

Daughters of the Goddess



Spring 2011 to Fall 2011
925.787.9247

www.DaughtersoftheGoddess.com
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.

"Ahuwale ka nane hūnā."
*The hidden answer to the riddle is seen!
That which was a secret is no longer hidden!*

For too long womyn have been kept from our path together in spirit. Knowing this and refusing to allow outside influences keep us apart we gather. The darkness grows deeper outside, a chilly winter day. Inside the womyn are gathering together. Sisters are welcomed in by the rhythmic beat of the drum, and the womyn singing. As each womyn lights her candle and places it upon the altar the temperature inside rises, warming us. Together we cast the circle, creating our sacred space, knowing that She is holding us.

In the depth of the dark time we are asked to see beyond our boundaries, beyond our blinders. Each womyn in turn is blindfolded and lead to the altar, supported by her sisters beautiful voices humming and chanting. For a few moments she collects herself, digging deeply inside, questioning herself. In her power she removes the blindfold, stating her willingness to see beyond those things that have kept her from her spiritual path. She names them in a strong voice, releasing them, removing their power. Reaching down to the altar before her she raises the sword, glinting in the candlelight, and in a few strong sweeps she carefully cuts away all those things that have bound her within herself and outside, things that have kept her from her sisters, from this sacred space. Placing the sword back upon the altar she kneels, her hands dug deeply into a bowl of blessed Earth she declares her commitment to her path, to the altar, to our Goddess. As the last womyn leaves the altar we stand, holding hands, sharing energy, sharing space, sharing our power to be and to be together in spirit. We raise our voices again in Her praise. Hail Themis, blessed be our sisterhood, blessed be our sacred space, blessed be our Goddess!



Aloha Precious Daughters of the Goddess,

Spring arrived early for me as I return on the winds of the desert from our Sekhmet Temple Pilgrimage to Nevada. The jewel blue sky and the reds of the canyon hike amongst ponderosa, chaparral, cactus, wild burro, deer and salamanders, greeted us as we met a desert river from snow melt, complete with pools and waterfalls that we dipped our bodies in. I am always awed by the depth of sitting in sacred circle for a longer period of time on retreat, shared meals, laughter, watching the sun rise and praying around the fire at Her Holy Temple. Mahalo to Priestess Candace for welcoming us once again to the land that she so graciously serves.

As I write you, Daughters of the Goddess approaches Her 15th Anniversary this Summer Solstice, We will celebrate in community and camp together, with more shared laughter, ceremony, connection and blessings of the Wind, Fire, Earth and Sky. Please make space in your calendar for this Holy time of connection as your presence is always an honor and blessing. Know that we camp in the best of conditions so try it!

We also welcome a new Priestess into our Temple; Tami crossed the threshold to Temple Priestess this March. Blessed be! We prepare once again for our Hawaii Pilgrimage in Spring of 2012 and wanted to announce this early so you can plan and inquire. We look forward to more teaching from the elders of the aina/land.

I'm also thrilled to include the order form for the soon to be released book that I have been writing with Luisah Teish, **On Holy Ground: Commitment and Devotion to Sacred Lands**. It is a one of kind book written from the Indigenous Perspective of the African and Hawaiian Traditions. Your support is much appreciated.

Blessings to you and all you hold sacred,

Leilani



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 7 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.

Saturday, May 7th, Goddess Beltane -Celebrate Venus Goddess of Love. Waxing Crescent Moon in Cancer

Monday, June 20th, Celebrate Summer Solstice & Juno, Roman Goddess of Marriage & Devotion Moon in Pisces

Thursday, July 14th, Celebrate Hathor. Egyptian Mother Goddess of the Sky and the Heavens Full Moon in Capricorn

Thursday, August 11th, Celebrate Saraswati Indian Goddess of Speech, Knowledge and Education. Full Moon in Aquarius

Sunday, September 4th, Celebrate Yemaya African Ocean Goddess, Pilgrimage to the Sea NOTE: 11a.m.-4p.m. Moon in Sagittarius

Thursday, September 22nd, Celebrate Fall Equinox & First Nations Goddess Corn Mother, Moon in Leo

Friday, October 28th, Annual Womyn's Spiral Dance
Celebrate Halloween and our 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 24th, Celebrate Stella Maris Our Lady Star of the Sea. Moon in Pisces

Tuesday, August 23rd Celebrate Dzalarhons Haida Goddess of Frogs and Volcanoes. Moon in Gemini



Tuesday, October 11th, Celebrate Hina Hawaiian Goddess of the Moon, Tapa & Women's Crafts. Full Moon in Aries

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.

DAUGHTERS OF THE GODDESS 15TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPING RETREAT.

Friday, June 24th – Sunday, June 26th, 2011. Celebrate our 15 years with a 2 night Anniversary camp-out on Sacred Mt. Diablo! Celebrate with ritual, chanting, story-telling, singing, drumming, sacred art and all in community with our sisters. Mark your calendar and RSVP now for this very special occasion. The cost for the camp-out is \$90 if paid by May 1st or \$105 after May 1st. This includes all meals but one which each person will offer. This event will be limited to 30 womyn. Please email Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com.

HAWAII WALKING IN PARADISE RETREAT – First week of May 2012

Excitement is building again for another sacred journey to the aina/land as Daughters of the Goddess embarks on our 2nd Temple Pilgrimage to Oahu. Join us on a 5 day trip to the sacred aina of Hawaii. We will explore and honor this blessed island with Leilani as she shares her homeland with our community! During this journey, womyn will visit the Queen's Palace as well as other sacred sites of the aina/land. And we will join in the annual Lei Day Celebration which is an honoring and recognition of the Hawaiian custom of giving and receiving lei. Come for a walk with us in Paradise!

Packages:

*New comer Discount
*1 Open Ritual
*All 7 Open Rituals
*Tita Series+7 Open Rituals
*Deepening + All Rituals
*Tita, open & campout

Exchange:

1st ritual \$30 or 3 for \$90
\$40/please mail check
\$224/due at first ritual
\$295/due at first ritual
\$450/at first Deepening ritual
\$385 due at first 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.

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