Rite. Photo by RPWV staffer Otter.*

## Chakraland® — Reclaiming Opens New Theme Park

SPECIAL TO THE RPWV — © 2002 REYA

SICK OF THE Grand Canyon? Seen the Golden Gate Bridge and Niagra Falls?

Then you're ready for Chakraland®! Chakraland® is fun for the whole family. Whether it's Roots Village, Willsville, Heartland, or the Throat Lounge, you'll come away feeling cleansed, healed, fluffed, and fulfilled.

Even leaving Chakraland® is enriching. Exit through the Violet Crown (just \$7.95 extra), and you'll emerge relaxed, purified, and united with the Divine as you and your loved ones head for the freeway.

Book your journey to Chakraland® today — and watch for the grand opening of Faery World® in 2003!

## HOLIDAY GRAB-BAG

This year, keep that holiday spending within your own community with these quality Reclaiming products!

### BOOKS FROM DOUBLESPIRAL PRESS

*Let It Begin with A* — an analytical dictionary of Reclaiming Witchcraft

*The Twelve Slightly Unruly Swans* — the Pagan classic, now suitable for all readers

*Healing the Wounded Past* — a manual for recovering from past-life injuries such as paper cuts, scrapes, and unsightly bruises

*Cycles of the Moon* — a pictorial chronicle of NASA's notorious joint venture with the Florida Chapter of Hell's Angels

*Reverse Astrology* — by carefully studying the patterns of your life-events, you can learn to predict the positions of the stars

*The Pagan Book of Payback and Revenge* — spells, hexes, plus ten classic Reclaiming chants known to drive people insane

## Payscale Dispute Rocks Maui Witchcamp

A BITTER DISPUTE has erupted among Reclaiming Witchcamp teachers over differential payscales, or, as one junior teacher called it, a "hierarchy of recompense."

Nowhere has the controversy been more acrimonious than at the elite Maui Witchcamp. When the camp was smaller, it was possible to strike compromises. But as the staff expanded to a dozen, a rift developed between senior and junior lifeguards.

A spokes-witch for the junior guards, who asked to remain anonymous for fear of thrice-fold retribution from her elders, told the RPWV that "it is a clear violation of Reclaiming's principles (subsection 4-G, paragraph 19, clause A) to pay

people different amounts for the same work."

But senior guard Esmeralda RagingWitch laughed contemptuously. "Everyone knows that we perform a disproportionate percentage of 'special services.' More is expected of senior guards, if you know what I mean."

Responded the junior guard: "Who always gets stuck on jellyfish clean-up? Who has to make the mocha decafs for the campers after every ritual?"

Attempting to avoid a damaging public scandal, the Reclaiming Council of Conciliatory Counselors (CCC) agreed to adjudicate the dispute. But talks collapsed after word leaked out that junior lifeguards had met with representatives from the Teamsters Union.

Senior guards responded by hiring Alan Dershowitz to lead their legal and political defense, and both sides pre-

*continues page D-187*



*Dead punk icons Sid Vicious and Joey Ramone were surprise visitors at last year's Spiral Dance, playing a short set during the trance journey to the Isle of the Ancestors. Said Sunshine Moonbeam, who was lucky enough to be within spitting range during the concert: "Sid's playing is as lousy as ever, and Joey still can't sing — but those guys can flat-out rock!" Photo by RPWV staffer Robin Parrott.*

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

## Witch Thwarts Gossip-Related Contagion

RECLAIMING ARCH-PRIESTESS Morgaine Moonbeam is credited with freeing several Pagan men from a PHEME infestation.

Members of the Zeus Biggergod's men's circle were creating wands as part their New Moon Magickal Beer Bust, and had sought guidance from Ms. Moonbeam.

"At the same time we were working on incorporating advanced mechanisms of communication within the circle," added Magnus Surespell. "Incorporating gossip into our daily practice was one of this month's circle goals."

During their new moon ritual, the members of the circle fastened their crystals to their wands and were in the process of magically charging their tools.

"My crystal must have absorbed the energy of my telling Magnus about how ridiculous Zeus's new spell cap looked with gold leaf on the brim," said Aries Thorspaw. "At the same time, Magnus's crystal absorbed his comments about the size of Zeus's crystal and magnified them thrice-fold."

While charging their wands, the communication energy was absorbed into the salt water the circle had used for purification. "All that energy was sucked into the saltwater and then metastasized into this swam of tiny creatures," said Thorspaw. "At first, they were these cute little things with a bunch of

mouths and ears, but they kept getting growing!"

"I didn't recognize them at first," added Biggergod. "But then I realized, many mouths and ears — it must be PHEME, the Greek goddess of communication and gossip. Apparently the energy charged into the crystals had morphed into a multitude of aspects of PHEME."

According to witnesses, the PHEME attacked the tongues and ears of those in the circle, rendering them deaf and mute. Some were also struck with "really bad wedgies," according to one eye-witness. Moonbeam arrived just in time to de-escalate the magic.

Ms. Moonbeam refused comment, but was heard saying as she walked away that she couldn't wait to tell her circle-sister Crystal Di Sonance about the dis-

*continued on page D-147*

## Reclaiming Share of Pagan Market Shrinks

DESPERATE MEASURES are being considered to halt the erosion of Reclaiming's share of the global Pagan market.

Once a major player in the highly competitive field, Reclaiming has seen its share of the Pagan audience dwindle even as absolute numbers have grown.

The advent of "Insta-Pagan" outlets such as MyGoddess, as well as the Coven of All Universes' new Goddess-TV (GTV), have cut into Reclaiming's old-school events, which require a great deal of patience to endure invocations that often last as long as three minutes.

Reclaiming's Mistress of Ceremonials, Esmeralda RagingWitch, lamented, "When MyGoddess offers drive-through trances, and GTV is presenting an entire ritual every five minutes, who is going to sit through a three-hour Brigid ritual?"

*Lose those airport-terminal blues —*

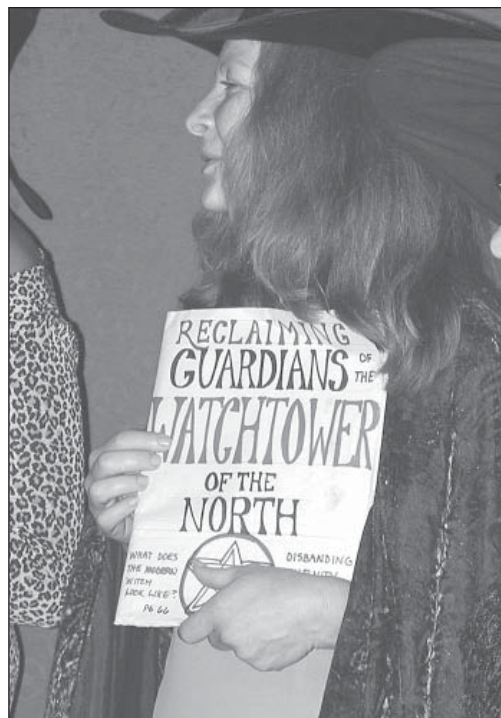
## Reclaiming Airlines' Skyclad Squadron

Reclaiming Airlines now offers al fresco flights between all ten Witchcamp communities, plus Orlando and Las Vegas!

No more metal detectors, no more luggage searches, no more awkward pat-downs. Arrive a mere five minutes before departure — stark naked — and walk right onto the plane! Our staff will greet you with a smile and a complimentary G-string.

First class section features tanning lights and sauna room. Coach section offers free in-flight body-image counseling.

Fly Skyclad — with Reclaiming Airlines!



*Reclaiming's new evangelical publication, "Guardians of the Watchtower," has been a smash success in door-to-door proselytizing. In just three months, hundreds of new converts have been brought into the Reclaiming fold. Photo by RPWV staffer Otter.*

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

## Workers of All the Worlds, Unite!

HEROES OF THE Revolutionary Paganry, arise! Step forward boldly now, or the *Revolutionary Pagan Worker's Vanguard* may go the way of our beloved predecessors, the *Pagan Workers' Daily*

*Sentinel*, the *Pagan Workers' Weekly Sentinel*, and the *Pagan Workers' Monthly Sentinel*, all of which were consigned to the dustbins of history by financial woes.

The forces of crypto-romanticism and neo-bourgeois reaction threaten the very existence of the RPWV!

Look at the facts — this issue of RQ is a mere one-third of its usual size. Yet the RPWV was allotted only half of its usual space! That works out to less than — well, actually, we came out a little ahead, when you do the math. But still!

Arise, ye Pagan masses! Donate to Reclaiming Quarterly today, or there may not be any time to arise tomorrow!



Famed soul singer James Brown was a surprise addition to the teaching team at Tejas Web's Samhain Witchcamp. Here, Brown sings "We All Come From the Goddess" as two neophyte campers carry his cape. Photo by RPWV staffer Robin Parrott.

## Censorship? You Be the Judge!

STUNG BY charges of censoring internal discussions, the RPWV Central Committee on Media Relations released this list of the most important stories omitted from the RPWV Pages this issue:

- Mysterious glitter shortage mars annual Spiral Dance ritual
- Prohibition on 8-circuit labyrinths challenged
- Reclaiming considers dropping West to speed up rituals
- Lugh — Sun God, Prankster, or just a Handyman with good PR?
- Lawsuit alleges Witchcamp healing ritual aggravated chronic hangnail

## Revolutionary Gossip

RUMOR HAS IT that the reduction of the RPWV to half a page was due not to finances, but to the fact that nobody has found much of anything funny lately.

A spokesperson for RPWV Chair-

*continued on page D-21*

## RQ Archives — at RQ.org

100 issues to be released as PDF files — plus bonus features

Reclaiming Quarterly celebrated our 100th edition by beginning to re-issue our complete archives, going back to the first *Reclaiming Newsletter* in Winter 1980-81.

The archives are being re-issued as high-resolution PDF files, readable and printable from almost any computer.

You can see and read every page of the original issues exactly as they appeared — stories, pictures, class and event listings, ads, ink-smudges... You can also print pages and read off-screen.

We're also assembling bonus

features such as photographs, flyers, reflective essays, humor, and more. (If you have materials to contribute to the Archives, please contact us!)

### INVOKING OUR HISTORY

For scholars, researchers, and anyone interested in the history of Neo-Paganism, this material is an invaluable primary source.

For those of us who live and love Reclaiming, the RQ Archives are an invocation of our history.



RQ will place selected highlights on our website. The entire 100-issue archives plus many special features will be available by subscription.

Visit the RQ Archives our website — [www.reclaimingquarterly.org/archives/](http://www.reclaimingquarterly.org/archives/)



# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

## Spiral Dance Ritual Replaced by New Broadway Musical

“My Faerie Lady” opens at Samhain

IN A MOVE aimed at shoring up sagging attendance at its annual Samhain blockbuster, Reclaiming has replaced this year’s Spiral Dance ritual with a new Broadway musical.

“My Faerie Lady” features a dozen original compositions by the renowned songwriting team of Bacchus and Apollostein, including sure-fire hits such as “I Could Have Tranced All Night” and “Get Me to the Grove on Time.”

The musical involves a Reclaiming teacher who wagers that she can take a lowly Witchcamper and transform her into a High Priestess in time for Winter Solstice. Naturally, the two fall in love, and in a tragic twist are thrown out of Reclaiming for having an illicit teacher/student affair. All ends happily as the Faerie Queen reveals that the lowly Witchcamper was in fact the

*continued on page D-179*

## Fundamentalist Witches Decry Solstice Vigils

“Lack of faith” cited in speech to conservative group

A LONG-SIMMERING dispute between Fundamentalist Witches and Reclaiming’s ruling Politico majority burst into public view last month when a sect of Fundamentalists accused Reclaiming of a failure of faith concerning the return of the sun at Winter Solstice.

The eve of Winter Solstice has traditionally been a night of vigiling with covens, circles, and friends. The return of the sun following the year’s longest night is awaited through the hours of darkness. Celebrants often gather at a high spot to witness the return of the sun on Solstice morn.

Once-powerful Pagan evangelist Lucifer “Larry” Hieronymous, in a Lammas address to the InterPagan Association of True Believers, decried the practice:

“Oh ye of little faith! Know ye not in your hearts that the sun will return? Trust ye not the turning of the Wheel?”

