

# Ring of Light

A Newsletter for the Members of the Julian Community

Volume XVI

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June 2008

**T**his newsletter is dedicated to Joy Srour, a special person who has touched our lives in many special ways. Having known her, we will never be the same.

Love, Light and Peace  
The editors

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\*\* New E-MAIL \*\*

[warrendaniel34@yahoo.com](mailto:warrendaniel34@yahoo.com)

## Julian

It is very important that each person bring to themselves the understanding of who they are, what they are, and why they are. Life is a cycle, and you direct its flow. Through the will, one sharpens and molds their life from beginning to end and to new beginnings. \* 1

Deep within you is the reality of yourself. It is what brought you to the Earth plane. It is what makes you different from every other person. It is the essence of your strength. It is your light and your guidance. \* 2

How wonderful life is!

Love one another unconditionally.  
Remember what you send out returns to you! \* 1

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\* 1 Self-Discovery & Manifestation Copyright 1988 June K. Burke

\* 2 You Are Unique Copyright 1995 June K Burke

# Astrology

Feature Column by Eleanor Johnson

La Grangeville, NY



June 21st brings the Summer Solstice. The Sun always ushers in the Sign of Cancer which is a

Cardinal water sign ruled by the Moon. Cancer, in this sign, will enhance our imagination.

Cancer is a sentimental sign. Feelings run high. It is important to honor your emotions and feelings as this sign can often bring issues of home and family to the surface. This sign alerts us to the possibility that we could be overly dependent and extra needy in a particular area of our life.

On the positive side it can enhance man to use his positive nurturing aspects to bring our emotions, our sensitivity, and our awareness into balance.

July 3rd brings the New Moon in Cancer to celebrate the birthday of our nation. Domestic issues will come to the surface. New Moons always represents beginnings. It is a time when the Sun and Moon come together. It starts with promise - both in the world and in our personal lives. It is a time, hopefully when we can begin to think of new possibilities as a nation and collectively.

July and August have the planet Mars in the sign of Virgo. Mars is and can be a great motivator. It is action and activity.

Mars in Virgo can be hard working, detail oriented,

leaving no stone unturned in attaining a particular objective. Virgo relates very much to health issues, food, and grain. There may be a strong motivation to balance our environment in a positive way.

On August 1st, there is a Solar Eclipse at 9 degrees of Leo. It makes a conjunction to transiting Mercury. Nine degrees is a degree of realization.

Leo is a fixed fire sign ruled by the Sun. The sign Leo relates to spirit. Leo also rules the heart in the physical body.

May it bring to the core our greatest faith and trust!

Leo rules light and power.

May the light shine with understanding and hope that we may express our greatest potential!

On a lighter note, Leo can be dramatic, creative, and sociable. Games are fun when the Sun and Mercury are in Leo. Olympic Games!

Jupiter is in Capricorn. Saturn is in Virgo. These two earth signs meet in the heavens in the month of August. They can indicate a desire to express common sense, caution in all our affairs, coupled with determination, and a sense of duty with careful attention to detail. Saturn encourages caution with an element of patience and can be used in a positive way to attain our goals.

September brings three of our personal planets, Mercury, Venus, and Mars in Libra. Mercury retrogrades from September 24th to October 15th. The usual attention should be paid to Mercury things when it's retrograde: computers, electrical equipment, cars, and travel.

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## The Joy of Knowing Joy

by Blanche Duffy ~ Saugerties, NY

I first met Joy and Saul at a spiritual development class in New York City given by a woman name Anne Cooper. They were already member of the class when I joined. Not long after that I heard about a class in healing that was going to be given at the United Nations by someone by the name of June Burke. Because the person who recommended the class was a mentor, friend and very reliable I signed up for it. I was totally enthralled and delighted to hear that the spirit entity June brought forth, Julian, was going to begin giving public classes at the apartment of Janet Casper. I signed up immediately. When I got to the first class, lo and behold, there sat Joy and Saul! This was just about 30 years ago.

The classes at Janet's apartment were on a fairly frequent basis and usually the same people were coming even though Julian made no requirements about attendance. After the classes, many of the group began going out for something to eat, including June, and a friendship started to develop among us. BTW: Saul was the one who kept track of how much everyone had to chip in for the food, tip and collected the money.

When I look back it is apparent how the Development Group began to evolve. Friendships were forming and a core group began to emerge. I began to see Joy and Saul at times other than the classes. I was living on a houseboat at the 79<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Basin at the time and we became frequent visitors to each other's homes or got together to try new restaurants.

