



Volume 8
Number 1

Sekhet Bast Ra, Lodge
& Sol Invictus Camp

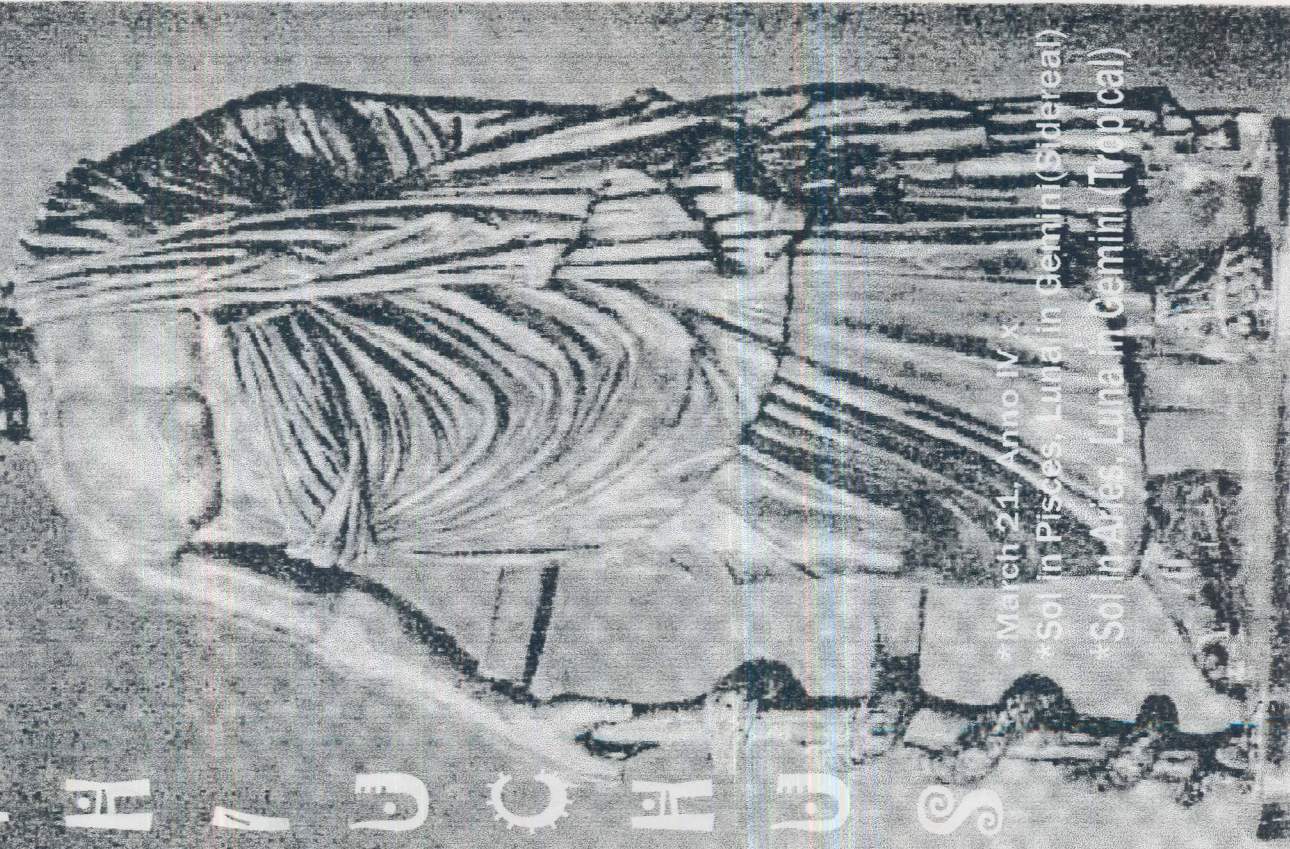
Quarterly Journal

P H I U C H U S

* March 21, Anno IV X

* Sol in Pisces, Luna in Gemini (Sidereal)

* Sol in Aries, Luna in Gemini (Tropical)



Always True with I shall be the whole of the hour.

Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge
Ordo Templi Orientis

5030 N. May Avenue #324
Oklahoma, City, OK 73112
405-720-6349

sbr@telepath.com

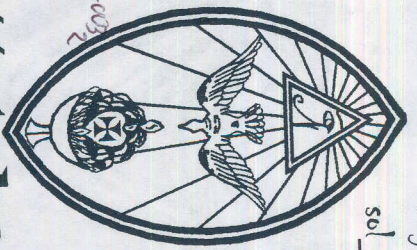
<http://www.telepath.com/sbr/>

Sol Invictus Camp
1155 West 6th Street
PMB C-11

Fayetteville, AR 72701

sol_invictus_93@yahoo.com

Ordo Templi Orientis
USA Headquarters
638 Camino De Los Mares
Suite C-240-495
San Clemente, CA 92673
PO Box 32
RV side, CA 92502-0032



Ordo Templi Orientis
International Headquarters
PO Box 33 20 12
D-14180 Berlin

<http://otohq.org>

Publisher: Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge

sbr@telepath.com

Editor: AHBH

camelpath@hotmail.com

*For more information, subscriptions
and/or submissions, please write
ophiuchus_aesculapius@hotmail.com*

This publication, Ophiuchus, is presented quarterly at the Equinoxes and
Solstices, and is the official organ of Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge and Sol
Invictus Camp.

Copyright 2001 by Ordo Templi Orientis, Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge, Sol
Invictus Camp, individual authors and others where mentioned. The
views and opinions expressed herein are the responsibility of the
contributing authors.

2002

Well, he^r are having arrived at another Spring Equinox and The^remic Holy Days. On^e thing that marks this year different than most is that Sekhet-Bast-Ra is now under the sole mastership of Soror Ixel Baiaimke. To the best of my knowledge SBR is the only lodge to have operated under co-masters and the only O.T.O. local body to successfully be led by co-masters. I am proud of my nine-year tenure as co-master of the lodge and in a manner I'm also saddened that it is indeed an end of an era; there will probably never be another co-mastered local body in our Order.

The history surrounding Sekhet-Bast-Ra Lodge is one of which we should all be proud. SBR is the oldest operating O.T.O. local body that is not in an East or West coast state. Since its chartering as a camp in the summer of 1984 e.v. SBR is just now moving into its third administration, which is probably some kind of record in itself. Several of the local bodies around Oklahoma were founded after people traveled to OKC from those cities for initiation.

The Grand Lodge of O.T.O. in the United States will be six years old this month. During most of that time I have had the honor of serving with Soror Ixel as the U.S. Initiation Secretary. However, another difference this year marks is that I am also passing on my half of the Initiation Secretary work to Sator Ixel too. As I transition into my new job as Grand Secretary General I will no doubt be going through a number of changes as I grow and learn the intricacies of my new duties.

However, with all the history in mind, but not in primary focus, I would like to emphasize our future. One of the aspects of the history of this lodge that I would very much like to see continue is its ability to improve both incrementally and innovatively. Moving back into a dedicated temple space will be an effort that will provide ample opportunity for new ideas, methodologies and roles within the lodge. Many of the current active lodge members probably don't remember the facilities that the lodge rented and used in the '80's, we rented a small place above the Tower Theater on 23rd Street, but I believe that everyone sees the positive impact that such a move will have on us.

I will, though, be continuing on as treasurer for the lodge and in that capacity I will be analyzing our budget to set up some guidelines and working with Ixel to build a roadmap to get us to a new temple space. It will be difficult and refreshing, challenging and enlightening, hard work and pleasurable, all at the same time.

In summation, I'd like to thank everyone in the lodge for their support while I served as co-master and urge you to support Soror Ixel even more. Additionally, I'd like to challenge each and every one of us to identify an area of need within the lodge and take aim to make improvements in that area, because it is your lodge.

*Fr. Hunahpu
ex-co-master and treasurer*

Editors Note:

So what? Those with shall be the whole of the Law.

First, I would like to apologize for this issue being late. I have no excuse other than life happens.

Second, HAPPY SPRING!!! I love this time of year!

Watching that rambly goat chase the nymphs among the budding trees and blooming flowers always

makes me feel warm inside and puts a smile on my face.

In order to make this a better magazine, it has been decided that this will be the last year for Ophiuchus as a quarterly publication. Beginning next year it will become a bi-annual magazine. It will be sent in the Vernal and Autumnal Equinoxes. We hope this change will allow for more submissions as well as a better looking magazine.

We would also like to bid a fond farewell to Frater unshupu as Co-Bodymaster of Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge. However, we do look forward to the new goals and standards he will put forth for the local body members and Lodge.

Love is the Law. Love under Will.

