

Daughters of the Goddess Newsletter



Spring 2009 to Fall 2009
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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.

“Wela ka hao!”

Strike while the iron is hot! Don't hesitate. Do it now.

The drums beat, and we can hear the voices of the Ancestors rising up, singing with them. The sacred fire is lit in homage. We each approach Sekhmet, giving Her our reverence and showing Her our devotion. Promises are made; oaths are spoken. Now we are moving toward the fire, ready to release those things we no longer need to Her, to use as Her food and fuel.

She takes all those things that have harmed us and held us back in the past, all those things that keep us from living in the present moment, all those things that need to be burned, composted, transformed. We are crying, we are laughing, we are dancing. We are as light as the Moon and the stars shining above us, through the open roof of the Temple. We are reborn, and filled with love. *Y Jesamyn Angelica*



Aloha Daughters of the Goddess,

As my heart soars to new depths with the changes in my mothering, the world and the Temple, I am here once again calling out to the community, seeing where you are and reconnecting. We are in the midst of exploring many deep and profound visions and manifestations as we celebrate our 13 year anniversary with a camping trip on Mt. Diablo--our sacred ancestor and elder. This is an open gathering, limited to 30 womyn and we are already half full. Please join in the celebration.

The space I was gifted by Jade's journey to college has been filled with deep contemplation, reflection and meditation. I move mindfully through the world as I prepare for the leaving of my youngest daughter Eden in two years. My heart aches just thinking about this but I am awed by the depth of learning in my 40's and can only imagine how this will continue to grow as I approach my 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's and more! Thank you for all the beautiful supportive messages I received from all of you in response to my last letter. My heart is soothed by women who are on this journey with me and those that we help. Thank you for hearing and answering my heart's message.

Honoring our elders, those who are responsible for forging the path that we now walk on, is a big topic of discussion in our community. Our elders--our sacred Kupunas. What do we do to let them know we malama/care for them and that we love them and give our Aloha? How do we demonstrate and show our loyalty? This comes through the way we greet them with an Aloha or a lei, the way we ask their blessing before we make decisions, the way we check in with them to see what they need. Those deserved ones who love us so and praise us and taught us so much, are those we sing back to and praise. Who are our elders and how do we honor them? I encourage you to explore this.

I give tribute in this newsletter to my elder Luisah Teish for her love, encouragement and support and to her for being the caretaker, Priestess and keeper of the living native traditions of Africa. Without her strong support I would not be the Priestess and teacher I am. Teish unfortunately is in the midst of being caught up in the real estate foreclosure fiasco and will be needing to leave her precious home. We as a community are fundraising to help, to give our malama/to give our support.

As elder of the Daughters of the Goddess, I am encouraging women here to learn how to greet me as well as our visiting elders, how to have respect, how to learn the etiquette and protocols of Hawai'i, for the land/the aina. I want women to be able to travel and move in cultures of color and native communities and to be recognized for their training and their precious holding of what is sacred, what is holy and what is beloved. To be pono/have right action, to act for the highest good of the whole and all involved. We are transforming the energies of entitlement and privilege and we are learning to be part of a whole, of cherished community. Through this respect and honoring of our elders we are able to help also be the caretakers and keepers of the sacred tradition of the Earth/Our Beloved Mother/Our Goddess/Our elder. I invite you to be part of our service to Her.

I look forward to being with you at Her altar this Spring and Summer.



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. She is graduate and faculty of the Women's Spirituality Masters Program and ordained High Priestess of Northern California by Zsuzsanna Budapest. Leilani gives thanks and honor to her teachers: Luisah Teish, Yoruban Chiefess and author of *Jambalaya*; Zsuzsanna Budapest, author of *The Holy Book of Women's Mysteries* and *Grandmother of Time*; 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.

OPEN TO ALL SERIES: These 7 circles are open to all womyn desiring knowledge and experiential work with the multi-faceted 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.

Saturday, May 9th, Goddess Beltane. Full Moon Celebration.
Please note : This ritual is from 5:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

Friday, June 19th, Celebrate Summer Solstice and Goddess Juno, Sacred Flame Goddess of our Temple. Moon in Taurus.

Tuesday, July 7th, Celebrate Goddess Columbia, the Goddess of America. Full Moon in Capricorn, Penumbral Lunar Eclipse.

Tuesday, August 4th, Celebrate Lunar Lammass and Irish Earth Goddess Tailtu. Full Moon in Aquarius Ceremony.

Sunday, September 6th, Celebrate Yemaya, Mother of the Sea, with an Ocean Pilgrimage. Please note: This ritual is from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Tuesday, September 22nd, Celebrate Fall Equinox and Hawaiian Goddess Hi'iaka, sacred sister of Pele. Sun in Libra; Moon in Scorpio.

Friday, October 30th, Join us at our 26th annual Spiral Dance celebrating Hallowmas and the Ancestors.



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.

Tuesday, May 26th, Celebrate Hinakulua, Hawaiian Rain Goddess. Waxing Moon in Cancer.

Thursday, October 1st, Celebrate Sulis, Provider of the Healing Waters. Waxing Moon in Pisces.

Friday, August 28th, Celebrate Ban Naomha, Irish Goddess of Water, Animals, Education and Knowledge. Moon in Sagittarius.



THE DEEPENING SERIES 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 magick for this purpose as well as to meet our own personal needs. We create an in-depth experience with the technique and magick 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; this group is limited to 13 womyn. This is not a drop-in circle and you must qualify and sign-up prior to the first ritual. See below for exchange information.

GODDESS BELTANE! Our annual Women's Goddess Beltane Ritual will be held on **Saturday, May 9th in Alameda from 5:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.** Please join in this celebration of sisterhood and community! We will be dancing and drumming in this luscious time of year. Several of our wonderful craftswomyn will also be there to display their beautiful wares. Space is limited, so please RSVP now!

DAUGHTERS OF THE GODDESS 13TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPING TRIP Celebrate 13 years of Daughters of the Goddess with our Anniversary Campout! We will be gathering for a two-night campout on Mt. Diablo. Mark your calendar and RSVP now for this very special occasion: **Friday, June 12-Sunday, June 14, 2009.** The cost for the camp-out is \$90 if paid by May 1st. This event will be limited to 30 womyn. Please email Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com.

Packages	Exchange
* Newcomer Discount	First ritual \$30 or 3 rituals for \$90
* 1 Open Ritual	\$40/please mail check to us
* All 7 Open Rituals	\$210/due at first ritual attended
* Tita Series + 7 Open Rituals + Anniversary Campout	\$370/due at first ritual attended
* Tita Series + 7 Open Rituals	\$300
* Deepening + All Series Rituals + Anniversary Campout	\$565/due 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 listed on the front page of this newsletter.

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