Joy was a delight and always ready to join in making plans for get-togethers. Joy and I often chatted on the phone in between visits. I remember Fourth of July's in particular. Macy's was still doing the fireworks displays in the Hudson River practically over the boat basin. Joy and Saul would always come early and help prepare the picnic food, then when it was time for the fireworks to begin we would all lie on the sun deck and watch the fireworks overhead. Sometimes 20 people would crowd onto a 42 foot boat.

Over the years my admiration for Joy grew and grew and I realized what a talented person she was. Her creativity was amazing! As time went on and other concerns took out attention we did not see as much of each other as I would have liked, but the feeling of love never dwindled. Joy didn't need people fawning over her because she was confident in herself. I cannot remember her complaining or whining, and she had a tremendous capacity to enjoy a joke! She never considered herself special, but she certainly was and is!

Your physical presence is missed very much, Joy, even though your energy is felt around us. Friendship is forever and love never dies!

Namaste!

Blanche Duffy



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### Joy

Many of you had met Joy at the Gatherings, as well as through her quarterly column in the Ring of Light newsletter. You undoubtedly recognized a very unique soul. Joy passed on December 25, 2007. Saul held a Memorial Service for her in early February, 2008. We believe that Joy worked with her potential to the fullest. We are sharing how this multi-talented individual touched other lives through these heart-felt messages sent to Saul.

## Excerpts About Joy

Joy's Transition December 25, 2007

It was on a night that was filled  
with silent peace.

The stars shone brightly  
with hope and expectancy.

The sun rose shining in  
Her glorious radiance.

Shining brightly on her  
beautiful face.

With a song sung with  
The deepest love.

And a promise that  
would last forever.

Joy left our physical presence  
to be reborn into the Divine Light.

Saul's ode

++++

I was trying to describe our relationship you and Saul and my family to someone the other day. It is a relationship that proves that family does not require heredity. You entered my life when I was just embarking on my career and been a constant through my life journey, good, sad, challenges and laughter. I always thought you to be beautifully exotic like the women in Gaughan's Tahiti paintings but filled with a spunk and energy that is hard to put into words.

With Love and admiration, Ellen

++++

Saul had phoned on Christmas Day to let my family know about Joy's transition. Later that evening I sat with a book Joy had given me for Christmas the year my mom was in the hospital and Joy was ill as well. The book is titled Pocket Positives and is filled with quotes pertaining to different aspects of our lives; work, health, family, relationships. I sat with the book on my lap, thinking of Joy and allowed the book to open. The book opened to a quote by Henry James that was so perfect, so beautiful and so simple that I would like to share it with you.

*" There is the land of the living and the land of the dead and the bridge is love."*

Joy worked at building and maintaining her bridges every day. She focused on others, making them feel valued and loved. How strong our bridges are, is determined by the work we do

now, to love ourselves and others, to strengthen our relationships and to act with our highest possible good.

Ellen Burke Hart

++++

.....my sister and I were very lucky to have a step mom like Joy who really cared about our well being and treated us like we were her own kids. She always had our best interests in her heart and I repeat never interfered in our relationship with our dad. My sister and I were truly blessed to have Joy as a step mom. I said many times that I was blessed to have two moms who cared about my growth and well being in life. I was always in her thoughts and she always gave me words of encouragement. She would always say to me that she was going to send me Light & Energy and that she was praying for me.

We should not be sad about this day or the day she past because Joy's energy and light still shines today in everyone of us in this room and it will continue to shine in our lives and in our hearts. So let's enjoy this day and celebrate Joy's life and know she is now at peace and harmony with the world and she is smiling down on all of us.

Jeff Srour

++++

We are from California. Joy and Saul have many dear friends in California who would want you all to know they are here in caring spirit.

We loved the way Joy complemented and balanced Saul. She kept his exuberance in check, especially when it came time to telling jokes. We remember one night in particular, at our favorite Cuban restaurant, there was a large group of us..... More than once Saul would get on a roll, and the jokes would be coming fast and furious. Saul would become more animated, louder, and the jokes would be getting raunchier. Pretty soon you would hear Joy say; "Saul, that's one!" Apparently there was a secret code between them, and Saul would tone it down a bit. We never found out what would happen if Joy ever got to the count of 5!

Larry and Linda Scheer

++++

And yet our world has winter to balance out spring, and death to balance out life, a reminder that all things come in the right season. And so it is with Joy. There are times in our lives when things that are most dear to us appear to whither before our eyes. Hurt, disappointment and unfulfilled expectations come unbidden and rob us of the beauty we have know.

**Excerpts About Joy .... Continued from page 4**

On cold winter nights it may feel that we will never again delight in sunny days. Those who are wise understand the cycles of Nature, however, and know that summer is not far away. And so it is with Joy. It is always there...SHE is always there...within the happy times and the sad times, the very essence of life itself. Joy leads us, molds us, and tills us. Joy is the beginning and the end. Joy is the journey and the goal. This is the true nature of Joy.