Hieronymous called on true Witches everywhere to resist the tyranny of the

Politicos by going to bed early on Solstice eve and sleeping till noon the next day.

### FUNDIE PAGAN IN SEX SCANDAL

HIERONYMOUS MADE his reputation in the late 1980s, when the revised edition of *The Spiral Dance* was published.

Hieronymous organized burnings of the new text, and vowed his People’s Pagan Party would never deviate from the wording of the 1979 version.

But his credibility with Reclaiming’s vociferous conservative wing plummeted in 1998 when it was revealed that Hieronymous had never actually had sex on Beltane.

A well-publicized stunt involving a Maypole, two ducks, and a sliced cucumber rectified that blemish on his record, and a cover story in *Cosmopagan* magazine sealed his return to the limelight.

The attack on Solstice vigils is seen as Hieronymous’s first move in a campaign to rebuild his battered organization, pre-

*continued on page D-183*

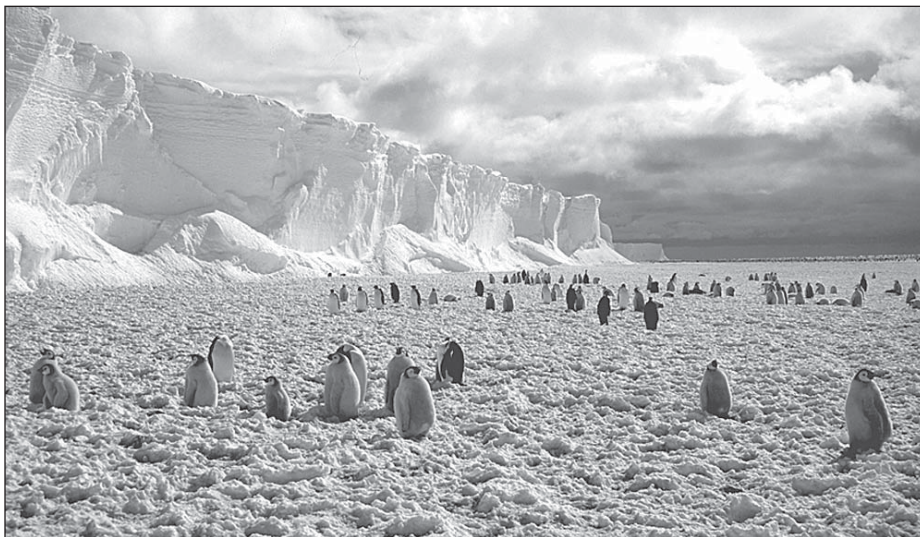
## ANTARCTICA WITCHCAMP — NOT FOR WIMPS

RECLAIMING’S FIRST-EVER Antarctica Witchcamp was a resounding success, as over 80 campers (including 17 penguins, the most ever at a Reclaiming intensive) braved bitter cold, nightly ice-storms, and a near-total lack of cellphone reception.

The first-year camp stuck to the basic elemental paths of Earth, Air, Fire, and Ice. But in a departure from Reclaiming’s usual deity-oriented myths, the camp built its evening rituals around the legend of Frosty the Snowman.

The move proved popular with the penguins, who have long celebrated the

*continued on page D-147*



Antarctica photo ©2003 by Mike Curtis. See his entire Antarctica photo gallery at [www.haramosh.org.uk](http://www.haramosh.org.uk)

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

## Dissident Faction Calls Crabgrass Gathering April 14-18 Conclave Challenges Dandelion Gathering

WITH A battle cry of "Reclaim Reclaiming," People's Pagan Party spokesperson Lucifer "Larry" Hieronymous called for a boycott of Reclaiming's Dandelion Gathering in favor of his alternative Crabgrass Convention.

The CGC, scheduled for the same dates and location as the Dandelion, calls Reclaiming back to its true roots — paleolithic Goddess spirituality and dogmatic Marxism-Leninism.

Hieronymous dubbed the Dandelion Gathering a "non-native species" and called for its eradication.

### WHEEL INTERVENES TO RESTORE ORDER

FEARING AN embarrassing public dispute, the Reclaiming Wheel decided to intervene. The Wheel called together representatives from all three factions for a marathon mediation session — the Dandelion planners, Hieronymous, and Sam's Dry Cleaners, who claimed that Hieronymous had stiffed them on a \$27 cleaning bill.

After six hours of intense negotiations, participants agreed to recommend that Hieronymous pay the dry cleaning bill.

Discussions then turned to the thornier issue of the Dandelion/Crabgrass split.

Hieronymous opened with a three-hour oration decrying the choice of dandelions. "One puff and they're blown to the winds — a perfect symbol for the left-decentralism of the anarcho-syndicalist faction that dominates Reclaiming."

Brandishing his trowel and spade overhead, Hieronymous called on true Reclaimers everywhere to "root out the dandelions of despair" and "fertilize the crabgrass of socialist workers' power."

### COUNTERCHARGE: REVISIONISM

ESMERALDA RAGINGWITCH, speaking in defense of the Dandelion planners, responded by citing extended quotations from RPWV Chairman Gusty Hail which proved conclusively that Hieronymous's

interpretation was crypto-bourgeois, revisionist, and showed clear signs of economist deviation from Chairman Hail's thought.

RagingWitch concluded by demanding that the Wheel require an oath of allegiance to the Dandelion Gathering of all Reclaiming organizers.

The Wheel representatives, after lengthy consultations, ruled the matter too complex for immediate decision and placed it on the agenda of the next four Wheel meetings.

Hieronymous immediately filed an appeal with the Church of All Worlds, recognized as the highest arbiter of inter-Pagan disputes in the Greater Milky Way District.

Dandelion organizers, desperate to undercut Hieronymous' momentum, convened an emergency session to change the name of their conclave to the "PanWeed

*continued on page D-132*

## Thousands March in First "We Told You So!" Parade

THOUSANDS OF anti-war demonstrators paraded through the streets of San Francisco last week chanting "What did we tell you?" and "Listen to us next time!"

The exuberant crowd chanted and waved signs reading "What part of 'No War' didn't you understand?" and "The Left is Right — Again!" Speaker after speaker delineated in painstaking detail

*continued on page D-147*

## Dandelion Rugby Tourney

TEAM LINE-UPS for the inter-Witchcamp rugby tourney at the Dandelion Gathering are due by the end of January.

Last year's champion, Tejas Web, faces a major challenge from the up-and-coming MidAtlantic squad, fresh from its upset over traditional powerhouse Germany in the EuroPagan Invitational.

Vermont, whose last rugby victory

*continued on page D-133*



Goldenrod EtherChild, representing the Council of Conciliatory Counselors, speaks out against the custom of wearing white powdered wigs to Reclaiming Wheel meetings. EtherChild's resolution allowing black or green wigs was soundly defeated as traditionalists carried the day. Photo by Otter.

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

## Compromise Creates 'Church of All Weeds'

Dandelion and Crabgrass factions agree to joint organization

IN A BOLD STROKE of Inter-Pagan diplomacy, mediatrix Sunshine MoonBeam bridged the gap between Reclaiming's Dandelion Gathering and the dissident Crabgrass Convention (*see last issue*).

MoonBeam's intervention came after preliminary negotiations between the sparring factions led to a messy multi-Witch meltdown. The dispute centered on issues of structure, with the Dandelion planners advocating a loose decentralized model, while the Crabgrass contingent favored rigid hierarchical control. MoonBeam's "Church of All Weeds" proposal offered

*continued on page D-187*

## Grievance Over New Grievance Procedure

LUCIFER "LARRY" HIERONYMOUS has filed a grievance against the Reclaiming Wheel, charging that the Wheel's failure to implement a Grievance Procedure has denied him his right to file a grievance against the Reclaiming Wheel.

"It's one thing to have a gripe," a frustrated Hieronymous told the New York Times last week. "But it's another thing altogether to have to gripe about your gripe that you can't properly make a gripe."

A spokeswitch for the Wheel noted that anyone could issue a grievance against anyone, anytime. But Hieronymous rejected the conciliatory gesture, saying that he was considering filing a fresh grievance that his grievance concer-

*continued on page D-143*

## Bare-Breast Scandal at Rugby Finals

Vermont victory marred by accusations of breast-baring collusion

A SCANDALOUS breast-baring incident threatens to overshadow Vermont Witchcamp's stirring victory over British Columbia in the Shadow Bowl, annual championship game of the Witchcamp Rugby League.

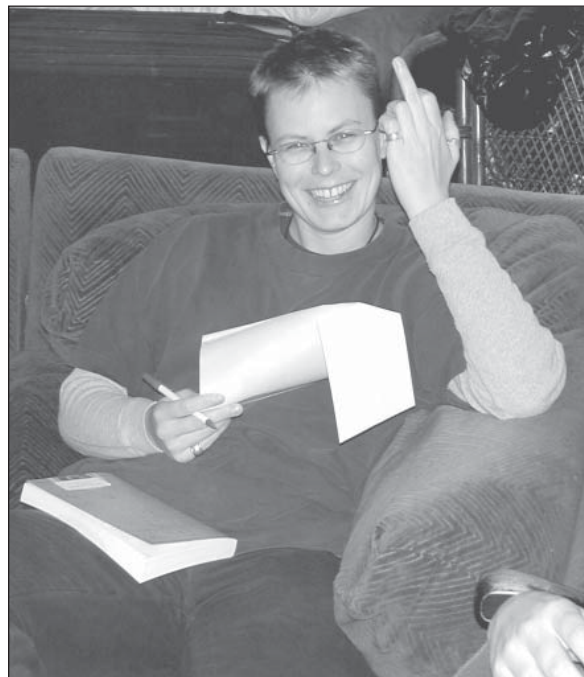
Vermont, whom oddsmakers made a prohibitive longshot in their early postings, parlayed a grind-it-out, ball-control strategy into a first-round upset of California, then surprised the Tejas Web club with a rain-soaked, come-from-behind victory.

But no one gave Vermont much chance against the seasoned veterans of BC Witchcamp, whose punishing defense had held both SpiralHeart and Germany scoreless in the opening rounds.

Hopelessly outmatched in the first half, the Vermont squad seemed doomed to defeat. But just when the cause seemed lost, Witchcamp teacher Goldenrod EtherChild stood up opposite the BC bench and removed his shirt, baring his two silver nipple-rings. The glint of the rings mesmerized the BC team, and the opportunistic Vermonters seized the moment, running roughshod over the disoriented northwesterners and capturing their first Shadow Bowl title in 13 years.

Dismayed BC campers cried foul, contending that EtherChild was in cahoots with the Vermont organizing team, who had promised him a coveted senior-teaching spot in exchange for

*continued on page D-116*



Friendly disagreements are common among the ever-vigilant RQ proofreading squad. Here, a cell member responds to a suggestion that she consistently employ the serial comma.

## Magickal Name Registration Due

Reclaiming Quarterly reminds readers that the 2004 registration deadline for magickal names is fast approaching.

Anyone wishing to use a magickal, initiatory, or adopted name at a Reclaiming Witchcamp or ritual must register with the Reclaiming Magical Name Repository by May 1.

Registration must include payment of statutory fees, ranging from \$10 for those adopting names of weeds or small shrubberies, up to \$500 for compound names including three or more animals, vegetables, or minerals. An additional \$50 fee applies for each internal capital letter ("GopherWand").

Names involving deities should be accompanied by a two-page, typewritten letter detailing the magical skills, attributes, or sexual fantasies that qualify you to bear the name.

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

## Vanguard Celebrates Silver Anniversary

THE *Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Vanguard* celebrated its 25th issue with a catered cocktail party and a stirring call to global revolt against the running dogs of crypto-bourgeois Paganism.

Denouncing a tendency toward neo-romanticist interpretations of Marx's famed early work, *Das Ritual*, Chairman Gusty Hail spoke at length on "Top Ten Reasons Why Marxist-Leninist Paganism Will Triumph Over Pseudo-Trotskyite Ritual Practice."

While holding out a palm leaf to those who would accept his "178 Theses on the Dialectic of Magic," Hail decried

*continued on page D-132*

### OBITUARY

## Cecelia MothersDaughter

CECELIA MOTHERSDAUGHTER, longtime Reclaiming Quarterly volunteer, died last month of old age while proofreading the Regional Pages of the Summer issue.

