Dear Subscriber,

12/03/2015

October greetings of timely transition!

In all, change is our inevitable companion. How we welcome it into our lives is telling of our relationship of acceptance and resistance. October holds a magical time of release as if we were simply entering the labyrinth and migrating to a center. It calls for unburdening at a time when we begin to laden ourselves with the protective outer garments for both comfort and survival.

The trees let loose of their leaves and the flowers of nature begin their annual demise. One could think it a time of final movement before the blanket of winter discovers again its necessary purpose and pattern for the planet. In this month there is great opportunity to enjoy the transformation of what is natural as it lives along side us; and it may also become our time of urgent appreciation.

Enjoy this month of transitioning steps as the celebrations of life unfold and give opportunity to pay tribute, memorialize or simply become more expressive as the people we are.

*Photo Credits: labyrinthlessons*

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**Labyrinths as the art and breath of life**
Curiously searching and researching, the art of the Desert Breath came to focus for this month as a beautiful reminder of how the sands of time may be sculpted with intention, though being a part of nature evolve, erode and remind us of the importance the lessons of impermanence are in the world. Change is constant and this appreciable design that was formed out of the landscape is slowly becoming an understanding of obscurity. Before it is gone, this contemporary labyrinth, located in the Sahara Desert, tells a purposeful tale of its process and purpose in this video that invites us to the beauty of the region and the reality of its harsh extremities.

It tells the tale of the relationship to scale marvelously, using the vast materials of the desert to demonstrate the journey inward as one walks this innovative contemporary design. The scope of sand formations that border the exterior lessen in size as one moves to the delight of irony found at its center. There a pool of water ripples as a secret oasis somehow gentling the demanding tones of the desert. Its presence may seem to disrupt the natural order of the desert, though art makes a statement just as the labyrinth does. This coming together of nature and design allow for the adventure seeking soul a time of fantasy and reality relative only to depth of perception. What better canvas than nature to unfold the story of gradual transition.

Photo Credits: The Desert Breath Labyrinth and Danae Stratou

What you share comes back to you
As this time of harvest is upon us, it is good to reap what we have sown. I was asked to evaluate a facilitation of a workshop and walk for Veriditas Certification by an individual who came to me just over a year ago seeking personalized counsel and education in the guidance, facilitation and creation of the labyrinth. The time we spent included a wonderful indulgence into choices and opportunities that the labyrinth presents for living.

After almost a year of creation, discovery and presentation, she sought out the Veriditas Certification in France and recently it was my happy occasion to be witness to the wonders of this very astute and admirable student's love of the labyrinth. It was a joyful observation of her compassion and wisdom and heartfelt in how it widened the circle of interest to an eager group fascinated by her offering. I was a witness to the harvest, watching and knowing the way in which she planted the seeds would only come back to her in the same way they were now for me.

*Photo Credits: labyrinthlessons*

### Motion creates a change of emotion

This sharing comes from new member Dolores Sierra who is in the discovery of so many wonderful explorations of the labyrinth, though is inspired enough to keep curious around the curves...

"I just talked to a friend today who is excited to work with me to see if we can get something like this going in our area and from that this sharing came. She had a great story about her first labyrinth trip. She was attending seminary to be a deacon, and was told her class was taking a field trip to walk a labyrinth. She was less than enthused, thinking (like my husband) that just walking in circles would do nothing for her. She was even less enthused when candles were lit, soft music was played and the lights were dimmed...thinking that was pretty cliche.

Then she walked in. She must have been walking a Chartres labyrinth because she said she began to notice that there were times when she would meet someone else from her class, walk with them a bit and then they would part ways. Then she met another person and did the same thing. Suddenly it occurred to her that life is like that...we meet people, walk with them for a while and then maybe part ways. She got so into it that she was in tears when she left."

The magic of the metaphors are ever present in our walks and even when we are in resistance mind, our body finds the wisdom in movement to shift perspective just enough to sprinkle over us what happens when we go past
Social transitioning for our membership

October becomes the marker for new explorations and opportunities that have been promised for our membership. As new for some of you as it is for me, creating new horizons is how we evolve. Quite often our human nature makes a perception that a thing is wrong when not understood. The only way to move out of that perception is with education. That is why the journey since January has taken us inward with proposal. Its gradual movement along the path has been in steps from questioning to surveying as we migrated into the Spring. Over the summer we stood in the center receiving and letting the bits of information soak in before moving into the reflective season of fall where we now proceed with action.