Barry Burkan

++++

Joy and I met on December 5th, 2005. I'm a volunteer manager for VITAS Hospice and Joy called me to ask if she could volunteer to help our patients and their families.

Shortly after becoming a volunteer Joy came into the office to teach our team meditation exercises. The power and presence that she brought into the group was something I had never experienced before. I also realized that the something to share was Joy herself.

When I walked into Joy's room I walked over to her knelt down and said why didn't you tell me? She looked right at me and said you had enough on your plate to deal with. You did not need to worry about me too. Her inner strength was beyond normal limits she denied pain medication for days. I was blessed to be there with Joy and her family thank you Saul and Dinavia. Thank you Joy for being my friend you will always be in my heart.

Etta Nappi

++++

JOY told me to keep these 3 words where I can see them every day-Acceptance, Flexibility & Forgiveness...  
Joy taught me to be stronger...  
She taught me to Love & Forgive the people in my life that hurt me.

And she taught me to feel good about myself...  
She was beautiful outside---but most beautiful inside. She had a knack for making everyone feel comfortable, loved and she made me smile. I always remembered Joy's Birthday July 25th because it was the same as my son's.

Now we will all remember her transition Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>...  
Friends come and go into our lives, some stay, and some don't. I consider JOY to be my FOREVER friend.

She, will be sitting on my shoulder as my angel, to guide me and to embrace every moment.

I will miss you Joy –Forever and a Day.

Don't cry for me when I am no longer here.... I will be with you in all the seasons.

I will be the acorn you crush under your shoes in the fall and the colored leaves you rake in piles.

I will be the snow angel the children make on snowy winter days and the sparks from the burning fireplace.

I will be the warm spring rain falling on your face and the buds on every tree.

I will be the shells you pick on summer beaches and footprints in the sand.

Don't cry for me when I die....Because one night when you look up, you will see me in a million stars.....

Gracella

++++

Joy brightened our lives. Her name sure suited her. She'd walk in to a room and the whole room lit up with her special light. She embodied the energy of joy. Joy was quick to laugh at herself, at the absurdity of a situation. Even in our talks about the most serious or difficult of challenges she'd find the humor in it. She'd say. "What's a nice kid like me doing in a situation like this?" There was gentleness about Joy, always caring, and kind. When you talked with her, you knew she was really listening. Joy would focus her attention-and treat each person as if nothing could be more important than what that person had to say. She would consider what you said and be honest in her response -- telling you exactly what she thought and with kindness.

Thank you, Joy, for being an inspiration to Light Workers everywhere. Although we mourn your transition, we celebrate your life here on earth. We will miss you, yet the memory of your beautiful spirit will always live on in our hearts.

Camille Albrecht

++++

I want to thank you for joining us today, this day of celebration of my sister's life. I'm sure each of you is here today because at some point in time Joy touched your life and through that experience you have come to know and love an exceptional person. Joy's time with us was very important. Simply because of our contact with her we have all grown and benefitted in many, many ways.

I would now like to share my thoughts with you on Joy herself and what she meant to me as a sister, a spiritual mentor, and a

**Excerpts About Joy .... Continued from page 5**

fellow human being. Joy had many exemplary attributes which made her that unique individual that we all knew and loved. She was a person who gave unconditional love with no expectations of anything in return. She was caring and always giving of her time, her energy, and her knowledge. She was supportive, always there when anyone needed help or advice. One thing that stands out in my mind is that she taught me the many aspects of self awareness – to feel the sense of my inner spiritual self, and to develop and trust my intuitive skills. Joy helped me understand the energy of the Universe and what you can accomplish if you apply yourself. She was the true embodiment of an adept teacher.

Joy's life was not without pain, suffering, or sadness. She did, however, have the strength and will to overcome her adversities. Joy channeled her thoughts and energy into goodness. She made the best out of every situation, whether good or bad. She always maintained a positive nature, a smile, and had a kind word for all. It's hard to realize that Joy's physical being is no longer here, but I know her spiritual presence will never be far away. Can you feel her? She is here with us now...

Manny Espejo  
+++++

To Our Respected and Dear Friend, Saul

I sorrow for you and Dinavia. Tears flow as I know the depth of hollowness and ache you feel, though you know, there is no more pain for your love, Joy. Please know that hundreds of us who came to know Joy are this moment saying aloud how fortunate they were to be in Joy's presence during her lifetime. Our love to you, Saul. Our love to Joy. She certainly lived a life befitting her name. We pray for you, my friend.