In a Pagan culture that encourages grandiose visions, Ms. MothersDaughter was admired by her professional colleagues as one who set realistic, achievable goals. While others performed spells for the healing of Mother Earth and the renewal of global hope, Ms. MothersDaughter's magic focused on the healing of paper cuts and the renewal of her favorite TV shows.

Her striking success in the latter field (particularly the spell she cast for the renewal of *Buffy* after its shaky first season) earned her the love and esteem of her compatriots. But Ms. MothersDaughter was never able to capitalize on her unique skills, and her weeklong intensives such as "Advanced Spellwork for Choosing a New Toothpaste" were poorly attended.

Services will be held at St. Brigid of the

*continued on page D-147*

## Genetic Research Provides Magical Payoff Cuts in Rituals Spared by Biotech Breakthrough

A STARTLING genetic engineering breakthrough may provide a budgetary windfall for Reclaiming, staving off the need to eliminate one or more Sacred Elements from ritual invocations.

Facing a serious financial shortfall due to the collapse of its tech-heavy portfolio, Reclaiming's Executive Board had instructed all Elemental Departments to submit proposals for

cuts in the 2005 ritual cycle.

A short-term compromise would have eliminated one directional invocation from each ritual, on a rotating basis. More extreme proposals advocated a poll of RQ readers to determine which direction to drop from all future rituals.

But in a shocking scientific breakthrough, genetic researchers at Reclaiming

Alchemical Laboratories (RAL) have succeeded in splicing together genetic material from the elements Air and Fire. If the new combined element proves stable, the two elements could be called forth in one invocation, saving thousands of dollars per year.

Initial research suggests that rituals in which the combined elements are invoked are characterized by a burning passion for Aristotelian logic, as well as a strong tendency to start new fires.

The only drawback seems to be an abundance of hot air, always a danger at Reclaiming events. But leading elemental metaphysicists at RAL assured ritual planners that a bind-

*continued page D-183*



*Reclaiming's Central Committee reaches consensus on an innovative proposal to restructure the international Reclaiming community as a franchise operation. Local groups will pay fees for the rights to call themselves "Witches," invoke Reclaiming-trademarked deities, and use copyrighted phrases such as "blessed be" and "may you never hunger."*

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

## Vanguard Seeks Input!

The RPWV is seeking your input on how to make our publication a more effective force for global Pagan revolution. Please take a minute to answer these questions:

1. What three Marxist thinkers have most influenced your spiritual development?
2. List the five pseudo-Trotskyist deviations which most aggravate you.
3. Lenin said, "You cannot make a revolution in white gloves." Was he prefiguring *Dreaming the Dark* or making a fashion

*continued on page D-167*

## Drug Test Foils Olympic Trancing Champion

Lucifer "Larry" Hieronymous, whose stunning victory in the Hallucinogenic Trancing competition brought the Pagan Olympic community to its collective feet, has been disqualified after failing a random drug test.

Tests conducted by Reclaiming Alchemical Laboratories confirmed that the Crystal Medal winner was not under the influence of the mandatory psychedelic mushrooms, but apparently had ingested a dangerously large quantity of Peanut M&M's just prior to trancing.

The Trancing competition is not well-known to Reclaiming sports fans. Given its no-drugs-no-alcohol policy, Reclaiming Television Network generally declines to cover such events as Hallucinogenic Trancing, Spliff-Rolling Pentathlon, or Synchronized Beer Chugging, which are hugely popular in many parts of the Pagan world.

But the latest scandal involving Hieronymous, who was disciplined last year for failing to have sex on Beltane,

*continued on page D-142*



*In a spectacular feat of street magic, Pagan Cluster activists caused a Green Bloc flag to materialize out of the back of an unsuspecting audience member at the Reclaim the Commons actions. Photo by Luke Hauser.*

## Reclaiming Holiday Gift Nook

### SPIRAL-DANCE-IN-A-BOX®

Celebrate the most festive holiday on the Reclaiming calendar in the privacy of your own home! No more standing in line, sitting on the floor, or dealing with all those pesky Witches. Best of all, when you need a bio-break, you can hit the pause button without missing a single thrilling minute of the Samhain-season classic.

Includes personal trance veil, tea-light candle, dried rose, yellowed photograph of someone from the early 1900s, step-by-step spiral dance floor chart, and five-CD set containing the entire spoken, sung, and chanted text.

Besides all songs and chants used during the ritual, SDIAB features an inspiring ancestor trance led by High Priestess Esmeralda RagingWitch, complete with sound effects of a live audience coughing and shuffling.

*Just \$249.99 plus 49.99 shipping and handling.*

### ACME SPELL-CHECKER®

What every Witch needs on her computer: Acme's Magickal Spell-Checker®! Run your spellwork through this dandy little program and find out — ahead of time — unintended consequences, thrice-fold backfires, or practical jokes from the cosmos. Eliminate fuzzy wording that results in blind dates with destiny! Deluxe model includes built-in Mercury-retrograde sensor.

*Only \$33.33 plus \$99.99 shipping and handling.*

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

Breaking News

## SWEBRPPC Controversy Threatens Magickal Unity

Reclaiming's Wheel went into marathon sessions to avert a magickal crisis that was triggered when the SouthWest East Bay Ritual Planning and Performance Cell announced plans to invoke Center first instead of last among the directions.

SWEBRPPC already faced possible excommunication for a 2002 attempt to speed up ritual invocations by throwing all the elements into a cauldron and making a few stirring motions. The latest

*continued on page D-147*

Public Service Announcement

## VisionQuest® Recycles Used Visions

Cleaning off your altar, but hesitant about burning those wonderful old spells and visions? "I bet there's still a lot of life left in that old inspiration," you think. "What a shame to throw it away."

Don't despair! Reclaiming's new VisionQuest® program will collect your old visions, insights, spells, and other magickal workings, clean them up, and donate them to needy Witches around the world.

Imagine the thrill of knowing that your old spells, which you've long since forgotten the reason for, will work their mysterious magic in a new land.

And how satisfying will it feel that an impoverished Witch, who could probably never afford a new vision, will draw inspiration from one that you almost torched last Solstice?

Call today for pickup! Extra charges may apply for love spells gone awry.

VisionQuest® also recycles used ancestors for a small handling fee.

## Pagan Cluster: Stop Commercializing Solstice

Reclaiming's Pagan Cluster has called an international boycott of MallMart stores to denounce the mega-chain's crass commercialization of Solstice and other Pagan holidays.

Whereas most merchants wait until after Thanksgiving to mount holiday window displays, shoppers at MallMart were confronted with Solstice carollers the morning after Samhain. And last Spring, a flaming wickerman was on display in many stores almost two months before Summer Solstice.

"We accept that Solstice towels, shortest-day candles, and other holiday gimmickry will be increasingly marketed by mainstream chains," said Reclaiming Spokeswitch Sunshine Moonbeam. "But selling pre-burnt wickermen before Beltane and singing Solstice carols when the veil has barely closed from Samhain is

just bad shopping magic."

A spokesperson for MallMart denied over-commercializing Pagan holidays. "Our Beltane Maypole displays didn't go up until after Imbolc last year. And it wasn't until almost Equinox that we hired models to perform the Great Rite in our display windows. I think that shows great restraint on our part, and

*continued on page D-192*

## Politicos Call Dandelion '06

The second Dandelion Gathering will be held in 2006. At the 2004 Dandelion, the Politico faction raised its unique blend of anarcho-socialism and tarot to a dominant position among the ruling junta. But resistance from astrology-based activists

*continued on page D-164*



*Tire-tracks through our labyrinth are just one of the distractions that RQ proofreaders face at our central San Francisco headquarters. RQ is considering moving to a remote rural location and starting a cult based on frequent subscription renewals. Contact [quarterly@reclaiming.org](mailto:quarterly@reclaiming.org) to join!*

# Pagan Workers' Vanguard

## Reclaiming Sued over Flameless Cauldron

A class action suit on behalf of participants in Reclaiming's 2005 Brigid Ritual has been filed in San Francisco Metaphysical Court, alleging that the sputtering cauldron on the Center altar "significantly and adversely affected the quality and durability of pledges to the Triple Goddess."

The lawsuit contends that the cauldron, which went out several times as celebrants made their pledges, seriously impeded plaintiffs' ability to follow through on their commitments, and that as a result several already have incurred the wrath of the Goddess.

The suit, in addition to seeking unspecified damages from Reclaiming, would secure a restraining order against Brigid Herself, preventing Her from enforcing punitive provisions of pledges.

Opening briefs are due by Beltane. Reclaiming is represented by the firm of Cooper, Paracelsus, and Fenneman, while famed metaphysical attorney C. Melvin Lughson, whose clients include Jesus of Nazareth and the Greek sage and mystic Pythagorus, has been retained to represent Brigid.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, one defendant said, "We're of course delighted to have the Cooper firm undertaking our case. But I feel badly for Brigid, being represented by Lughson. I hear that Jesus' trial didn't go so well."

To join the class action suit, contact

*continued on page D-147*

## RPWV Archives at RQ.org

In an exclusive scoop, RQ reprints the first fifteen editions of the Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Vanguard, along with several other satirical features from our pages —

[www.ReclaimingQuarterly.org](http://www.ReclaimingQuarterly.org)

## Fundamentalists Seek Ban on Solstice

Evangelical fundamentalists have proposed an amendment to the United States Constitution banning Solstice and Equinox.

"These holidays have become nothing but an excuse for revelry and paganism," declared C. Wayne Patronym, First Past President of Americans United to Resist Change. "Unless we act now to suppress these observances, there is no telling where they might lead."

The amendment, which sailed through the Republican-dominated Congress and now goes to the states for ratification, bans movement of the Sun relative to the Earth, and mandates that all days and nights are to be of a legally-specified length.

"The actual length of days is a matter best left to the states," said Patronym. "The federal interest is in assuring the suppression of all vestiges of Solstices and Equinoxes."

The National Academy of Sciences raised a mild objection to the intrusion of the government into what previously had been a purely personal matter between the individual and the solar system.

But sponsors noted the overriding concern with creeping paganism as well as the need for national unity in the face of the terrorist threat.

"If anything changes, if any cracks are allowed to show in our unity, the terrorists will attack again," said Patro-

*continued on page D-111*



*Delegates to the 2005 Pan-Pagan Spellcrafting Association convention took time out to join a direct action protest demanding taller doorways in public buildings. Photo by Bill Dewey/RQ.*

## New Reclaiming Ritual Calendar Shelved

A proposal to change the dates and names of Reclaiming's sabbats has met unexpectedly tough resistance from traditionalists. The proposal, approved last quarter by the Central Committee, ran into trouble when it was sent out to Witchcamps for endorsement.

Proposed holidays include the Last Day of School, Mardi Gras, Boxing Day, Buy Nothing Day (the Friday after Thanksgiving), Shopping Spree Day (the Saturday after Thanksgiving), Alistair Crowley's birthday, the Sunday After the First Full Moon After Spring Equinox, and any time it rains more than three days in a row.

Under the new calendar, Witches' New Year would be on Boxing Day, to be celebrated by cleaning off one's altar and putting everything into neatly-labeled boxes. The proposal was opposed by Canadian-based Reclaimers, who argued that they were busy doing other things with boxes on that day. The idea was finally shelved when it turned out that no one south of the border knew when Boxing Day was.

Opponents, led by fundamentalist priest Jimmy Bob Cernunnos of Antarctica Witchcamp, clung to the traditional Wheel of the Year, celebrating the New Year on Samhain.

"Holding holidays on dates that unbelievers cannot pronounce is integral

*continued on page D-147*

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## E-Witchcamp a Hit with Web Pagans

Reclaiming's innovative and controversial Online Witchcamp, launched with much fanfare in early 2002, recently regrouped after three-and-a-half years between the cyberworlds.

E-Camp, which was lauded for such achievements as the first online spiral dance, the first online levitation, and a new world record for longest continuous tarot reading, earned

a place in the hearts of Reclaimers everywhere.