This new step can be a tool for greater communication and contribution for every member. I very much look forward to the stories and ideas that the labyrinth shapes for you; as in the telling there is a great reward in how it becomes very meaningful to others. That is the heartfelt nature of this club membership, to share and care along with each other and thus far you know much more about me than I do of you and from what I have met in gatherings, events and sharing, there is so much value in what you have to share that it woud be of benefit to you and to us to do so.

The Facebook page is now up and functional. I have invited our membership with information we have on file. If you are receiving this and have not received an invite, please respond to me so that we can have you on board sharing and caring right along with the rest. If you are simply not interested at this time, do not accept and you will not be a part. We have made every attempt to make this easy and simplistic. Ours is a private page where only members are invited and allowed to read or post. We will have outside interest of course, and if they are willing to go along with our club membership as you have, then they will be invited to join us.

Many thanks go out to Lars Howlett for his assistance in setting up and administering the details from the technical side with a host of suggestions and ideas for us to benefit from. Appreciation to Christiana Brinton for her assistance in navigating the possibilities of correspondence and to the board for their encouragement and vigilance to the manner, meaning and integrity of the Labyrinth Society's purpose. We have a number of people who are always in mind of offering the best and looking out for this membership besides myself.

Photo Credits: labyrinthlessons
Meet me for a Saturday evening's walk

As the Annual Gathering approaches later this month, it is a time of learning, reconnecting and branching out with new ideas as is the theme of this year's gathering.

Happily there will be a reception time for the 365 Club to meet, greet and hear about the process and progress of our purpose. I leave it open for the newly interested and the seasoned member to come together as the opportunity exists to know and grow together.

We will be meeting on Friday evening at 8:45pm for a brief overview followed by a ceremonial candlelit experience together. Please let me know if you plan to attend and I will be on the lookout for you! If you haven’t registered as of yet, there is still time. Register

Photo Credits: TLS

The 365 Club Blog

The blog I began in 2013 is surprisingly still in existence and one of the things I liked about it, was how in writing, it kept me connected. This year I have only posted a few entries however between the thoughts I offer at the beginning of the month. This might hold more interest now for those who want to convey more than a few sentences on the Facebook media.

I am looking for those who feel as if they would like to make a monthly or quarterly offering. In doing so a link can be made onto the Facebook page so that more can read and respond. Sometimes a few words will convey what we have to say, sometimes it is a picture and sometimes we want to delve into an idea. I hope in offering the blog, it becomes a useful tool for some that might want to explore more. If interested in becoming a 365 Club author, reply here. You decide on the the amount of commitment.

If you are indeed interested in becoming an author, please let me know and I will give you writing access and permission. For those who simply might want to try it out, a simple story and/or image in an email will work out too, click here. I am here to assist and really want to hear what you all have to say.

Photo Credits: labyrinthlessons
Our Monthly Newsletter

After September’s news was released I found more communications from members and more interest and communication than I have had all year. I was very pleased to hear from those that connected and appreciated your heartfelt comments, thank you!

I will experiment with the monthly news and determine in this next quarter its best use for our membership in 2016. I think as we all integrate with this next step, the newsletter will evolve and I believe it will move in relation to the contributions and desires of our 365 Club membership. Your contributions matter. Thanks for the connections!

Photo Credits: Happy Hooligans Blog

The Labyrinth of October

I am aware of the many chances and choices that open up this month and find they are found as much in long travels we make periodically as they are in daily pilgrimage from here to there and back again.

It is a lovely month of seasonal shift to be in step with what is present and make it fit the soul of our stride no matter where the path leads in everyone of the 31 days before us.

I look forward to the crispness present and the colorful change the month presents and walk with humanity in my every step knowing we advance in a mindset that creates a better way, even if we can’t see how. I lived my whole life on this premise and some days it is hard to see it or remember, though the more I actively look for something better, the quicker it is to find me.

So with a mindful step know that every path and every day holds something to know more about. Each walk we take gives us that wonderful opportunity to let go of what we no longer really need, let in what will support us and reflect on the exchange as we go. This is a harvest to enjoy and embrace for all the change it brings us.

Harvesting the season of change,
Lynda Tourloukis
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