HBH
11/17



Annihilating Astrological Aspects

by Frater Soli

I'm sure many of you, like myself, have at least a minor interest in astrology. Of those, several, like myself, have wondered how to make sense of it. Of those, a few, like myself, have wondered what could be done with the information available. We see such things as "Mars in Aries square Jupiter in Cancer, meaning conflict between the two," and wonder what can be done about it. None of the Astrological texts I've seen have said anything about how this conflict can be resolved, at least anything beyond "adaptation is required by both sides." Are we to be "stuck with" what we're born with? Inspired by a line from a movie (Specifically, "A man can change his stars," from "A Knight's Tale"), and a chapter from the Book of Lies (Wheel and--Whoa!), I developed a way to overcome these difficulties. This process can theoretically be taken beyond reconciling the differences between two "negatively aspected" planets to, after several workings, uniting all into a singular point in space. I experimented with it and achieved several successes before revealing it to the members of the Camp, who said I should publish it. This response was the success of my last working.

The first step is to get your natal chart in detail, especially with a list of your aspects, preferably with interpretations. These are the conjuncts, sextiles, trines, squares and opposites. Start with the one that seems the most problematic aspect of your nature. Write down the exact degrees of each sign.

second step requires one, possibly two identical cards from the Major Arcana for each sign involved. This can also be expanded to include a Trump for the element of each sign, a Trump for the ruling planet, a Knight, Queen or Prince for the range of degrees the degrees of each sign falls under, a Princess for the signs, an Ace for Element, and a number card for the signs. Select the Trump of Art, and if you so desire, the Lovers, the Magician, and the Fool. These are the cards involving union of opposites. It is because of these cards that you may need another deck, in case they fit in as one (or part) of the signs to be reconciled. The advantage of fewer cards is that they're simpler to work with. The advantage of more cards is that it brings the result of the work to the vertical plane with more certainty.

These cards are then laid out as a sort of spread, positioned in such a way that all the cards associated with one sign are on one side, all the ones with the other arc on the other side, with the cards of union in the middle. This is to be used in the same way as a mandala or a sigil. It doesn't particularly matter how this is done, as long as you are satisfied with the page. In my own work on this, I laid the cards down vertically, with the Trumps of the Signs on top, then descending order down to the small cards, with the elemental Trumps to the outside of the two columns. I then placed the uniting cards in a column down the center on top of the others. I placed them in this order from top to bottom: Fool, Magician (these two usually above the columns), Art, and Lovers,

Banish with a Pentagram Ritual and a Hexagram Ritual. The spread just made now serves as a template for uniting these two concepts; the work proper. This can be performed in several ways, or combinations of which may be used during the working. You can use the exercise that Crowley teaches, involving the annihilation of two concepts by passionately uniting them. You can also use pathworking, comprehending the image by Tarot divination, or use it as a sigil for Chaos Magick styled practices, or whatever else may suit your preference.

For those who want to know what they're getting out of it, the resultant of the work I've noticed is that the midpoint of the two signs (the degree halfway between the degrees of the two points in aspect) manifests. After several workings, when all the initial aspects are annihilated, you may notice that there are new aspects between these points. Also, we're not talking about the planets anymore, but points in space. These can be described as "The Union of my (insert planet name) and my (insert other planet name) manifests in this way (insert midpoint sign name) in the (X) house."

Entering the realm of theory, these also can be united until there are no aspects left. Even if there are no aspects left, the remaining midpoints can theoretically be united until there's only one left. This in turn, can possibly be united with any other point in space, and so on, until there are no possible combinations left. I haven't gone quite that far with it yet, due to time factors, but all calculations show it as a definite possibility. It would mean a working of several years to complete

Shor Bass Ra Lodge

Quarterly Calendar

Gnostic Mass will be held at Temple
Research & Classes will be held at Mem & AASBS's tent