### PAGAN TIME LAG

Less successful were attempts to overcome Pagan Time Lag. The notorious effects of PTL that routinely cause Reclaiming rituals to run an hour late, multiplied by dozens of separate online connections, led to rituals that lasted a month or longer.

When priestesses ended one ritual after three weeks, the ensuing charges of *ritualus interruptus* nearly led to the resignation of the entire online teaching team.

The problem was compounded in the planning process. Due in part to the use of strict consensus process for all decisions, the camp's opening ritual took eight months to plan.

### FREE WITCHCAMP ADOPTS ONLINE ORGANIZING

Inspired by the pioneering efforts of Online Witchcamp, the organizers of Free Witchcamp committed to planning their Summer 2005 camp via email.

The experiment was such a success that organizers will bring their laptops to camp and continue their planning online.

*For more information on Free Witchcamp, see page 22.*

*To take part in future Online Witchcamps, watch the pages of the Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Vanguard.*



*Dedicated ritual planners perform quality-control tests on the Beltane maypole garland. The tests were successful, and the garland was affixed to the top of the maypole. Photo by RQ.*



## Animal Sacrifice Proposal Stirs Fresh Controversy

A long-simmering dispute concerning the ethics of animal sacrifice erupted into bitter acrimony when it was disclosed that participants at an unidentified Reclaiming Witchcamp sacrificed over 500 mosquitos during the course of a single ritual last Summer.

The practice of small-insect sacrifice is rumored to be widespread among Witchcampers, despite a clear declaration at the 2004 Dandelion Gathering that mosquitos, gnats, fruit-flies, and other insects are fellow-beings welcome at all rituals held on land they ordinarily occupy.

The 2004 conclave also prohibited the use of derogatory terms such as "bugs," "critters," and "spawn of Beelzebub" when referring to our multi-legged co-habitants.

### FUZZY CATERPILLARS ON THE BLOCK?

Difficult decisions face participants at the 2006 Dandelion Gathering, which will wrestle with competing proposals concerning insect sacrifice.

Among the proposals is one mandating ritual sacrifice of horseflies, gnats, and mosquitos, which is expected to garner the requisite two-thirds majority and be sent to 2006 Witchcamps for ratification.

But a more rigorous plan which would legitimize immolation of moths and mummification of fuzzy caterpillars

*continued on page D-114*

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## Dandelion to Rule on 'Eastism' Charge

Already faced with declining test scores in its Elements of Magic classes, Reclaiming has now been hit with potentially explosive charges of cultural bias in its invocations of the sacred directions.

"The pervasive Eastism of our invocations must end," said frequent Reclaiming critic Lucifer "Larry" Hieronymous. "Those of us who live in other parts of the continent have suffered too long under the primacy of East."

The charges came as a surprise to many Witches on the East Coast, and were seen by some as a reprisal for recent criticism by Easterners of the San Francisco Reclaiming group, which founded Reclaiming and still holds the patents on most magical processes used by modern Witches.

Regardless of their source, the new charges threaten to embarrass a community that claims to honor diversity in its magical practices.

### DANDELION GATHERING TO ADJUDICATE 'EASTISM' DISPUTE

Hieronymous lost no time in gathering support for his anti-East campaign from across North America and in Western Europe, and the 2006 Dandelion Gathering is expected to hammer out a compromise equalizing the directions.

The most likely plan would involve a simple rotation. At Spring Equinox, East would still be called first. But Summer Solstice would commence with South, Fall with West, and Winter with North.

Brigid would start with North and then proceed directly across to South. Samhain would do the opposite. Lammas, which everyone is confused about anyway, would go around the circle backwards. And Beltane, in keeping with the general spirit of the holiday, would invoke Northeast, Southeast, Southwest, and Northwest.

The compromise drew strong support when tested at recent Witchcamps, although one camp lasted two additional days while priestesses figured out how to open the circle.

The principle remaining issue is whether to implement the plan immediately, or phase it in over several years. Advocates of moderation cautioned of magical mayhem if all eight rituals are changed in one year, while proponents of change warned that rioting could break out at several Witchcamps if changes are not implemented immedi-

*continued on page D-132*



*Reclaiming's West Coast squad suits up for the All-Dandelion Mud Wrestling semifinals. The bitterly-contested title is currently held by the Western European Mud People, who used mud from seven different sacred sites to vanquish the other regions in 2004. An equally gripping competition is expected this year, with the West Coast team a slight favorite following heavy Spring rains.*

## Takeover Threat Imperils RPWV

With its stock at an all-time low, the Revolutionary Pagan Workers Vanguard Corporation is being threatened with a hostile takeover bid, according to sources close to RPWV Assistant Executive Priestess Sunshine Moonbeam.

A shadowy venture-capital group known as "Witches Inc" has quietly begun buying shares of common stock in the RPWV. Witches Inc, which reputedly has ties to longtime RPWV nemesis Lucifer "Larry" Hieronymous, has also been involved in takeover attempts involving *SagePerson* and *Celebrity Witch* magazines.

Ms. Moonbeam reported that the Executive Coven has called an emergency circle, and that all loyal RPWV cadre are urged to purchase shares at a premium price, in order to foil the takeover bid.

However, late trading on the NeoPagan Stock Exchange saw RPWV shares plunge to new lows, and unless the trend is reversed, the "Voice of the Pagan Proletariat" could fall into unfriendly hands as early as next issue.

## Back-Dating Scandal Rocks Reclaiming

Charges that Reclaiming Witches have been involved in back-dating spells, potions, and magical apprenticeships have been leveled by a congressional committee overseeing magical practices.

The scandal emerged when it was revealed that several Reclaiming Witches had back-dated their year-and-a-day claims on a series of Bridgid pledges. Further investigation showed the practice to be widespread at Witchcamps, with the first day of camp being taken as the year-and-a-day, regardless of the exact date of

*continued on page D-143*

## Top-Ten Finish for 'As the Bonfire Burns'

With its long-running drama "As the Wheel Turns" continuing to top all shows on the Pan-Pagan Television Network, Reclaiming Studios has once again struck paydirt with its latest spin-off, "As the Bonfire Burns."

The new show scored a Top Ten ranking in its first year, and has just been released on DVD in a deluxe boxed edition loaded with special features.

### *Warning: Plot Spoiler Follows*

The first season's storyline commences as Reclaiming Witches prepare for Summer Solstice rituals across North America, Europe, Australia, and Antarctica. With visions of bonfires dancing in their heads, festive Witches plan their Solstice Celebrations, oblivious to the impending threat.

In the second episode, the Beach Police in Surf City (a fictional town located somewhere near a large body of water) threaten to ban bonfires forever.

The police show up at the Summer ritual and, in a act laden with symbolic overtones, kick sand on the bonfire.

As Winter Solstice approaches, Reclaiming Witches – ever eager for an opportunity to defy authority – organize a massive Solstice festival with hundreds of bonfires up and down the Surf City beach. Thousands of citizens pour out to the beach to make a stand for their First Amendment right to burn stuff and run naked into the waves.

When Surf City riot police show up to quash the bonfires, they are greeted by a carefully-orchestrated Bonfire Defense Initiative that surrounds the fires with chanting, dancing Pagans. Overwhelmed by the outpouring of Solstice blessings, the chief strips off his uniform and, followed by the entire contingent of riot police, plunges headfirst into the water.

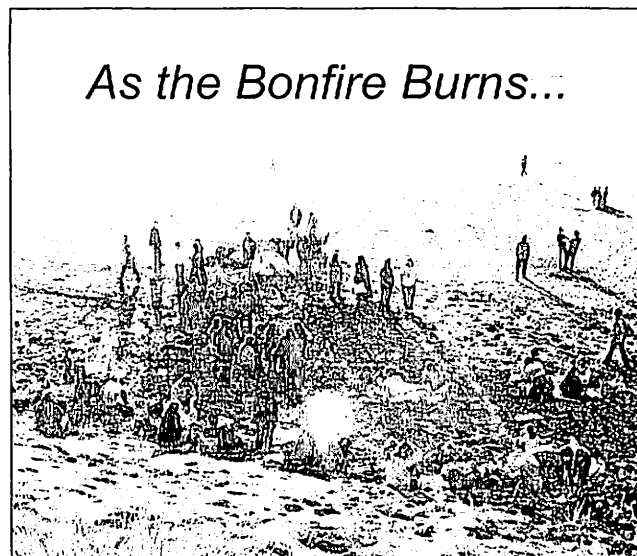
But just when all seems about to end happily, a new scandal emerges as the entire event is posted to YouTube and

becomes the most popular video on the internet. The chief and all his officers lose their jobs, and the new Chief of the Surf City Beach Police vows anew to crush Solstice bonfires, setting the stage for Season Two.

### BOX SET FEATURES

The newly-released box set offers many special features, including multiple camera angles, ritual-planners' commentary, a special chant-along karaoke CD, and step-by-step instructions for tearing off your clothes and plunging into your bathtub, so you can enjoy Solstice in the privacy of your own

*continued on page D-111*



*This opening shot of the Surf City Beach became a familiar sight for millions of Neo-Pagan viewers during the last TV season, as the acclaimed new drama attained a top-ten ranking and garnered numerous awards at the Golden Chalice® ceremony, including Best Choreography, Best Set-Design, and Best Wickerman-Burning. Photo by RPWV staffer Otter.*

## Reclaiming Teachers Launch Rewards Plan

In a bold attempt to keep pace with spiritual competitors, Reclaiming has instituted a new “Rewards” program for its initiation program.

Under the current initiatory regimen, novices are expected to provide food and drink for teachers at instructional sessions, but no cash payments take place.

As a result, many of the finest trainers and initiatory administrators have been lost to more organized traditions such as WiccanRede and Spirit Matters, which offer structured commissions to their employees.

To provide increased incentive for trainers and recruiters, the Rewards program will be structured like a chain letter.

The original initiator’s name will go at the top of the list. Someone initiated by them goes next, and so on, up to seven generations of initiation.

Applicants for initiation will be given the list and instructed to make “appropriate contributions” to the person at the top of the list. When the new person is initiated, the top name drops off, and everyone else moves up one place.

“It’s one of the compromises we have to make to keep pace in today’s fast-paced Pagan market,” said High Initiatrix Sunshine Moonbeam. “Once

*continued on page D-182*

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## Mercury Retrograde Foils Pagan Uprising

Global Pagan workers’ revolution was derailed when a malfortuitous planetary configuration caused a breakdown in the vital communications sector.

Plans called for a spontaneous uprising of the Earth-based proletariat of the world, followed by a series of local community forums to draft a new provisional constitution empowering the working class to seize control of all rituals.

To fool the security apparatus of the imperialist bourgeoisie, a series of Beltane Maypole rituals were announced. Facilitators of the revolutionary vanguard then text-messaged an alternate plan to thousands of Pagan proletarians, announcing the revolution and directing workers to begin the spontane-

ous revolt.

However, due to Mercury being in retrograde motion relative to the locus of the revolutionary conjuncture, the text-message was inadvertently sent to thousands of Boston Celtics fans, who obediently rose up and cheered louder than usual.

The executive committee of the vanguard of the Goddess-worshipping proletariat went into emergency session, and only some inspired spin-doctoring by Lucifer “Larry” Hieronymous of the Peoples’ Pagan Party saved the day.

“The true revolution is in the heart,” Hieronymous said. He declared the Maypole rituals had advanced the cause of global magical revolt, and called on

*continued on page D-143*



*Modern Pagans re-enact the ancient game of Wackawich, originally played between rival squads of mystics and healers in the south of Wales. Photo by Luke Hauser.*

## Mayans Discover Calendar Error

### End-of-World Snafu Corrected

*The Dzibilchaltun Daily Pyramid*, official organ of the Mayan church hierarchy, has revealed that the prediction of the end of civilization, previously scheduled for December 21, 2012, has been moved back 200 years.

“We were sure that the ancient cosmological calendar was ending,” confessed an embarrassed Mayan spokesperson. “But it turned out that someone mislabeled the next 200 years, so we thought they had already happened. We have corrected this oversight, and the end of the world is now scheduled for December 21, 2212. We apologize for any inconvenience.”

The North American metaphysical industry, which was riding a wave of interest in the 2012 Mayan prophecy, immediately crashed. “For us, this *is* the end of the world,” lamented one editor.

