

# Daughters of the Goddess Newsletter



Fall 2003 to Spring 2004  
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*A Dianic, Womyn-only Goddess Temple dedicated in the Spirit of Aloha to the preservation and perpetuation of Goddess culture, public ceremony/ritual and Womyn's Mysteries.*

## ***Ha'ina 'ia mai ana ka pūana***

### **Let the story be told.**

Night falls and the moon rises. A low hum fills the air while elements are invoked and charged to free all womyn from oppression of the mind (air), the spirit (fire), the heart (water), and the body (earth). Stregas, ancestors, herbalists, medicine-womyn, healers, and witches are welcomed; Aradia and Diana are invited into the circle, and the ancient dance begins. Energetic music plays with drums and rattles, red ribbons waved and twirled towards the center, all tools for healing. Anticipation rising, each womyn—dressed in red, green and white—awaits her turn to move into the circle of her sisters, into the center, three by three, to do the Tarantulla, to dance in the footprints made by Strega, witches and womyn of old.

*) Stasi & Jesamyn (*



Aloha Daughters of the Goddess,

I hope summer has been good to you. I can't believe it is over. I had a wonderful season spending extra time with my two daughters Jade, 13 and Eden, 10. I was also proud of myself when my younger brother Philip graduated from high school in June. My sister Tanya and I have been co-parenting him since our mom passed away from cancer nine years ago. It has been an incredible journey and although we are not finished, I feel a huge sense of accomplishment and pride. I can feel my mom's mahalo/thanks all around me.

The Temple and my work are flourishing, with womyn continuing to hear Her call, even in the flurry of difficult world times. I feel Goddess calling louder than ever, calling forth womyn who are looking to create and facilitate deep transformation within themselves and in the external world.

I am happy to announce some new developments at the Temple; the first of which is our wonderful new website, where the other sections of our newsletter are now located. Please go to [www.daughtersofthegoddess.com](http://www.daughtersofthegoddess.com) to check it out. Thanks to the brilliant and magnificent Lisa Parker for sharing her gift of web creation. We now have our logo and are selling t-shirts and other items to continue to help fund our Goddess work. Please check it out!

We are planning a camping retreat here in the San Francisco Bay Area over Summer Solstice weekend, June 17-June 20, 2004. It is my intention to reserve space for those of you who live farther away making attendance at one-night rituals unfeasible. I have met many of you in my travels outside of the Bay Area and I hope you will be able to join in and share some of the Aloha of this community.

I hope to create a Goddess Tour, bringing Goddess ritual and celebration to your hometowns. If you are interested in supporting this project, please, please, please contact me! Also, the long awaited Hawai'i journey is planned for January or February of 2005, so let me know if you are interested. I will take up to 15 womyn on this first trip and we will most likely begin with the Big Island, planning to visit a different island each year.

As you can see, I'm being called in deeper ways to serve and teach. I look forward to deepening the community of sisterhood, witchcraft and womyn's empowerment. The change and transformation our magick has created is here and the old guard has fallen. We are not finished however—our work is here to stay and there is no going back to the oppression that has hurt Her children for so long. I look forward to continued work and magick with all of you. Mahalo nui loa/thanks a ton for all of your continued support. Feel Her, She is everywhere!!!

*Merry meet and merry part and merry meet again; and the Goddess Blesses Her Womyn!!*

Blessed be,  
Leilani



# Daughters of the Goddess Ritual Schedule

Leilani Birely, Hawaiian Dianic Priestess and ceremonialist brings ancient Hawaiian healing and Goddess wisdom to the community. She is a graduate of the Women's Spirituality Masters Program at New College, San Francisco and ordained High Priestess of Northern California by ZSuzanna Budapest. Leilani gives thanks and honor to her teachers: Luisah Teish, Yoruban Chieftess and author of *Jambalaya*; ZSuzanna Budapest, author of *Grandmother of Time*; Vicki Noble author and co-creator of Motherpeace tarot; Starhawk, author and founder of the Reclaiming Collective, and Kumu Hula Mahea Uchiyama, director of the Mahea Uchiyama Center for International Dance in Berkeley.

**OPEN TO ALL SERIES:** These 16 circles are open to all womyn desiring knowledge and experiential work with the multi-faceted aspects of Goddess in ritual. While these are NOT drop-in circles, you can confirm with Daughters of the Goddess on the day of ritual if you want to attend. **Gathering time is 7:30 p.m for all rituals unless otherwise noted.** See below for cost and contact information.

