

# Daughters of the Goddess



Fall 2010 to Spring 2011  
925.787.9247

[www.DaughtersoftheGoddess.com](http://www.DaughtersoftheGoddess.com)  
[Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com](mailto:Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com)

3527 Mt. Diablo Blvd. #353  
Lafayette, CA 94549

A Dianic, Womyn-only Goddess Temple dedicated in the Spirit of Aloha to the preservation, perpetuation and promotion of Goddess culture, public ceremony, ritual and Womyn's Mysteries.

**"I wai no 'u."**  
*Give me water!*

The gentle breezes blow off the ocean, the scenery is breathtaking. We are on retreat to the aina, the sacred lands of Hawai'i. We load into the cars and head out on the expedition for the day. The drive takes about an hour and as we progress there are obvious changes in the land, the lush vegetation grows brown. As we drive up the entrance road we pass Auntie Pahia, who came out specifically to wave her Aloha as we passed by; holding our sacred journey, opening our hearts. We come to our destination – The Cultural Center at Ka'ala. As we walk up to the A-frame meeting center we are greeted by the smiling face of Uncle Butch, the caretaker of that piece of land. The day is spent walking amongst, and learning about, the ancient taro terraces. We learn of the importance of taro to the native people, the respect and knowledge of the land and the water cycle, and how to manage both with love and respect. We put our feet into the warm muddy water of a taro patch, and help to remove the unwanted weeds, putting our mana into the sacred work. We learn why this side of the island is so dry, when it once was the wettest and greenest. The conglomerate American corporations have drilled into the mountain, stolen the water, and rerouted it from the natural flow to provide water to the resorts, golf courses, and vacation areas of the rich who have taken over the land. Leaving the native Hawaiian's fighting for their very survival, and the survival of their sacred aina/land. We are forever changed. Our hearts have been left broken, and saddened at the lack of care or concern. Heartbroken to see the land dry, the people discarded and forced into living in tent cities on the beaches. It is time to change, and the people need the support. It is time to give back the water to the land, and the land to the people who know how to love and care for it before it is too late. It is time!



Aloha Blessed Daughters of the Goddess,

I'm writing to you as the final winds of Summer sunshine touch my skin and the cool evening air of Fall beckons forth. The shortening of the days are ever so slight on this late August day. It has been a blessed Spring-Summer of sacred pilgrimage to the Yucatan/Riviera Maya, O'ahu, Canada, the Mighty California Redwoods and the Eel River, the Desert of Las Vegas, Na Pali Coast in Kauai, and Southern California. All filled with fun, laughter and deep lessons.

The lesson I feel called to share with you was bestowed to a circle of women who traveled to O'ahu, Hawai'i with me for Lei/May Day. O'ahu is the island where I spent my summers at Grandma Chong's house with my sisters, hearing stories of ancient ali'i/royalty, long passed family members and the spirits of the land. Grandma Chong's house in Kuliouou has been replaced by a much larger home than the modest bungalow she lived in. She passed over in 2004 but, the lessons I learned about Aloha, Ohana/Family and Community will stay in my heart forever.

The lessons continue on, as I was adopted by my elder Kahuna Auntie Pahia who Initiated me as a Kahuna on Big Island March of 2008. For the May pilgrimage to O'ahu, I was hoping that she would bestow us with her wisdom and presence on the journey back to the aina/land. As is the Hawaiian custom, you really don't get to ask for what you want from the elders. It's all about showing up, being patient, and you will be gifted with what the elders feel you have earned and are ready for. We were lucky to have her with us on our first evening there and received the gift of her presence throughout the week, with her storytelling, visiting sacred heiau/temples and sea blessings. We had been gifted more than I could have hoped for.

I recall standing on the beach on North Shore, O'ahu as she asked me to share a prayer in circle with two of her other Kahuna Sisters present. I asked the group to chant the E Ho Mai which we have worked on learning for years. I recall vividly years ago having a Dianic Elder here in the San Francisco Bay Area discourage this part of my teaching, saying, "white girls will never learn to chant in Hawaiian, don't bother with that". Well luckily my ancestors did not agree so I have kept teaching this chant over and over. The women did stupendously in Auntie's opinion and we all found out later that the other two Kahuna were impressed as well. Towards the end of the trip Auntie Pahia shared that the women I brought with me to the Islands are here on this Earth to be 'reverse missionaries'. Essentially righting the wrongs of the missionary ancestors-making pono-restoring balance to cultural appropriation and the stealing of native lands and rights. She also said in all her years of teaching and leading groups and retreats this was one of the best trained and disciplined groups that she has worked with, complimenting the leadership and the work done here on the Continental US. Needless to say, I am proud, continue to live out loud and share the love and Aloha from my heart to all I meet. I am blessed endlessly by the devotion and dedication that all of you have for Mother Goddess and our Sacred Earth. I look forward to sharing and teaching more with all of you and look forward to seeing you in ceremony.