### WORLD ALREADY OVER?

Meanwhile, the Mystical Blood Rose Fellowship, a Rosicrucian splinter group which had predicted the end of the world for 2010, has also revised its prediction.

“We examined the signs again,” said High Prognosticator Lucifer “Larry” Hieronymous. “It seems we were off by 30 years. The world actually ended in 1980. It’s over. Done. Kaput. Go Home.”

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## Reclaiming Unveils New Official History

Stung by criticism that its history was “boring” and “mundane,” Reclaiming has released a new official account of its founding to coincide with the 30th Anniversary of the Spiral Dance ritual.

Gone are the folksy tales of a small work-group of witches meeting in a San Francisco attic to create the first Spiral Dance.

Reclaiming, it turns out, is a lineal descendant of the original Golden Dawn group, and also of the Rosicrucians, Templars, Freemasons, and the 1920s German Expressionist art movement.

In 1979, Neo-Wiccan prophet Gerald Gardner himself appeared in a vision to Reclaiming’s founding coven and called for the organizing of an annual Samhain ritual, to be held in a roller-derby arena (Gardner was a fan of

the San Francisco Bay Bombers). After many years of struggle, Reclaiming fulfilled Gardner’s dream when the Spiral Dance relocated to Kezar Pavilion in the early 2000s.

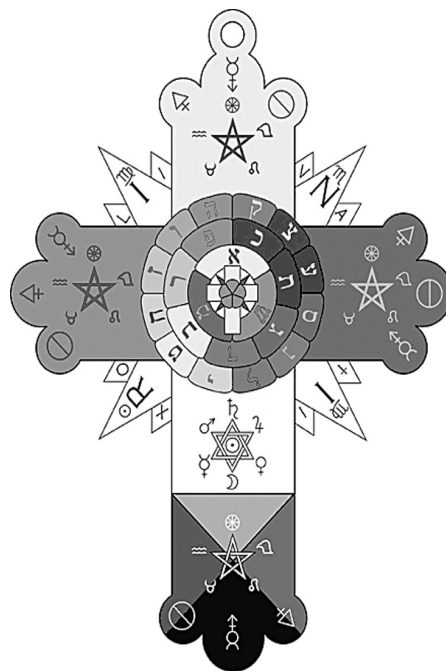
### PARACELSUS & ZOROASTER

Paracelsus, it has been discovered, wrote Reclaiming’s Principles of Unity. Newly-translated documents confirm that the German mage foretold a “groupe of anarchistical witches in Californie whych shall Reclaym the True Faithe” and devoted his last years to outlining the founding tenets.

Perhaps more surprising is Persian prophet Zoroaster’s assertion that at the “turning of the greate wheele” (i.e., the millennium), secular authorities would launch a wave of persecution against the “deare ones” – a clear allusion to the San Francisco beach police’s harassment of Reclaiming’s solstice bonfires. (In a troubling footnote, Zoroaster forecast a thousand years of persecution before the “deare ones” triumph. If he was correct, the Solstice fires may be under pressure for another 996 years or so.)

The new official history offers many fascinating revelations, such as the fact that most of Reclaiming’s chants were co-authored by the infamous Aleister Crowley, and that archeologist Marija Gimbutas unearthed paleolithic goddess-relics with Reclaiming’s PO Box number (14404) carved into them.

Not all the news was positive. Recent research has debunked claims that thousands of early Reclaiming witches suffered persecution for their faith. After exhaustive archival analysis, the only evidence uncovered was a couple of parking tickets from an Equinox ritual, and an anecdotal account of a really painful paper-cut while collating the newsletter.



*The Golden Cross of the Rosy Dawn — just one of many artifacts now known to prophecy the coming of Reclaiming. The “R” in the lower left clearly foretells the group, as do the pentacles.*

## Pagan Workers Honor Bolshevik Mysteries

The Anarcho-Leninist faction of the Revolutionary Pagan Workers Vanguard provisional proletarian coalition has announced plans to celebrate the sacred rites of the 1917 Russian Revolution.

During a series of nightly rituals devotees will re-enact the revolution, including the decadence of late-imperial Russia, the collapse of Russian armies in World War I, the February Revolt which overthrew the Czar and installed a moderate parliamentary government, the betrayal of the revolution by the Menshevik faction, the October Bolshevik Uprising, and the victorious civil war against the counter-revolutionary White Army.

Novitiates are expected to fast for a week prior to the rites, subsisting on stale rye bread, drinking cheap vodka, and sleeping in water-logged trenches.

On the climactic evening, new pledges will be forced to watch the uncut version of *Doctor Zhivago*, then left to sleep in the snow. In the middle of the night they will be awakened for the storming of the Winter Palace – the glorious moment when Lenin and the Bolsheviks seized revolutionary power and declared the Soviet State.

The initiation ceremony ends with a spiral dance performed in a mock-up of the Kremlin Palace. Vodka shots will be drunk in honor of Bolshevika, the ancient Russian Goddess of effective

*continued on page D-132*

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## Reclaiming Icons to Join Wax Museum

Reclaiming's Spiral Dance, Witchcamp cones of power, and six-hour consensus meetings are about to be immortalized in a new touring exhibit sponsored by Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum.

Madame Tussaud's, long known for honoring the world's most important personages in waxen tableaux, has chosen Reclaiming to represent the rebirth of Goddess spirituality and the tremendous entrepreneurial opportunities that this entails.

The Neo-Pagan exhibit will feature life-like representations of Reclaiming luminaries such as founding co-priestess Sunshine Moonbeam, who will be honored as a Witchcamp teacher, local ritual organizer, and chairperson of the clean-up committee for seventeen consecutive Spiral Dance rituals.

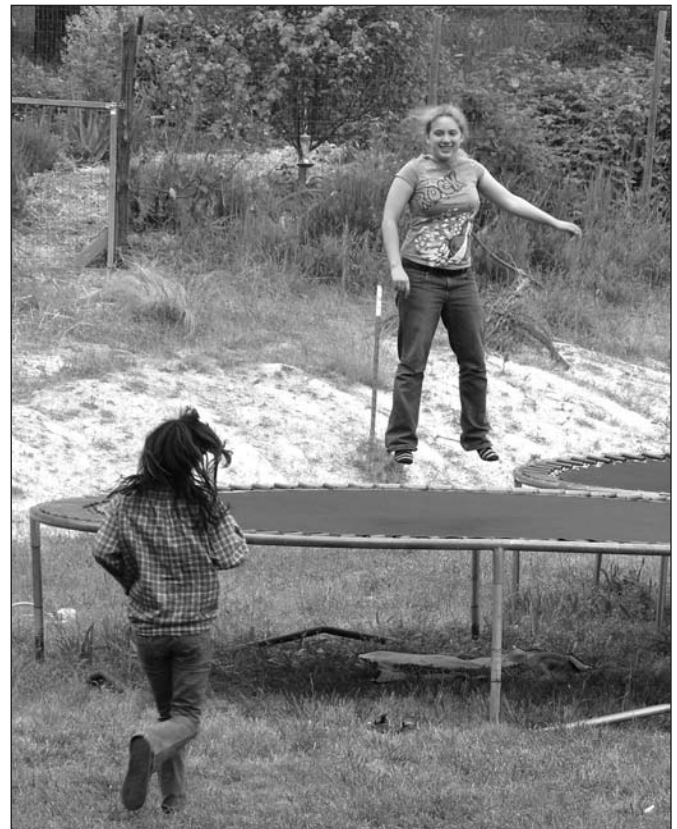
Ms. Moonbeam will be portrayed wielding the legendary triple-bristled broom of Turninengen, which allows the owner to purify the ritual space, cast a magical circle, and sweep up excess glitter at the same time.

Sharing the stage will be Radical Third Path Saint Brigid Faeerie Brujaja initiate Goldenrod

EtherChild, whose shaved head and twin nipple rings will glisten hypnotically in the limelight as he performs a prosperity spell.

Madame Tussaud's prides itself on lifelike presentations, and no depiction of Reclaiming would be complete without a wax replica of an all-day consensus meeting.

Reclaiming activists also asked to be included in the street protest vignette, but museum curators opted instead to create lifelike waxen statues of the anarchist Black Bloc faction.



*A mispronounced incantation during a levitation workshop at the Teen Earth Magic retreat left a young adult mentor transfixed in mid-air for over two hours. Here, a teen paramagician races to the scene. Photo by Luke Hauser/RPWV.*

## Illegal Brigid Pledge Coaching Raises Furor

Rising discontent with the role of pledge coaches during the Brigid's Cauldron Ritual has led to calls for an outright ban on the practice.

The mid-Winter ritual originally developed as a way for each participant to have a deep personal encounter with the Goddess of the flaming cauldron.

Reclaiming etiquette has always allowed the support of a pledge coach when one approaches the cauldron. Coaches traditionally sit in a designated space near the altar and communicate with their clients via hand-signals during the pledges.

The occasional whispered reminder was tolerated so long as coaches didn't go so far as to instruct their clients what words to speak.

In recent years, however, pledge coaches have grown bolder. To circumvent prohibitions against coaches writing the actual words of commitment, elaborate number codes have developed.

For instance, the number 33 is widely used to remind pledgers to speak the Goddess's name, while 69 is a signal to invoke more passion into one's life. Thirteen means slow down and breathe, while 99 means enough, already.

Complaints reached a boiling point this year when pledge coach Clarity Eldervision stormed out onto the floor and berated one of her clients who had fumbled the words of his pledge. Grab-

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## Dandelion Weighs Principles of Unity

The Dandelion Gathering has initiated steps to amend Reclaiming's Principles of Unity (PoU — see page 76 of this issue), the fundamental constitution of the otherwise nebulous network of anarcho-pagans.

The PoU, adopted in the 1990s, have never been altered. One wing of Reclaiming, the Coven of the Letter, considers the document to be part of the sacred texts (along with *The Spiral Dance*, *Reclaiming Quarterly*, and the *Revolutionary Pagan Workers Vanguard*.)

The Coven of the Letter gained notoriety in 1999 when adherents gathered outside Reclaiming's Samhain ritual and burned copies of the revised edition of *The Spiral Dance*.

The strictures of the fundamentalists

notwithstanding, suggestions have been heard in recent years to alter several aspects of the PoU.

Proposals have been introduced to broaden the gender language of the statement, and also to remove language which suggests that Australian Witches are standing on their heads.

### BITTER DIVISION OVER PRINCIPLES

Nothing has proven more controversial, however, than proposed amendments to the political sections of the Principles.

Several years of intense debate and discussion led to the formulation of this proposed new language:

"We are for all good things, and against all bad things."

Despite the apparent inclusivity, a brouhaha erupted over the binary opposition. "So I guess everything has to be black or white," lamented polypolitical priestess Sunshine Moonbeam. "You'd think they never heard of a Third Way."

Sponsors of the proposal agreed to accept an amendment by Flaming Dumbek Circle:

"Acknowledging the irreducibility of moral categories to simple binary constructs, and recognizing the critical importance of the shadow in our magical and political work, we nevertheless are, generally speaking, for lots of good things and against pretty much all bad things."

But many weren't mollified. "What about things that aren't especially good for you, but not really all that bad ei-

*continued on page D-125*



*A cheer goes up as the street is declared swept by The Right Ancient Order of the Bristling Broom, a devotional guild of Custodial Witches who clean up each year after PaganFest.*

## Mayor Asks Black Brigade to Teargas Themselves

Citing severe budget concerns which make continued policing of the Occupy Oakland protests infeasible, Mayor Jean Quan has asked the Black Brigade anarchist bloc to teargas, beat, and arrest themselves at all future protests.

“We all must make sacrifices,” said Mayor Quan from her command post deep beneath City Hall.

“While we will make it our highest budgetary priority to supply all protests with teargas, we ask participants to cooperate with us and release it themselves. If arrests are ordered, we ask designated arrestees to handcuff themselves with an appropriate amount of violence and report to the city jail.”

## BART Cancels Service to Berkeley, Oakland, SF

In an attempt to avoid delays and disruptions to service caused by police over-reaction to nonviolent protests, BART announced last week that all service to Berkeley, Oakland, and San Francisco has been cancelled.

