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## THE GATHERING

### A Celebration of Tao and defiant women Everywhere

June 1, 2007

The Gathering

Volume Two, Number One



Welcome to all of you Tao and defiant women,

You might have noticed a bit of a change taking place with this newsletter: You are now reading "The Gathering" rather than "The Taogirl Gathering" and with this issue I shall begin to refer to us all as "Tao and defiant women" rather than "Taogirls".

Why?

Well, as of today the book that started this all, THE TAO OF THE DEFIANT WOMAN, is now officially out of print awaiting the new edition of the book to appear on your bookstore shelves in October. While the new edition of the book is virtually the same as the first one – with the exception of a new cover – the one major change is that our little narrator is now dubbed "Tao and defiant woman" and not "Taogirl".

This was a decision made by my new publisher, Sourcebooks and is quite fine with me.

(The original book, however, is still available at stores that have stock left and also through this website)

As many of you know, I am embarking on a new project – that of writing a book to bring the Tao and defiant philosophy to young girls ages 11 – 14. They, therefore, will henceforth be known as our "Taogirls".

Today also represents a milestone for The Gathering, as this issue celebrates our first anniversary.

Much has transpired in the past 12 months; a new edition of the book, the beginning of the next book, and I have now been named a regular correspondent for the Sally Jessy Raphael TalkNet Show. In June of 2006 I

could never have assumed that so many new and exciting changes would come my way.

How about you?

Look back to last June and think about those parts of your life that have changed or grown. And remember the fun parts that have stayed with you.

I'd love to hear from you all with your stories of you past year. Email me – lets compare notes!

[thepath@taogirl.com](mailto:thepath@taogirl.com)

And, now, for the anniversary edition of "The Gathering", please read on...

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This month's Gathering will also feature:

✚ The WISDOM OF THE MONTH

✚ Calling all TAO AND DEFIANT WOMEN

✚ Meet the dynamite TAO AND DEFIANT WOMEN OF THE DANBURY HISPANIC CENTER

✚ A listing of my JUNE TRAVELS – I would so love to meet you when I'm in your part of the world

✚ The BOUTIQUE

✚ LETS LINK

✚ A FEW FINAL WORDS

Spread the word – please remember to forward this issue of THE TAOGIRL GATHERING to your friends!

WISDOM OF THE MONTH



*Age for those who get it right is a metaphysical diet:  
a chance to lose dead weights like the disease to please,  
the desire for status or the need to be trendy or fashionable.*

*- Harriet Rubin*

*James Kirkwood*

### **CALLING ALL TAO AND DEFIANT WOMAN:**

Gals – I know Donna Ferber very well and she’s a dynamite and dynamic woman, therefore, I am pleased to give you the following information about her upcoming retreat.

**Donna Ferber, LPC, LADC, licensed psychotherapist and author of the award winning book “From Ex-Wife to Exceptional Life: A Woman’s Journey through Divorce” will be presenting *Healing Through Connection*, a special retreat for women, on Saturday, June 16 from 8:30 to 5 PM at St. Edmund’s Retreat on Enders Island in Mystic, CT.**

**The retreat is an opportunity for women whose lives have been effected by divorce to reconnect with their inner selves and with other like-minded women. Designed to be a day of introspection in a beautiful and relaxed setting, this third annual retreat features workshops, yoga, lunch and use of the retreat’s 12 idyllic acres, all for \$125. Space is limited and early registration is encouraged.**

**Register for *Healing through Connection* online at [www.donnaferber.com](http://www.donnaferber.com) or by sending a check payable to Donna F. Ferber, LPC, LADC, LLC, 322 Main Street , Farmington , CT 06032 . For more information call (860) 678-8855.**

### **MEET THE AMAZING TAO AND DEFIANT WOMEN OF THE DANBURY HISPANIC CENTER !**

On May 1<sup>st</sup> I had the opportunity to meet five of the wonderful women of the Danbury Hispanic Center when I delivered to them copies of “El Tao de la Mujer Desafiante”



Iriada Juana yours truly Sheila Niurka(Nikki)

**The Hispanic Center of Greater Danbury was founded in 1967 by a group of Latino community leaders as a civic center to preserve their languages and culture.**

**As the Latino community, the fastest growing population in the state and the largest minority group in this area; numbers over 20,000.**

**The Center is a collaborative force that empowers and encourages members of the Hispanic community on their journeys to self-sufficiency, personal responsibility, educational attainment, career development and entrepreneurial success. They support the Hispanic community as members overcome obstacles and become vital participants and leaders to the community at large.**

**I am proud to know that my book, in its Spanish language version, is being used as a reference and aid to the Hispanic Center in helping to further their very important work and goals.**

**Many thanks to you, dear ladies, for giving me the opportunity to know you and the Center.**



Juana

Marilu

On the road again.....

Here's where I will be in June:

Wednesday, June 6

11:30

I will be talking to Sally Jessy Raphael on her TalkNet show  
in my segment called "Golden Ponderings"

I don't know all the radio stations that carry the show, but you can access it on the internet  
at

[www.Sallyjr.com](http://www.Sallyjr.com)

Wednesday, June 13

5:15-6:45

I will be conducting a workshop for Tao and defiant women

New Morning Natural and Organic Foods

Middle Quarter Road

Woodbury , CT

Keep checking the Travels page of this website for current updates.



Spread the word – please remember to forward this issue of THE GATHERING to your friends!

THE ON-LINE BOUTIQUE IS OPEN

THE TAO OF THE DEFIANT WOMAN

A GUIDE TO LIFE OVER 40

IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH !



### THE HANDBOOK



The Handbook

is chock full of suggestions to aid you in the organization of your TaoGirl Group.

Along with the exercises and discussions within the pages of this three ring binder, I've also included blank pages for your own notes, as well as plenty of "growing room."

### THE OFFICIAL TAO AND DEFIANT T-SHIRT



### GREETING CARDS



## LET'S LINK !

If you know of, or have a website that you think Taogirls would enjoy seeing, let me know and I'll be happy to set up a hyperlink from this newsletter to that site. Conversely, if you would like to do the same from your site to this newsletter, please contact me to do so.

It is in this manner that we can support each other as we all strive to support women everywhere!

**Prill Boyle ...** Like the women she writes about in her book, *Defying Gravity*, Prill Boyle is a late bloomer. After graduating from college at 38, she became an English teacher. Then in January of 2000 she read an article in *The New York Times* about a 65-year old Kentucky woman named Wini Yunker who had waited 39 years to join the Peace Corps. Inspired by this woman's persistence and courage, Prill decided to write a book about late bloomers. Her book recounts the stories of 12 "ordinary" women who've done extraordinary things later in life. It is a delightful and inspiring book to read and all the more so as Prill connects these first-person accounts together with her own story. Prill is also very active on the speaking and workshop circuit.

## CHECK OUT PRILL'S NEW BLOG!!!!!!!!!!!!

Visit Prill at: <http://defyinggravitynow.blogspot.com/>

**Barbara Scala...** Founder of *Bloom After Divorce*, Barbara is also editor and creator of *Bloom OnLine Magazine* for "Women Who Want to Grow" at [www.bloomonline.com](http://www.bloomonline.com) and writes her ongoing column *Divorce Ain't So Bad After All*.

Trained as a mediator and collaborative divorce attorney, Barbara draws from her legal background in her life coaching practice to understand your divorced situation and to add insight into creating a life beyond divorce. She also uses her experience as a realtor to help with issues of relocation, downsizing, investing or moving on to a home to call your own.

Barbara's personable style, energy, holistic approach and ability to empathize are what make her a dynamic coach.

Visit Barbara at [www.bloomafterdivorce.com](http://www.bloomafterdivorce.com) and make sure to read Bloom OnLine Magazine [www.bloomonline.com](http://www.bloomonline.com)

**Esteemed Woman Foundation...** This amazing and important organization was founded in 2000 by filmmaker **Suzie Galler** who began conducting research about women and self-esteem which led to the making of the highly acclaimed documentary film *I Am Beautiful*. The film then became the cornerstone of an outreach program designed to help women explore and strengthen their self-image.. It now includes ongoing workshops, resource materials and an outreach network that provides support nationwide. The foundation's primary focus has been to develop comprehensive programs for women of all ages and backgrounds. The programs teach that self-esteem is not a destination, but a life long journey--one that requires recognition of the sources of self-esteem, and a willingness to address those areas that impede a positive self-image.

Visit the Suzie and the Esteemed Woman Foundation at: <http://esteemedwoman.com>

**Connecticut Muse...** This seasonally published newsletter is the brain child of **Patricia D'Ascoli**, columnist, essayist and author of *Home Is Where the Humor Is*. The Connecticut Muse is a celebration of contemporary Connecticut authors featured in a quarterly newsletter. Each issue focuses on a different literary genre and includes book reviews, author interviews, a listing of upcoming author appearances and information on new releases. You Taogirls who do not reside in Connecticut will also enjoy reading the Muse to discover what new books are out there for us all to enjoy.

Visit Patricia and The Connecticut Muse at: <http://connecticutmuse.com/aboutus.html>

**Donna Ferber ...** is the author of the wonderfully supportive and encouraging book, *From Ex-wife to Exceptional Life: A Woman's Journey through Divorce*. Donna is a licensed professional counselor and licensed alcohol and drug counselor. She is also a psychotherapist and experienced speaker who has drawn on her twenty years of experience counseling women through this difficult process to create a comprehensive guide comprised of 365 one page essays that offer inspiration, insight and information.

Visit Donna at: <http://www.donnaferber.com/index.htm>

**Alignment With Life...** **Andrea D. Klein**, the guiding light behind this California based coaching service, is a professional life coach who is continuously moving onward and upward by saying "yes" to life and by having fun with the evolving process. "Since I am in the 2nd half of life," says Andrea, "I have a yearning desire to help women embrace the 2nd half of life by exploring new possibilities and passions."

If you're ready to: embrace the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of life; explore the opportunity of truly having fun; tap into your creative juices; move into possibilities, potential and passions then you will want to "meet" Andrea via her website. And you don't have to live in California – she'll work with you via phone and/or email.

Visit Andrea and Alignment With Life at: <http://www.alignmentwithlife.com/contact.htm>

### **A FEW FINAL WORDS:**

**I want to thank the women of the Hispanic Center for their warm welcome the day I walked into their office, and for allowing me to share their pictures with all the Tao and defiant women who read this newsletter.**

And a special thanks to Gretchen out in Cape Cod , for it is she who, last May, asked me why I don't have a newsletter. I didn't at the time – never thought of it until she gave me the idea. I am very grateful to her for doing so.

DEAR TAO AND DEFIANT WOMEN, PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP SPREADING THE WORD BY TELLING YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT THE TAO AND DEFIANT MOVEMENT AND FORWARDING YOUR WISDOMS AND THIS NEWSLETTER.

THANK YOU!

CJ

For information, or to share your thoughts and wisdom with us: [thepath@taogirl.com](mailto:thepath@taogirl.com)