April

Sunday 7 - 11am Gnostic Mass

Monday 8 - First Night of the Writing of the Book of

the Law-6:00pm* Call for Location*

Tuesday 9 - Second Night of BTL 6:00 pm *Mem and

Wednesday 10- Third night of BTL 6:00 pm *Gunalpu

Thursday 11 - Gnostic Mass -6:00pm
Yxel's*

Friday 19 - Gnostic Mass 6:00 pm

Saturday 27 - Goetic Research Guild 7:00 pm

May

Sunday 5- Gnostic Mass 11:00 am

Monday 11 -Goetic Research Guild 7:00 pm

Tuesday 19 - Gnostic Mass 6:00 pm

Wednesday 25 - Initiation Study Guide Workshop 7:00 pm

June

Monday 2 - Gnostic Mass 11:00 am

Tuesday 8 - Goetic Research Guild 7:00 pm

Wednesday 16 - Gnostic Mass 6:00 pm

Thursday 29 - Initiation Study Guide Workshop 7:00 pm

STANDING YOUR GROUND

by *Seren Kalyx Matangi*

(originally written for a multi-tradition forum for practitioners in the Ozarks)

"Stand in the place where you live

now face North

Think about directions

wonder why you haven't before..."

--R.E.M.

Recently I took part in an multi-tradition discussion on directions and the elemental correspondences we each used. You can only argue so long about this before you start to wonder if it's all arbitrary...especially when some of your "Chaos Fairy Wicca" friends mix the directions up just for fun and get the same results as your careful by-the-book set-up. After a lot of reflection, something a bit obvious occurred to me, and for the benefit of those like me who usually have to be kicked in the head before they "get it" (also known as those who follow the "DOH!" rather than the Tao), I'll toss it out.

Elemental correspondences can work on two levels...a personal one based on where you actually live/work and the elemental energies surrounding you, and a symbolic one, which is used by a larger tradition and is set up to the astral location the group uses. In my tradition we have this wonderful critter known as "Magickal East", which means that if your apartment is oriented so that you're trying to fit a 7' by 3' superaltar into a corner to place it in properly in the East, you can stick it wherever it's most comfortable and declare that "Magickal East". You would then work with the directions as they would be if that point truly was East.

This works because the Temple is oriented to an astral configuration. There's a rich store of symbolism and association that we tap into when we declare "I am standing in the East" that links us to the 'gestalt' our tradition has created on the astral plane. No matter if I'm standing slightly off to the Southwest side, when I declare that the point from which my ritual starts is the East, that power is present. I'm standing in the same East that every other magickian of my tradition stands in. Similarly, traditions that are displaced from their original origin may use a set of correspondences that have little connection to where their practitioners are now, or which now have a more symbolic meaning. Traditions that started out very localized may still reflect how the Earth looked to them at that point rather than

correspondence for "North-Earth/East-Air/South-Fire/West-Water" correspondence that the majority of traditions (and I say this based on my personal observation...I didn't do a poll, so don't quote me) use. So the tradition's correspondences are very important, as they contain the group's astral energy, and if reflected upon as an elemental "library" for you, tradition, do you a lot more good than sitting around trying to figure out which of us is calling the quarters wrong.

On top of your tradition's correspondences, you may also want to create a personal elemental arena that is directly tied to where you live and work, and also your own relationships with the energies and spirits around you. This can be done by looking at the physical environment you live in, plus examining your dreams, which animals you encounter in the areas, and your life experiences. For example, in my "personal space", I may lay out my elements with Air-North, Water-East, Earth-South, and Fire-West. This configuration is derived from many things that want to me and me alone. When I go West, I encounter the springs of Blanchard Springs area that my group honored as a way of bonding together as a tribe, and also as a means of resolving conflict. When we go to tension between us, we went to the Springs, played like children, and learned to enjoy each other again. Also, I travel west to see my mother and father, so the association of Family is in the west. I also received a lesson that I have gained by physically going to that direction. A lesson from California who remembers family days on the beach may reflect the same elemental energy from the West, since that's where their elemental resonance with that element is.

Both ways of thinking about the elements strengthens your bonds with them. Even if you're 100% satisfied with the traditional elemental layout, the exercise of figuring out your subconscious elemental associations is a worthwhile one. For those interested in going a little farther with the exercise, you may try creating an astral temple specific to your correspondences and pathworking with it. Start a journal with elemental subdivisions, and record the experiences that you've had in each of the directions. For instance, my Fire association comes from the experiences of being tested that I had while attending a very rigorous school in the San Francisco Bay area. It was also a time of intense magical learning, living among one of the largest communities of Lemic magicians in the States. Every day was not only a new learning experience, but a constant test of courage, dedication, and discipline. While I am no longer in that situation, I can still use that energy via dreamwork and scribing. I still see that energy reflected in my dreams and memories, so I can honor and strengthen that by dedicating a journal to that energy...a Book of Fire, if you will. In this book, I record the workings I do that are based off of the energy of that quarter...my "shadow" workings, workings to focus my Magical Will, etc. Also, I record the dreams that apply and study the archetypes and use that to give my ceremonies based on the energy.