“Trains will no longer stop in protest-friendly cities,” said a BART spokesperson. “Riders may disembark at the nearest city and walk to their destination at no extra charge.”

### Reader Survey

#### Do Anarchists Wear Black Undies?

Asked at various Occupy actions:

- 31% wear black undies (includes stripes)
- 19% prefer white or pastel briefs
- 11% are partial to plaid boxers
- 4% like polka dots or little hearts
- 35% wear no underwear at all\*

\* - unless they expect to be arrested or taken to the hospital

## General Strike Collapses as Workers Stay Home

Action too successful — organizers debate how to be less effective

A second General Strike called by Occupy Oakland supporters fell apart when virtually all local workers heeded the call to stay away from work.

Trouble began when BART and AC Transit drivers walked off the job, making it difficult to get downtown. Bank, government, and corporate employees declared support, so nothing was left open to blockade.

The Mayor and her staff reportedly went on strike as well, but no one noticed the difference.

However, when local media outlets declared solidarity and refused to assign reporters, stories about the day’s non-events were effectively blocked from the mainstream. Add to that a nationwide

walkout at Indy Media, and the General Strike received virtually no coverage.

Even the Black Brigade’s plans for a late-night street fight were stymied as police, prohibited from striking, staged a work-slowdown and refused to cross their own barricade lines.

### DONUT STRIKE THREATENS PEACE

The only moment of tension came when striking bakers refused to make a donut delivery. The day was saved by a wildcat action by the Nonviolent Bike Messengers Guild, which whizzed downtown with fresh cream puffs for the police just in time to avert disaster.

Still, the day was a bitter disappointment for the 37 people who managed to get downtown to take part in the General Strike — particularly when the disco line was called off due to striking sound system operators.

The crowning blow came when a march to shut the Port of Oakland was cancelled after organizers learned that the Port had been shut all day by union orders. Workers and police had long since gone home.

Some planners advocated marching to the Port anyway, but when they learned that the ice cream truck that parks at Third Street had also gone on strike, they threw in the towel.

“There’s only so much adversity you can take,” one planner said. “Who’s going to march to an empty Port if they can’t even buy ice cream?”



The General Assembly of Occupy Oz consents to include nonviolent flying monkeys in the next Foreclose the Emerald City action. Photo by Luke Hauser/RQ.

More RPWV at RQ.org

[www.ReclaimingQuarterly.org/web/rpwv](http://www.ReclaimingQuarterly.org/web/rpwv)

## Music Industry Stunned

### Reclaiming Wins Special Grammy

Following the chart-topping success of its latest release, *Campfire Chants*, Reclaiming has been awarded a special Grammy that presages major changes in the new-age music industry.

The award, for Most Songs Written to Same Tune, cited five songs from the new album as well as numerous songs from earlier albums.

Grammy voters were especially impressed with the minimalist lyrics. "Most artists would write one song with five verses," mused one elector. "It's quite revolutionary to turn it into five different songs with identical tunes."

Reclaiming's success is sending shock waves through the neo-pagan music business, which immediately began repackaging older melodies with a wide variety of new Earth-friendly lyrics and rushing them into production by the dozens.

### Next Reclaiming Album Slated for Spring 2037

#### Please advance order now!

The next Reclaiming chants album is already underway!

The new recording, tentatively titled *Chants My Goddessmother Taught Me*, will include all of the greatest Reclaiming songs written from now until then.

Based on past projects, we anticipate the album will be released in May 2037, give or take a decade.

Please help us produce this beautiful and inspiring new album of not-yet-written chants by advance ordering now!

## Revolutionary Pagan Barricade Chants

Undaunted by Reclaiming's *Campfire Chants*, the Peoples Pagan Party has announced the long-delayed release of their soon-to-be-classic album of Earth-based dialectical materialist singalongs, *Revolutionary Pagan Workers' Barricade Chants*.

*Barricados*, as the legendary album is known on the front lines of the Great Leap Into the Unknown, features such gems as *Weave and Spin the Unity of All Oppressed Wiccan Workers; We Are the Rising of the Spiritually-Aspiring Masses; We All Come from the Peoples Pagan Party*; and of course, *Goodnight Sweet Proletarians of the World*.

Tracks for *Barricados* were recorded by a solar-powered cultural-vanguardist production team embedded at direct actions in Calgary, Miami, Oakland, and Headwaters Forest.

#### BENEFIT MEGA-EVENT PLANNED – ARRESTS EXPECTED

*Barricade Chants* is to be released with great fanfare, including a tour of pirate

radio talk shows, pop-under ads on grassroots media websites, and a massive globally-streamed mega-event on Permanent Revolution Day.

The festivities will culminate with a seven-continent live multi-media sing-along of the new album's #1 hit, *Our Hands Will Work for Peace, Justice, Solidarity, Diversity, Gluten-Free Options, and a \$15 Minimum Wage*.

Immediately following the benefit concert, a spontaneous international civil disobedience action resulting in thousands of arrests is planned. All charges will be dropped later as part of a final settlement mediated by the Covenant of the Goddess's Special Envoy for Charity Concerts.

#### COPYRIGHTS CHALLENGED

Potential snafus arose for *Barricados* when the Neo-Wiccan Latter-Day Disciples of the Mysterious Ones claimed copyright violations on several chants, citing numerous cribs from old Reclaiming albums, Pentacostal hymnals, and vintage IWW songbooks.

But the claims were dismissed by a Popular Pagan Chants Tribunal, which ruled that all

*continued on page D-125*



*Revolutionary cadre practice hand motions for barricade chants in preparation for showdown with San Francisco Police. Foreclose the Banks, 2011. Photo by Luke Hauser/DirectAction.org*

#### RPWV Archives at RQ.org

In an exclusive scoop, Reclaiming Quarterly offers reprints of past editions of the RPWV. Visit us at ReclaimingQuarterly.org/web/rpwv/



## Teens Affinity Group Seizes Beltane Maypole

Youth In Perpetual Motion affinity group caught Beltane traditionalists napping at this year’s Reclaim May Day ritual, and in a daring maneuver seized and made off with the maypole just as the celebration peaked.

Inspired by legendary accounts of the Peoples Pagan Party’s expropriation of the maypole in the mythical era of the 1990s, YIPM cadre infiltrated the Beltane crowd, and at a key revolutionary juncture grabbed the pole and absconded before other celebrants could recover from the cone of power.

Maypole guardians from Wisdom of the Ancient Ones coven publicly expressed dismay at the action.

But several secretly smiled afterward, noting that whoever leaves the ritual with the maypole is responsible for storing it until next year.

## Teen Earth Magic Announces Upcoming Theme: Mud Mysteries

Teen Earth Magic has revealed the ritual theme for next summer’s camp: The Mystery of Mud.

Not satisfied that the recent Mushrooms & Fungi theme got down to essentials, organizers dug deeper and came up with the ultimate Earth Magic theme:

*continued on page D-359*

## RPWV Archives at RQ.org

This is issue #38 of the Revolutionary Pagan Workers Vanguard, Reclaiming’s all-purpose satire page created around 1997 by Reclaiming Quarterly magazine. Find reprints of past editions of the RPWV at our archives site:

[ReclaimingQuarterly.org/web/rpwv](http://ReclaimingQuarterly.org/web/rpwv)

## Ex-Teens Launch Geezer Earth Magic!

Decrying petit-bourgeois ageist tendencies rampant in Reclaiming, a cabal of former teens has seceded from the Teen Earth Magic organizing cell and declared their intention to form a new camp: Geezer Earth Magic.

“We’re getting a mite bit tired of the constant emphasis on the voices of youth and new inspirations and all that,” said elderly spokeswitch Lucifer “Larry” Hieronymous. “It’s time we give heed to the weary voices of aged wisdom.”

The breakaway faction formed after Hieronymous was found to have lied about his age in order to be a camper for the first eleven years of TEM.

When it was discovered that he was actually 47, he was immediately removed

as a camper and transferred to the Young Adult Mentor Program.

Hieronymous, no stranger to controversy, responded by announcing plans to form a new spiritual tendency based around a WitchCamp for revolutionary old people and their allies.

### Proto-Ancestors Make Demands

Among the changes demanded by the Provisional Revolutionary Council of Geezers, Aged Ones, Old Folks, & Beloved Proto-Ancestors, are:

- Every day of camp is Morning of Repose. Rituals begin when we get there.
- Cushioned, reclining seating at all bonfire rituals.
- Paved walkways through the woodlands with rustic rest-rooms every 25 feet.
- Teens and young adults to act as sherpas.

### Initiation Ritual Raises Concerns

Some applauded, but as details of the initiation ritual for Geezer Earth Magic began to emerge, others in Reclaiming expressed concerns.

“We’re hearing all sorts of complaints from campers, from reduced mobility to hearing loss to aching bunions,” said Reclaiming spokeswitch Sunshine MoonBeam. “If they can’t find a way to age more gracefully, we may have to ban this sort of organizing!”



*A young adult mentor rushes to the aid of a TEM camper whose air invocation has gone awry.*

## Prehistoric Zoom Goddess Unearthed Near Gimbutas Site

Archaeologists led by Reclaiming priestess Sunshine MoonBeam, digging at a Neolithic site near those made famous by Marija Gimbutas, have excavated fragments of an ancient goddess dedicated to the service of good Zoom connections.

Although the remains date from thousands of years prior to the invention of writing and hence are a bit difficult to precisely interpret, the goddess is depicted thrusting above her head an object that bears a striking resemblance to the camera icon used by today's reigning internet deity.

In her other hand she grasps what was initially interpreted as a lightning bolt, but now is recognized as the letter "Z," providing further evidence that the statue depicts a prehistoric Zoom deity.

### Ancient Rites Recreated

Applying the latest tools and techniques of archaeo-social extrapolation, researchers have painstakingly recreated the magical practices associated with the newly-discovered goddess.

Initiatory rites included assignment of a secret "password" which allowed access to the inner secrets of comm-

*continued on page D-219*

### RPWV Archives Now Online!

This is issue #39 of the RPWV, the all-purpose satire page created around 1998 by RQ. Complete reprint of all 39 editions of the RPWV, along with other satirical features from our back issues:

**ReclaimingQuarterly.org/web/rpwv**

## Reclaiming Transcends Material Realm

Actualizing the dreams of our gnostic ancestors, Reclaiming has transcended the material sphere and moved its magic into the ethereal realms.

No longer will priestesses be taxed with mundane initiatory challenges such as renting halls or parks, schlepping gear, wiring sound systems, or building and disassembling elemental altars on the same day.

Never again will organizers face nagging existential questions like: "Who's going to buy, measure, cut, and tie 100 ribbons on the maypole and get it to the park by noon on Saturday?"

### Wheel of the Year Testing

For the past six months, Reclaiming priestesses have experimented with the latest developments in magical communications technology.

Early attempts to establish contact

with ancestors failed until priestesses realized that you need a Pro® account to reach the Isle of Apples.

And it took a while before folks learned that invoking Milli Vanilli and lip-synching to recorded chants works better than singing with the zoom-delay.

### Spiral Dance Moves to the Ethereal

Satisfied with test results, organizers for the 41st annual Spiral Dance have taken the leap into the virtual. On Sat-

*continued on page D-227*

### Witchcamp Rugby Finals Delayed

Reclaiming's BIRCH council has announced that due to health concerns the Witchcamp Rugby League will postpone its championship match. Witchlets' Fighting Faeries were favored to take the Crystal Cup over Spanish Winter Camp's Brujas Grandes.



*In a striking display of the magical power of the annual Spiral Dance ritual, hundreds of participants simultaneously volunteer for the clean-up crew. Photo by RPWV staffer Michael Rauner.*

# Anthropologists Unearth Late Twentieth Century Mysteries

by Link

*In recent issues, "Reclaiming Our History" has featured original research into the spirituality and politics of medieval and early-modern Europe. In this issue, we turn to the little-explored field of contemporary anthropology, as RQ's ace futurologist channels clues to late 20th century customs and beliefs.*

FLEMINGTON, NJ/OCTOBER 31, 1999 —

Reclaiming Quarterly is excited to announce that archaeologists have made a major discovery explaining religious practice in the 1990s, over 3000 years ago! These discoveries help us better understand the myths and traditions which have been handed down over the years, and still survive today within the popular cult of the Goddess Barbie. This tradition is one of the fastest growing groups of modern-day Goddess worship.