Dan Conway  
+++++

How could a name be so right? – for you really are a true JOY!!! And your being will be forever present in my life and everything I pass on to my children as well. To me there's nothing more important in life than to know that you have had an everlasting positive impact on others and I just wanted you to know that you had that impact on me.

Love, Michael  
+++++

**Astrology .... Continued from page 2**

Remember this retrograde period is a great time for doing research. Mercury in Libra is sociable, artistic, and conversations can be harmonious.

Venus in Libra is in its own sign and at her best. Venus expresses herself on the physical as well as on the mental level. It can be affectionate, sympathetic, and idealistic. Remember Libra is the sign of balance that is important in all our affairs.

Mars in Libra is not as comfortable as it is in Venus territory. Will power can be reduced.

On the positive side, when principles of justice are violated, Mars in Libra can speak up with determination and diplomacy. It can create harmony in relationships. It can create a desire for approval of others which allows harmony to flow.

Enjoy your summer.

## 11th Gathering of Light



Please join us for the 11<sup>th</sup> Gathering of Light at the beautiful Fort William Henry Resort in Lake George, NY where we will enjoy the luxuries of a full service lake front hotel during one of the most pleasant weekends of the year! The annual Gathering brings together those working with the Julian Teachings & like minded individuals for a special weekend of sharing through love, light and laughter.

During the opening ceremony participants join together to create the spiritual setting for the weekend. Throughout the weekend we focus on the many levels at which we do our spiritual work. And in the closing ceremony we “weave” together our individual energies and create a great “Circle of Light” to carry forth into the world.

**DOUBLE OCCUPANCY COST IS \$325.00 (per person)**

**SINGLE OCCUPANCY COST IS \$485.00.**

The price paid for the weekend includes your lodging for Friday and Saturday night meals as listed below, taxes and gratuities. The event begins with a dinner on Friday, October 3rd at 6:00 pm and ends with lunch on Sunday, October 5th at 1:00 pm.

*Meals included:*

*Friday: Dinner*

*Saturday: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Cruise on Lake George*

*Sunday: Breakfast & Lunch*

*The total balance is due June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008*

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

**SAUL SROUR  
20 MOUNTAINWOOD CT  
TOTOWA, NJ 07512**

**TEL # 973-389-9888  
EMAIL - [sjsroure@verizon.net](mailto:sjsroure@verizon.net)**

*Please contact me if you have any questions. Additional info will be sent out prior to the Gathering including directions, check-in information, starting time, etc.*

*Love, Light & Laughter,*

*Saul*

*Note: A full refund will be given if your request to cancel is received before August 1<sup>st</sup>. If your cancellation is received between August 1<sup>st</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>, a refund will be given less a \$25 per person administrative charge that's withheld by Lake George Center.*

## Contact Us.....

The Ring of Light is a periodic publication serving the Julian Community. A \$10.00 US annual contribution on your part will cover the cost of your newsletter! Make checks payable to Dan Walton. This newsletter is a tool to connect our community. It is your tool to share and use ideas, activities and creative works. Thanks to the many contributors.

*Address Changes Notify:*

Sam Holland AND Anne Claire Vennemans

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**Next Issue Theme: "Abundance"**

**Deadline for Submissions: August 15th, 2008.**

**Dan & Nancy Walton - Ring of Light Editorial Team**

**Newsletter Submissions—How to !**

For entries larger than 25 words, please submit a text file in electronic form. Send us a 3.5" computer disk or electronic contribution to:

Dan & Nancy Walton  
306 Seaview Drive  
Benicia, CA 94510

**Thank you for your financial assistance in 2008 which makes it possible for us to publish the ROL.**

### 2008 Contributors

Albrecht, Camille &  
Richard Grescowle

Bauer, Marion

Bouc, Mimi

Cirimele, Elsie

Conway, Dan

Dunckelmann, Diana

Ellis, Christy

Everts, Delcia

Golden, Connie &  
Chuck

Hall, Denise

Hewitt, Robbie

Hilsenrath, Vera

Johnson, Eleanor

Jonsson, Audrey

Kobilarz, Cathy

Livingston, Jeanne

London, Trudie

Maccarone, Evelyn

McLewin, Lynne

Pachota, Donna

Paradies, Bonnie Ron

Pronko, Donna L.

Ross, David & Shesta

Saxe, Kolleen

Simuro, Veronica

Smith, Andrea

Svirsky, John

Vennemans, Inge

Wisherd, Susan



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### **What a novel idea!**

If you prefer an electronic version please contact us via our **\*\* New E-MAIL \*\***

[warrendaniel34@yahoo.com](mailto:warrendaniel34@yahoo.com)

*Ring of Light*

**A Newsletter of the Julian Community**

**c/o Dan & Nancy Walton**

**306 Seaview Drive**

**Benicia, CA 94510**

*To:*