Aloha,



# Daughters of the Goddess Ritual Schedule

Leilani Birely – Hawaiian Kahuna and Dianic High Priestess and Ceremonialist, brings ancient Hawaiian healing and Goddess wisdom to the community. Leilani gives thanks and honor to her teachers: Luisah Teish, Yoruban Chieftess and author of Jambalaya and Kahuna Auntie Pahia; Vicki Noble, author and co-creator of the Motherpeace Tarot; Starhawk, author and founder of the Reclaiming Collective; and Kumu Hula Patrick Makuakane and Mahea Uchiyama. She is a graduate and faculty of the Women's Spirituality Masters Program at ITP and Ordained Dianic High Priestess by Z Budapest.

**OPEN SERIES:** These 6 circles are open to all womyn desiring knowledge and experiential work with the multifaceted aspects of Goddess in ritual. These are NOT drop-in circles; please let us know in advance if you are planning to participate before the day of the ritual. **Gathering time is 7:30 p.m. for all rituals unless otherwise noted.** Please see below for exchange and contact information.

**Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate Pomona,** Goddess Of Fruit Trees, Orchards & Gardens. Moon in Sagittarius

**Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, Celebrate Winter Solstice & Mayan Moon Goddess Ixchel.** Full Moon in Gemini  
Total Lunar Eclipse

**Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate Themis.** Goddess Of Divine order, law, prophecy & oaths. New Moon in Capricorn

**Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Daughters of the Goddess Temple Dedication Ceremony. Celebrate Bridgette, Chinese New Year – Year of the Rabbit,** Moon in Aquarius

**Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate Spring Equinox & Butterfly Maiden.** Moon in Libra.

**Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate La'ieikawai, Hawaiian Goddess of Rainbows.** Moon in Libra

**THE TITA SERIES** is for womyn who have already experienced Daughters of the Goddess ritual. Womyn who are Kokua or Witch School Sisters, and/or Temple Dedicants are especially encouraged to attend. **Full sign-up in the Open Series is required; you must sign up for the entire Tita Series to participate.** Please see below for exchange information.

**Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate Laksmi,** Goddess of Prosperity & Abundance. Taurus Moon.

**Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> Celebrate Sheila-na-Gig, Irish Fertility Goddess.** Moon in Scorpio



**Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate Nemetona** Celtic Goddess of the Sacred Groves & Temples. Full Moon in Leo

**Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate Yhi,** Aboriginal Goddess of Light & Creation. Moon in Aquarius/Pisces

**THE SISTERHOOD OF THE DEEPENING** is for womyn who are core members of Daughters of the Goddess, who are dedicated to the work of promoting the Mission of the Temple, and who have the Temple as a primary focus in their lives. This series is for womyn who desire to be a part of sustaining the Temple, working magic for this purpose as well as to meet our own personal needs. We create an in-depth experience with the technique and magic of ritual in conjunction with the Open Series. **Attendance in the Open Series, participation in Kokua, and prior circling with Daughters of the Goddess for at least one year is required; you must sign up for the entire series to participate.** You must meet these requirements and sign-up prior to the first ritual. See below for exchange information.

**SEKHMET RETREAT 2011 Thursday March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011.** We are planning our 2<sup>nd</sup> retreat to the Sekhmet Temple in Las Vegas, NV. Imagine a 4 day retreat spent in sacred ritual space with spiritual sisters. A night time ritual, under the desert sky in an open roofed temple dedicated to Sekhmet; sacred fire holding the center with smoke wafting out on the gentle breeze. Limited to 13 womyn. If you are interested please, contact Leilani at [Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com](mailto:Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com). The cost includes a house with a pool & hot tub. All meals are included. **\$375 by October 1, 2010; \$450 by January 13, 2011.**

**Daughters of the Goddess Witch School 2011** Has the Goddess been visiting you in your dreams? Have you marveled at the wind, been called to stare into flames, put your feet into the ocean, bent down to touch the Earth with your hands? Do you long for a deeper understanding of Womyn's Mysteries? Be among the fifth class of hinu hinu/bright, shining, glittering womyn who delight in Daughters of the Goddess Witch School, a year of study in the Dianic Aloha Tradition, beginning in February 2011. The class will meet one Sunday each month culminating in the students' initiation as Dianic Witches during an evening ceremony in January 2012! If interested contact Leilani. And the Goddess blesses her womyn!

Packages:	Exchange:
*New comer Discount	1 <sup>st</sup> ritual \$30 or 3 for \$90
*1 Open Ritual	\$40/please mail check
*All 6 Open Rituals	\$192/due at first ritual
*Tita Series+6 Open Rituals	\$270/due at first ritual
*Deepening + All Rituals	\$450/at first Deepening ritual

**Please note...**We offer significant **package discounts** to encourage regular circling. We offer a **Newcomer Discount** to any womyn who has never attended a Daughters of the Goddess ritual. Partial work exchange, payment plans, student and crone discounts are available. **No one is turned away due to lack of funds.** Sorry no refunds.

Individual consultations, healings, Rites of Passage, and Temple Priestess training available upon request. Please call or email Leilani. Contact information is on the top of the newsletter.