**Friday, November 7, Laksmi.** Full Moon in Taurus. Celebrate the Hindu Goddess of prosperity and abundance.

**Thursday, November 20, Celebrate Goddess Bast** Egyptian feline Goddess of play. Waning Moon in Libra.

**Friday, December 5, Our Lady of Guadalupe-Tonantzin.**

**Tuesday, December 16, The Morrigan,** Celtic Warrior Goddess, honoring our menstrual blood & strength as womyn. Moon in Virgo.

**Sunday, December 21, Winter Solstice,** Moon in Sagittarius.

**Thursday, January 8, Celebrate Midwives Day and Goddess Sekhmet.** Moon in Leo.

**Thursday, January 22, Dedication.** New Moon in Aquarius.

**Thursday, January 29, Celebrate Hindu Goddess Saraswati,** Vasant Panchami. Moon in Taurus. Witches' tea, 11 am-2 pm.

**Friday, February 6, Celebrate Chinese New Year , Goddess Quan Yin** and the Year of the Monkey. Full Moon in Leo

**Saturday, February 21, Mardi Gras,** Moon in Pisces.

**Sunday, February 29, Celebrate Leap Year.** Max Dashu Presentation. Moon in Gemini.

**Monday, March 8th, Celebrate International Women's Day and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.** 11:30 am-2 pm. Labyrinth walk at Sibley Park. **Free public ritual!**

**Friday, March 19, Spring Equinox, Celebrate Mata Syra Zemlja,** Slavic Goddess. Dark Moon in Pisces.

**Friday, April 9, Shabbat Ceremony.** Moon in Sagittarius.

**Monday, April 19, Celebrate Tsan Nu,** Chinese Goddess of silk, prosperity magick and Feng Shui. New Moon in Taurus.

**Friday, April 30, May Eve, Celebrate Goddess Walpurga**

**DEEPENING SERIES:** for womyn who would like to be a part of creating a more in-depth experience with the technique and magick of ritual in conjunction with the open series; **attendance at a minimum of 7 rituals in the open series is required.** You must sign up for the all of the Deepening rituals to participate; attendance at all rituals in the series is strongly recommended. Limited to 11 womyn. This is not a drop-in circle and you must sign up prior to the first ritual. See below for cost and contact information.

**Sunday, November 30, Multicultural Herbalism & Nutrition**

**Thursday, December 11, Coventina Goddess of Deep Well Waters,** Moon in Cancer, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Friday, January 23-25, Imbolc Retreat** with Mysteries Group

**Friday, February 20 Celebrate Eingana, Australian Aboriginal Goddess.** Moon in Aquarius.

**Thursday, March 18 Kali puja** with Mysteries Group

**Thursday, April 15, Moon in Pisces,** collectively planned

**MYSTERIES CIRCLE:** for womyn who have a deep commitment to the creation of Daughters of the Goddess ritual and community in the spirit of Aloha. Attendance at a minimum of seven open series rituals is required. We will meet for the traditional Daughters of the Goddess Imbolc/Brigid retreat. This circle is closed until further notice.

**ART BUD:** Join with other Goddess womyn and create art in an encouraging, explorative atmosphere just for the fun of it! Our Art Bud is facilitated by Crone Art Priestess Victoria in Oakland, CA. For the full schedule, please see our website or email Victoria at [vikinges@ix.netcom.com](mailto:vikinges@ix.netcom.com). Please put "Art Bud" in the subject line. No experience is necessary and beginners are always especially welcome!

Packages	Exchange
Newcomer Discount 1st Ritual	\$30/due day of ritual
1 Open Ritual	\$40/due day of ritual
7 Open Rituals	\$225/due at first ritual attended
All 16 Open Rituals	\$345/due at first ritual attended
Deepening Series	\$325/due at first Deepening ritual
Mysteries Circle	\$325/due at first Mysteries ritual
Deepening + 16 Open circles	\$600/due at first Deepening ritual
Mysteries + 16 Open circles	\$600/due at first Mysteries ritual

**Please note...** We offer significant **package discounts** to encourage regular circling with DG. We offer a **Newcomer Discount** to any womyn who has never attended a DG ritual. Partial work exchange, payment plans, student and crone discounts available. **No one turned away due to lack of funds.** Sorry—no refunds. Call or email Leilani at the contacts listed on the front page. Individual consultations, healings, rites of passage and Temple Priestess training available upon request.

**Please bring a candle for the altar, rattles, drums, something to sit on & a snack to share to each circle**