Archaeologists have discovered that Barbie worship dates back to ancient times. Figures of the Goddess Barbie have been unearthed, preserved in nearly pristine state. It seems that ancient worshippers made their images of Barbie in a material known as plastic. It was known at the time that plastic did not succumb to the elements over time and was nearly everlasting. Because of this, it is obvious to our research team that those items made of plastic were held in the highest regard by the ancient culture of the 1990s. They surely wanted to preserve these items for eternity.

Research shows that ancient priestesses of Barbie were initiated at a very young age. The initiation ceremony involved a complex litany which lasted several weeks, usually prior to the Winter Solstice. Young daughters would chant at length to their parents, repeating over and over the praises of Barbie, stating their desires for the Goddess to enter their lives. While these chants varied from priestess to priestess, the words "I Want" are common to many of the

---

*This plastic sculpture of "Grecian Goddess Barbie™" was unearthed by a research team headed by Charles Zanco during recent excavations near Petaluma, California.*

invocations. Later, after initiation, additional chants focused on a wide variety of magical tools and altar accessories used by the Goddess Barbie in Her temple.

IMAGES OF the Goddess Barbie show Her in many aspects. For example, She was portrayed as a Solar Deity in Her Malibu Barbie aspect. This explains the modern-day custom of Barbie worshippers donning colored glasses and anointing themselves with special protective lotions to celebrate the Summer Solstice. It is known that ancient religions sometimes masked their Deities within the Saints of ancient Catholicism. Researchers are certain this explains the name used for an ancient west coast village known as Santa Barbara, perhaps a Mecca for Barbie worshippers.

Each Barbie figurine also held strange numerical markings, \$24.99. This explains the current custom where Barbie worshippers tattoo themselves with this number. It was obviously the number most sacred to the Goddess.

The \$ symbol was used in many ways by the ancient culture, and was considered both a scourge and salute to religious society.

It was also discovered that ancient Barbie had a consort known as Ken. Close examination of plastic Ken figures explain why today's modern Barbie worshippers allow only eunuchs to participate in religious rites, with no other males allowed.

Since many fewer Ken figures were found, we can assume that the ancient Barbie worshippers were a matriarchal tradition.

Our team of linguistic researchers have determined through study of the ancient language that Ken was renowned in many parts of the world.

This explains the origins of ancient places like

Kenya,  
Kentucky and

even the

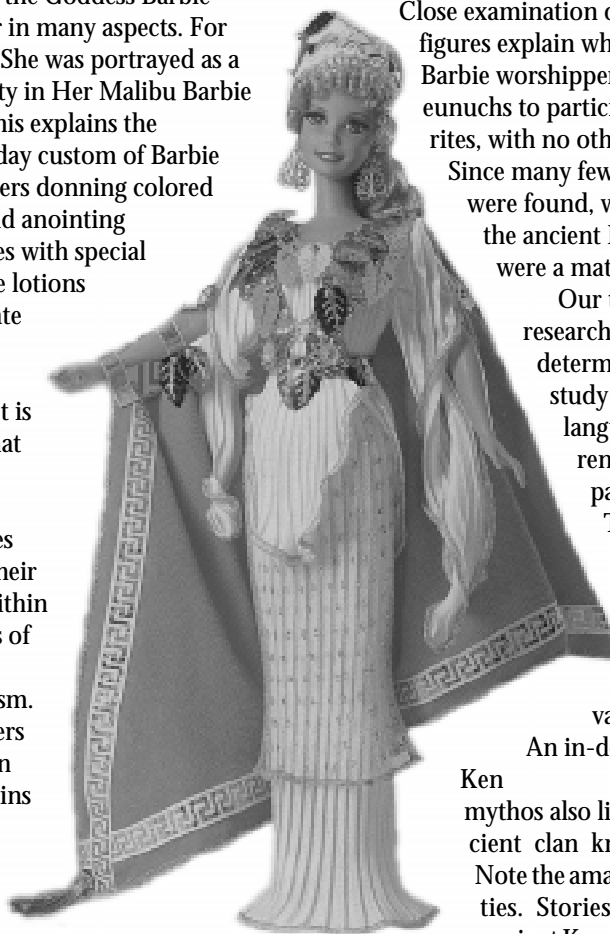
variation of Canada.

An in-depth study of the

Ken mythos also links Him to the ancient clan known as Kennedy. Note the amazing facial similarities. Stories surrounding this ancient Kennedy cult seem to be

a unique mixture of the "slain God" stories (similar to the Egyptian Osiris) and the revelry of the Roman Bacchus. This seems to fit all three aspects of the Triple Kennedy myth.

Other research shows a related figure, an ancient warrior God known as GI Joe.



*continued on page 22*

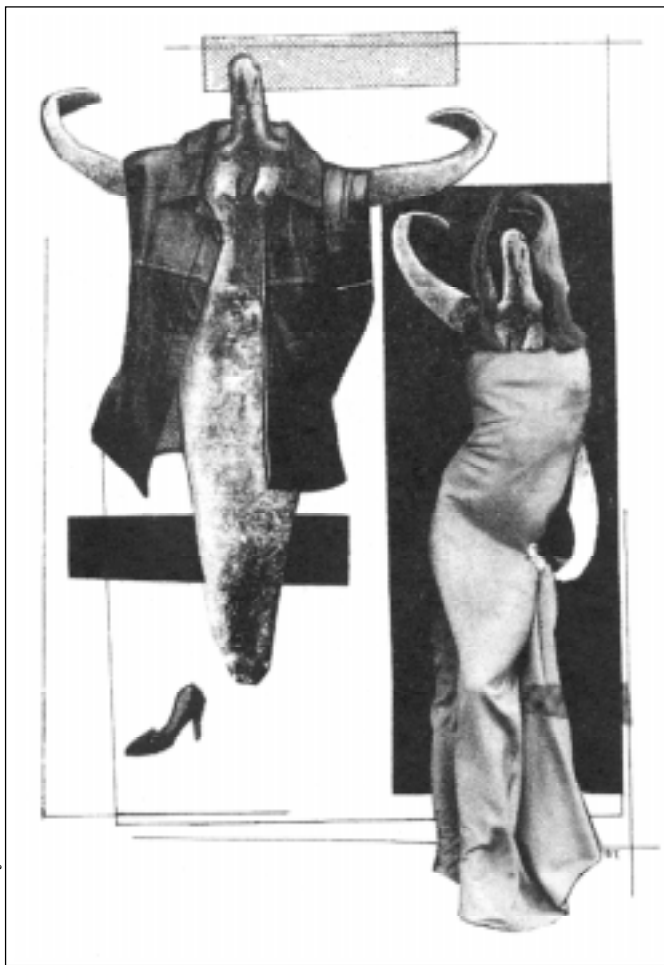
# Fashion Musts and Misses on Samhain

by July Lewis & Georgie Dennison

**H**ELLO THERE, my community. This is Georgette, Reclaiming Quarterly's fashion editor. I know you would agree that the Reclaiming Community sorely needs some fashion sense and guidance. So, I have decided to invoke the Guardians of the Watchtowers of Style: Chanel; Versace; and the Goddess Herself, Princess Diana; to aid us in this process. In the spirit of those icons, I have asked June, personal assistant to Starhawk... a known fashion priestess... to advise the community on proper attire for the Spiral Dance.

**G:** What will the new look be for this year's Spiral Dance?

**June:** This year we'll be seeing simple gowns in pastels and whites. A refreshing change from the the dour gowns of previous years. **BLACK IS OUT.** We will have Fashion Dragons at the dance to carry off those who dress in anything darker than jewel tones. It's a celebration of life, it's the New Year. And this will be expressed by the new, lighter colors we'll be seeing this season.



**G:** How can one fully embody, or one could say, aspect, that look? What type of fabrics? How about hemlines? And of course, footwear and headdresses can't be overlooked.

**J:** Well, silks are always in good taste. A nice cashmere drape works well in the San Francisco climate and falls so elegantly in the softer-cut styles that designers will be offering this year. Hemlines will be raised to the limit for both men and women. That being so, hosiery will certainly be important. Regarding footwear, the whimsical chunky shoes will give a retro seventies feel to the proceeding. But headdresses are out. *Très passé.*

**G:** We haven't discussed cosmetics. Is there any way of discouraging people from using that silly glitter gel?

**J:** Hope springs eternal, Georgette, but I doubt it. For the more tastefully inclined readers I suggest natural shades, so as not to scare your dead relatives. And for the sake of the Goddess, remember to wear waterproof eyeliner and mascara.

**G:** It's bad enough to be swollen-eyed and puffy in public without looking like a raccoon. I so agree. But, these styles you are suggesting, they seem a bit understated for this community.

**J:** Oh, we can fix that.

**G:** How?

**J:** Accessorize, accessorize, accessorize!

**G:** What type of accessories? What does your spirit fashion guide say?

**J:** I'm glad you asked that, Georgette. This year Starhawk is coming out with a new line of matching magical tools and jewelry to go with her already hugely successful line of ritual clothing.

**G:** I'm so happy. This will truly make Samhain a celebration.

**J:** It's about time, isn't it? For example, there'll be rhinestone encrusted Italian pottery pentacle necklaces, and handcrafted Gucci marble athames with fine Corinthian leather sheathes and belts. Mink scarves embroidered with runes of prosperity in gold and platinum thread are *de rigueur*. And the wands are my special favorites.

**G:** Do tell. Don't stop.

**J:** You can get the wands in varying lengths, from handy purse size to a full six feet. They're hand carved by young artisans in Guatemala to your specifications. And made from the finest quality old-growth redwood.

**G:** Old-growth redwood?

**J:** Sustainably harvested, of course.

**G:** Oh, but of course. So, what other items will Starhawk be revealing? But maybe you've already said too much?

**J:** Yes. We want to keep some of it a surprise. This is a mystical tradition.

**G:** How true. So, there is a certain lack of panache and color coordination...

**J:** I wasn't going to say it but...

**G:** Somebody has to. As I was saying, a lack of style in our tradition. Do you have any advice for the fashion-challenged among our readers?

**J:** Well, yes. To be truly at one with your inner fashion spirit guide, I recommend sacrificing copies of Vogue to Aphrodite while burning rose incense and wearing something as tasteful as your limited imagination will al-

*continued on page 22*

# The Charge Card of the Goddess

with apologies to Doreen Valiente

Listen to the words of the Great Shop Keeper,  
Who of Old was called MistressCard, Vasa-VISA, Dine-a-Club-A,  
and by many other names:

Whenever you have need of anything,  
more often than once a month, and don't wait for a full moon,  
you shall succumb to the Spirit of Shopping.  
You shall be free from slavery, and as a sign that you be free,  
you shall get into debt shamelessly.

Sing, shop, feast, shop, make music, shop, have sex, and shop!

For my Law is to shop with all beings.  
Buy cosmetics that open the door of youth,  
which at least give the appearance of immortality.

I give the knowledge of a monthly bill eternal,  
and beyond death,  
all debt will be erased from your credit history.

Nor do I demand sacrifice, for behold,  
I am the Mother of Charging Things,  
and my shopping is poured out upon the Earth.

Hear the words of the Platinum Card Goddess,  
whose feet are all the coins of Heaven,  
whose body is a huge wad of bills that encircles the Universe:

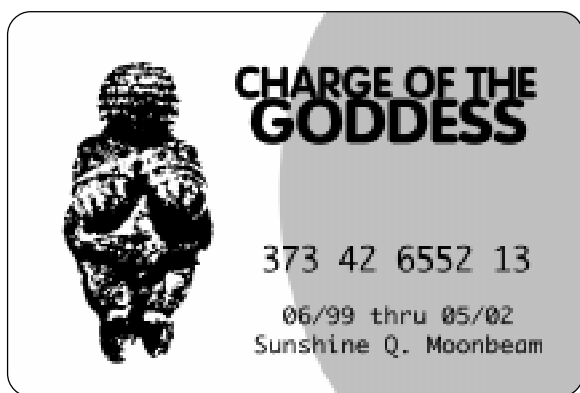
I who buy all the earth and the moon, and the stars,  
and I'll take two of those mysteries of the waters, please,  
I call upon your money to arise and come unto me  
for I am the soul of Shopping that gives life to the  
Universe, the IMF, and the World Bank!