For those more experienced in the Enochian system, another idea is to use the truncated pyramid template to create a representation of your "spot" I take a 2-D representation of a truncated pyramid and view the top quarter as my "North" and color in the appropriate colors. Next, locate all the squares with the same configuration on the watchtowers and note the Enochian letter on them. Scry them to see what you can find out about them. Patricia Schaeffer's letter essences and Ben Rowe's Enochian work are especially helpful with this type of experimentation. This is a new project for me, so I don't really know where it will go, but it's an example of doing further initiatory work based on your personal elements.

When working with the elemental energies on a physical level, the situation sometimes changes. It should be remembered that the elements, especially in ceremonial magick, have significance far beyond the physical level...but at the same time, the physical landscape shouldn't be ignored. When working with presences of physical elements, so it may not make any sense to call North "Earth" when from where you're standing during ritual, North has you talking directly to Beaver Lake. When moving out of the Temple and onto a site where you're going to be doing a summoning of a spot's spirit, or a land blessing, it's good to consider what that spot's "quarters" look like...and you might find that the "4 elements" set up changes a bit. If you've got Earth energy on three sides and Water on one, try calling the elements as they are. If you're creating a circle to contain energy while you're working for that spot, try to make it as similar to that spot as possible. You are in essence creating a microcosmic version of the macrocosmic one. so just as your sympathetic link gets stronger the more your doll looks like the person you're trying to heal (I hope!), you may find your link to the area you're trying to effect would be even stronger if you recreated it symbolically within your circle. This becomes a very beautiful and interactive way of working when you place for pieces of itself to place within your circle...if you're in a spot that has a stream, a rock formation, and woods, try asking the woods for a branch and place it within your circle on the side where the woods are. Bring a cup of spring water into the circle. A flower, etc. (Of course, I'm saying "asking"...be sympathetic to the area and respect the balance of things. As the old song says "if it don't fit, don't force it." if it's a delicate area, just draw the energy into the circle as you would do the moon). This would also be an ideal way of doing land blessings at a distance..if your spot is needing some attention, and you can't get to it physically, bless it in your Temple or where you're at by recreating the elemental layout you've developed with it. You may even create an altar for it in your home location using the items you were giving by the land itself.

Of course, these are just some ideas...you may find that the "tried and true" method works best for you, or you may not prefer as an elaborate way of working to relate to the Earth spirit. For those that are interested in doing some experimentation on these lines, give me a yell....we always need more guinea p...I mean, "input." In any case, I hope this will get more people thinking about the Earth around them....and start a dialogue that begins with something other than "Ummm.... that's not where the wand's supposed to go, is it?"

THE GOOD BOOK

Mudras: Yoga in

Yoga for Hands, by

Cecilia Trud Hirschi

reviewed by Foster Soli

Mudras are an important but often overlooked part in the practice of yoga. I think a major problem with using the mudras is that little information is available to make sense of them. Thankfully, there is a new book, *Yoga in Your Hands*, by Gertrud Hirschi, published by Weiser.

In this book, the author goes into an in-depth description of what mudras do, why and how they work. She also gives pointers on how to create your own mudras for a specific, desired effect. In addition, there are included meditation, visualization, and breathing techniques to be done while holding the mudras, affirmations, and herbal remedies. For convenience, the book is a chapter dedicated to classifying the mudras by their effects, a chapter on the mudras, and a chapter on chakra and elemental theory.

I tried several of the practices in the book, all with outstanding results. In fact, some of my results went beyond the text. One case in point was when I was meditating with the Prithivi Mudra (a root chakra mudra), my hair and fingernails started growing noticeably faster! Final conclusion, the exercises are not just theory, they work.

This book has made my "Most Used" list. In fact it's falling apart from how much I use it. A definite must read for those who want to expand their meditational practices. I can't recommend it enough for the beginner and the seasoned veteran alike.

Sol-Invictus Camp

Quarterly Calendar

April

4: Mass Practice 7pm

8,9,10: Celebration of Holy Days

18: Invocation Discussion 7pm

27: Mass Workshop 7pm

25: Creative Ritual 7pm

May

2: Mass Practice 7pm

9: Creative Ritual 7pm

16: forum 7pm

23: Creative Ritual 7pm

30: Movie Night 7pm

B a b a l o n

*Open your psychic
visions of eternity.*

a n d

Kiss the naked silhouette

of your lustful goddess

P a n

and your drunk god

Fondle, pant, and chant

listen to my will.