From me all purchases are transacted  
and unto me they must be returned  
according to the return policy.

And you who seek to know me,  
know that all that buying and  
shopping will avail you not,  
unless you know the Mystery:

You have to use the  
Charge Card of the  
Goddess!!!

*Written by Flame  
RosaNegra for a  
mummer's play  
at California  
Witchcamp.*



#### **Special introductory offer.**

For a limited time, the Charge of the Goddess card is available through Reclaiming at an APR of just 13.13%! Accepted at all finer rituals, boutiques and amusement parks, including Reclaiming's own RitualLand.

#### **Grace period.**

Holders of the Charge of the Goddess card are eligible for a grace period of up to 30 days, during which time they will know themselves to be completely loved and held by the Goddess.

Those desiring to get into heaven should apply instead for the Charge of the Apostles card, which entitles the bearer to free admission to the celestial realm if they die within 30 days of receiving the card. Some restrictions may apply.

#### **Trance-fer fees.**

Expenses incurred while trancing with the ancestors on the Isle of Apples are subject to a special "between the worlds" processing fee.

#### **Late fees.**

Cardholders who are late to two consecutive rituals will be charged a penalty fee.

# The Worst Book Ever

*As part of our Magical Writing class, we got in the creative spirit by coming up with candidates for the worst book of all time – preferably one that we could personally write! Here are a few favorites.*

## A Comprehensive Guide to Do-It-Yourself At-Home Circumcision

This full color, lushly illustrated coffee table edition shows handy men how to use readily available power tools and kitchen cutlery to “forgo the foreskin.” Heartily endorsed by Hedwig Schmidt who says: “it’s worth every inch!”

– by Feather

## Victoria’s Tome

A dry account of all topics the author has studied, passionately, for the last 20 years, Victoria’s Tome is the one you’ve been waiting your whole life for.

Witness the extensive footnotes on each and every page! Revel in the detailed punctuation!

Envy her meticulous adherence to the Chicago Manual of Style as she perseverates over all-things-learned during the span of her life, now well-composed, fecund with interpretation and richly layered with *meaning*.

**Bonus!** The recently-released Deluxe Edition features graphs and charts in teensy tiny font. Accompanied by obtuse b/w drawings that explicate the author’s very interesting findings!

– by Victoria Alegre

## I Am Grout: My Side of the Story

Have you ever wanted to know the mysteries of re-finish-ing a bathtub? Have you ever wondered how you could quickly make your bathtub a place of repose and rest?

In this 1000-page book, we’ll dive deep into how you can prepare for a week-long odyssey into making plastic shine. Prepare for a process that quickly outlines the 500 steps to take your tub from terrible to terrific.

Written from the perspective of grout, you will learn how to work from the inside out and finally finish a project you’ve been nervous to start.

– by Irisanya Moon

## Witches Grill Top Recipes from the Burning Times

In a world where Witches have overturned the patriarchy and reclaimed the grill comes a blockbuster spell/cook book necessary for the truly magical practitioner: Witches Grill.

Hereditary Salem witch Charlene Coal discovered the tome in an ancient attic trunk covered with the mystical tongs and marinated meat sigils crucial for a good sear. Written by her ancestor Garlica Thyme, who evaded the fate of her unfortunate sisters, this Book of Shadowy Recipes is a must-read for the Kitchen Witch.

Learn the moon phases for harvesting the healing herbs to create the magical marinades and runic rubs. Transform your meals into mouthwatering rituals that will entrance your coven and community.

Char Coal’s recipes will transport you to the astral with every bite. Witches Grill includes pairings with vintages shared with her in trances to the DiVine Dionysus.

Fulfill your destiny, embrace the sacred fire, let Char Coal be your muse on this savory adventure.

– by Georgie Craig



## The Complete & Unexpurgated History of Cottage Cheese (Illustrated)

Deluxe Scratch-n-Sniff Edition

We are delighted to announce the completely revised and updated 2020 edition of this classic text, which restores the many passages deleted by puritanical editors in the 1980s.

Pop-up 3D color illustrations make this a must for connoisseurs of le fromage de chalet.

The deluxe edition features scratch-n-sniff panels. This reviewer found them somewhat disappointing, but they apparently have become de rigueur for the genre.

– by George Franklin

## Fashion

continued from page 20

low. And then you chant:

*She changes every time she dresses  
and every time she dresses, changes.  
Changes, dresses, dresses, changes.*

G: Will this ritual open the necessary channels?

J: If anything can this will. It also helps to use a Barbie doll as your Goddess figure.

G: Well, I'm so pleased. I feel ready to take the ferry to Avalon. I know, with your guidance, I'll be properly attired.

J: You always are, darling.

G: I wish to thank you and your inner fashion guide for these inspiring words of wisdom. I now feel that the community's needs in this arena have been met. At least, until Yule comes with its own unique challenges.

## Barbie

continued from page 19

Since GI Joe had no known female consort, and was also a eunuch, it is obvious that both Joe and Ken competed for the Goddess Barbie. One theory links this to the surviving Oak King/Holly King myths of earlier times.

Researchers also uncovered other mythical characters, known as Shakespeare, Einstein, Gandhi, and Ralph Nader. But since the ancient culture held these in much lower relative importance than Barbie, they obviously were mere minor demigods of the era.

We are thrilled to have discovered these Old ways, since they shed light upon many unexplained traditions of today. We can use this clear view of history to put our present-day customs in perspective.

After this significant success in

discovering the ancient Barbie myths, additional funding has been approved for research into the ancient Ninja Turtle myths as well. Since many plastic artifacts of the Ninja Turtles have been found in North America, perhaps they are linked to the ancient Native American cultures of Turtle Island? Only time will tell.



*Link is a solitary from Flemington, NJ whose writings focus on seeing the magical & sacred side to everyday life.*

## Gusty Hail's Travel Schedule

continued from page 10

Michigan Socialist Revolutionary Pagan Workers International Youth Brigade Party of the World (MSRPWIYBPotW). Temple of Discordian Principles, Noon-6 p.m.

**October 8**, Cheyenne, WY

"Intercept the Witchcamp String" demonstration and ritual. The

Witchcamp String was passed from Vermont Camp to the Witchcamp SpokesCouncil in British Columbia, and should be passing over Cheyenne at 3:17 a.m. Chairman Hail will lead the interception ritual in the RPWP's continuing resistance against Witchcamp.

**October 20**, St. Louis, MO

Organizational Meeting: "Resisting the Tyranny of Witchcamp Cooks." Topics include "The Undercover Cheeseburger," "Clean-up Slow-downs as a Resistance Strategy Against Forced Volunteer Labor," and "Who's the Boss? You Are!" Revolutionary Pagan Whole Foods Restaurant, West St, Dinner time.

**October 31**, San Francisco, CA

"Twenty Years of Resisting The Spiral Dance." Commemorative march and trick-or-treating through the Sunset neighborhood, awakening San Franciscans to the threat of Starhawk's book and ritual. Gather at Beltane Grove, Noon.

**November 15**, Raleigh, NC

Speech to Philip Morris. "Fighting Witchcamp through Addiction: Tobacco as a Sacrament." If twenty percent of Witchcampers were addicted to nicotine, rituals would be shorter, and perhaps smoking would be permitted in circle — join us in this struggle! The Tobacconist Club, Noon.

**December 20**, San Francisco, CA

"The Great Clothing Swipe!" Chairman Hail will lead comrades in stealing Yule celebrants' clothing while they jump in the Pacific Ocean. Gather at Ocean Beach, North of Taraval, 4 p.m.

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— and giant puppets!

K. Ruby/Wise Fool

# ReclaimingQuarterly.org

Current RQ website features include:

Sound-samples from Reclaiming Music and Chant CDs

Five-Minute Labyrinth\*

Witchcamp Chants Book

Pagan Cluster at the School of the Americas\*

Clown Anarchy\*

Pagan Pride Parade\*

Witches Opposing War\*

Garden Lockdown at Reclaim the Commons\*

Revolutionary Pagan Workers Vanguard and other humor

Back-issue archives

Links to Reclaiming rituals, classes, and Witchcamps

(\* - RQ online photo-features)

## Subscribe & Renew Online

You can subscribe or renew to RQ using PayPal, or print a form and mail us a check. Or both!

## Help Shape the Site

Help us create a site that you want to visit regularly. Send us your feedback and suggestions ~ [quarterly@reclaiming.org](mailto:quarterly@reclaiming.org)

A website for all of Reclaiming!

Whether you're a Pagan Cluster activist, a solitary, a Witchcamper, part of a circle or coven in the far-flung Reclaiming network ~ whatever brings you to RQ ~ this is *your* website!

Stay connected to Reclaiming ~ bookmark this site and visit it often.



The screenshot shows the homepage of Reclaiming Quarterly. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Reclaiming Home | RQ Home | Back Issues | Subscribe | Advertising | Submissions. The main content is divided into two columns. The left column features a 'BREAKING NEWS ...' section with the sub-heading 'LATEST ADDITIONS TO OUR SITE' and a link to 'Aspecting and Anchoring - reflections and stories on two advanced magical practices'. Below this is an 'RQ ONLINE FEATURES' section with links to 'Grassroots and Alternative News', 'Photo features of the Witches Opposing War, Clown Anarchy, Art and Revolution, and other activist highlights of recent months', 'Witchcamp Chantbook', 'Pagan Cluster Actions - click here for the latest', and 'Revolutionary Pagan Workers Vanguard'. A small photo of a person in a costume is visible next to the 'Pagan Cluster Actions' link. The right column has a 'Welcome to ReclaimingQuarterly.org' section with a link to 'Check out recent issues of RQ!' and a small image of the magazine cover. Below this is a paragraph about the magazine's mission and a 'Subscribe or donate now!' section with text about supporting the site through subscriptions and advertising.

## OTHER RECLAIMING WEBSITES

### Reclaiming.org

One-stop web resource for all of Reclaiming — links to groups across North America and Europe, classes, rituals, Witchcamps, elists, plus articles and information about Reclaiming.

### Witchcamp.org

Get information on each of Reclaiming's Witchcamps and family camps. Reclaiming camps are held in over a dozen locations across North America and in Western Europe.

### PaganCluster.org

Link up with the ever-evolving group of Reclaiming folks and other Pagans who join together to do magic, direct action, permaculture, protest, and other grassroots activism.



# Why are you staring at your computer?

When you could be reading a print copy!?!



## Reclaiming Cauldron – Have It Your Way!

**PDF** – free download – link below

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Net proceeds benefit Reclaiming Quarterly’s archives project as well as future publications and recordings.

**Links, downloads, & more info – visit [WeaveAndSpin.org/cauldron](http://WeaveAndSpin.org/cauldron)**

### Shatter the shackles of digital oppression!

Join the throngs of liberated pagans who have escaped from servitude to the screen and sprung for a print copy of the Cauldron!!

Now you’re probably thinking – how could I possibly afford a print version of this extraordinary 150-page journal of magic, creativity, and action?

### Monkish Copyists No More

If this were the Middle Ages, you’d have to hire a team of monkish copyists to do the work for you. And they’d keep making little doodles in the margins, so it would hardly be authentic!

If it were Early Modern times, old man Gutenberg would have to set the whole thing up in moveable type. That’d cost a pretty ha’penny. And there would be no pictures.

But it’s the 21st century – the epoch of print on demand!

### Seize Control of the Means of Production!

Yes – you can seize control of the means of production long enough to demand that somebody somewhere print an exact copy of the Cauldron without a single marginal doodle, wrap it up in a biodegradable mailer, and ship it to you in about a week.

Now *that* is a cultural revolution!

### PDF – always free, all the time

We’re glad to have folks looking through the free PDF, identical to the print edition except for the first few pages.

At the same time, we are seriously concerned for your well-being. We urge you to take a step away from your computer, take a deep breath, and then come back and log on just long enough to order a copy!

Join the print revolution now!