Sweat and devour her

passion and his wild mean of

lust.

Relax and surround yourself

with sacred sex


Beg and worship for her passion

Embrace every moment of the dream.

Lather in her hot juices

for they are the juices of eternity and magic

Only then can you live free

By  *Kevin Rejcek*

Please subscribe me to Ophiuchus, the Quarterly Journal of Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge and Sol-Invictus Camp. Enclosed is my check/money order/cashiers check for a years subscription at \$10.00.

Please send my subscription to:

Name _____
Address/PO Box _____
City _____
State & Zip Code _____

You will receive Vernal Equinox, Summer Solstice, Autumnal Equinox and Winter Solstice editions. We appreciate your subscription.

Thank you.
Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge
Sol Invictus Camp

Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge
Ordo Templi Orientis
c/o 5030 N. May Ave #324
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge
Ordo Templi Orientis
c/o 5030 N. May Ave #324
Oklahoma City, OK 73112



The Quest for more Light.

A column by Dr. Ben Sanders

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.

This column is dedicated to the transmission of the Gnosis. A place where Brothers and Sisters may come together to share information they have found to be illuminating to their path. If you have something you would like to contribute towards the edification of your bretheren, I encourage you to send it to the editor. It can be a work you have read or written or an experience that revealed a truth to you.

Love is the Law. Love under Will.

How any Major Arcana does it take to screw in a light bulb?

-----All of them!-----

- 0) Fool has already started before anyone else is ready.
- 1) Magician assembles an array of objects that might be needed, displays them to best advantage and starts discussing how to go about it.
- 2) High Priestess sits in the background, knowing one thing is missing but says nothing.
- 3) Empress fusses around making sure it is safe and nobly gets hurt.
- 4) Emperor tells everyone he thinks it should be done right now and starts delegating responsibilities.
- 5) Hierophant offers advice on the missing part after consulting with the High Priestess.
- 6) Lovers umm and ahn about what wattage bulb to put in this time.
- 7) Chariot charges in and starts doing it for him regardless of the others' protests.
- 8) Strength surreptitiously places what's needed into Chariot's hands and gets it done her way.
- 9) Hermit suggests a candle in a lamp would provide light in the meantime.
- 10) Wheel of Fortune laughs and reminds everyone that the light will need changing again in the future.
- 11) Justice works out whose turn it is to change the light and when the division of labor is being delegated fairly.
- 12) Hanged Man sits back and contemplates how darkness can change our lives.
- 13) Death points out mournfully that this was bound to happen and now everything ends.
- 14) Temperance tells Death to chill out, it all evens up in the end.
- 15) The Devil tries to blame the Hanged Man for causing the light to blow and creates bad feelings all round.
- 16) The Tower suddenly starts ripping out the original fitting so he can create a new more basic looking fitting.
- 17) The star marvels at new beginnings and says how much she's looking forward to having the light working again.
- 18) The Moon continually offers conflicting advice, confusing everyone until he wanders off to the relief of all.
- 19) The sun wants to redesign the whole room around a much brighter light.
- 20) Judgment examines the globe to see whether it truly was its time to blow and ponders whether the globe can be recycled.
- 21) The World suggests that any problems with the light are temporary: we had light once, we will have it again, and suggests focusing on the bigger picture.

While, the Fool has already finished changing the light bulb and is off doing his own thing.

Advertisements available for \$1.00 per business card size, issue

Subscriptions \$10.00 a year

Dr. Ben Sanders

Moore Chiropractic

1500 SW 104th St. #102

Oklahoma City, OK 73159

405-378-0800

Fax: 405-378-3463



Love is the law, love under will.

**Sekhet Bast Ra Lodge
Ordo Templi Orientis
c/o 5030 N. May Avenue #324
Oklahoma City, OK 73112**

EXC 402 318-2403

402-318-0800

Chickasha Club, OK 73128

1200 W/A 104th St #105

Wood, Oklahoma City

OK 73128

Postage 2.00

Postage and fees paid by addressee

Handwritten notes and markings on the left side of the envelope, including a vertical line and illegible cursive text.

