

The Labyrinth Society Newsletter

September 2006

TLS Members

Autumn is arriving here in England, and just as the shortening days used to herald the return to school when I was a child, now my thoughts turn to the annual TLS Gathering and my opportunity to come together with the labyrinth community. As always, my anticipation is high, knowing I will return home brimming with enthusiasm, new ideas and a glowing heart!

I am particularly excited about some of the exciting projects that we'll be introducing when we're together this year, particularly the TLS Labyrinth Market, a long-promised and much-awaited website where members can advertise their labyrinth wares and services. And meanwhile, with nearly 2500 labyrinths now uploaded on the Worldwide Labyrinth Locator, TLS and Veriditas are continuing to work together by making some significant refinements to the search facilities of the database, adding to its capabilities and ease of use.

As exciting as these long-awaited announcements may be, they are not my real reason for attending. I come to renew and replenish the connection with others who love the labyrinth as much as I do... you! Much of what we do throughout the year centers around maintaining these connections. We hope the website is a useful resource, and with Sig Lonegren now managing the Forum, we hope to see a real upsurge in its use. Please consider registering and signing up for email notification of new topics. You then have the option of tracking those topics that interest you.

It's not too late to register for the 2006 Gathering, but whether you are there or not, know that we will be carrying you in our hearts and including you in our circles as we spiral through what promises to be a very exciting weekend!



Kimberly Lowelle Saward, PhD
 Kimberly Lowelle Saward, PhD
 TLS President

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2006 Gathering Updates

Celebrate: Many Paths to a Joyful Center

Airport Ground Transportation Arrangements

Shuttle van service will be available for San Antonio arrivals/departures. Cost: \$25 round trip...what a deal!!



Beverly Garcia is coordinating the schedule for both arrivals and departures. Please [email Beverly](#) relating itinerary: airline, flight numbers, arrival & departure times. She will confirm via email response. If you do not receive email confirmation, call Beverly to make sure you have been scheduled for pickup. Phone numbers: 830-935-4680 (home); 281-734-0606 (cell).

If arriving via Austin, a rental car is recommended. There are no shuttle van arrangements from Austin.

Meet Me at the Forum



The TLS Web Forum
<http://labyrinthology.org/forums/index.php>
 By Sig Lonegren
 TLS Forums Moderator

This is the third of a series of suggestions about how to get more out of your TLS Forum.

Due to an unprecedented increase in spammage in the past month, we have been forced to make some changes in the way new subscribers to the Forum can get permission to post messages. Ever since the first TLS Forum that Barry Hoon and I built for TLS about eight years ago, anyone could just come to the forum and easily become a full active participant, read the postings, and post replies. Our new Invision Forum required that you log in using your desired log in username, display name, password, and email address. Doing this would automatically allow you to both read messages and to post your thoughts on the Forum.

But recently, automated web crawlers have been trolling through many different Forums in cyberspace like ours looking for ones that are easy to post their smut, pills and other junk on. One vulnerability these easy-to-spam Forums have is that they don't require some kind of verification process to register.

So we have sadly now instituted a system where new users will have to register and be vetted before they will be able to post messages. After they register, they will receive an email from us that will ask them to respond to verify that the email address they use is a valid one. (Many spammers do not use active email addresses in situations like this.) We will then individually vet each application looking to see if they are members of TLS (although that is not absolutely necessary, but it is a good indication that they probably are not spammers), check out their web sites if they have listed one to see what they are about, and seek other clues that make them look suspicious. We are very sorry to have to do this. It makes much more work for us but, as those of you who have been checking this Forum in the past month or so have seen, the porn and pharma spam has seemed to grow exponentially. We had to do something.

Naturally, in our present 300+ members on the Forum, those spammers who have naturally registered need to be culled from our membership list as well. Your President, Kimberly Saward, and I have started going through our present list of members, and as we go to press, we have gotten to the "M's" so far on our present membership list, and have deleted 80 people using the same criteria I listed above for vetting potential new members!

Under this new system, anyone can still lurk (i.e. read the messages), but only verified members will be able to actually participate in this Forum. If you find that you have unfairly been deleted, please [email me](#), and I will reinstate you. But I can only trust that you can understand why we have had to institute these rather drastic new standards.

While on the subject of registering for the Forum, if you are a new user of the Forum registering for the first time, we would ask you to consider using the name people usually call you (or some close variation) when asked for your login screen name. This will make it easier for other TLS members to know who you are. Of course, this is not mandatory, but we feel it will make connections between each of us stronger. If you already are registered on the Forum, and are open to doing this, [email me](#) and I will change your login screen name for you.

There are a number of other things we are working on to make your TLS Forum more useful and alive, and I will write to you about them in the next TLS Newsletter.

See you on our Forum!

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Sig Lonegren

TLS Mini-Reunion

TLS members who attended a workshop with Toby Evans in CT. Standing from left to right are Cathie LeVasseur, Toby Evans, Diane Terry-Kehner, Helen Curry, Carol House, and Bill Garrow. Front row left to right are Connie Fenty and Natalie Villar.



In honor of the fifth anniversary of 9/11, The Labyrinth Project of Connecticut, Inc. sponsored a workshop with TLS Founding Member and original Energy Keeper, Toby Evans, of Sibley, MO. Eight TLS members, pictured here, gathered at the New Canaan Nature Center to participate, along with other CT labyrinth enthusiasts, in the event entitled "Healing the Heart of the Matter." It featured Toby's Chakra labyrinth, her Chakra cards and time wondering the trails of the Nature Center.

A dinner followed at the home of Helen Curry in New Canaan which ended with a ceremony to mark the passing of the leadership of the CT Project from Helen to Cathie LeVasseur. Cathie has been serving as its Executive Director for the past year and, following Helen's retirement, will be overseeing the renaissance of the 13 year old CT Project, the oldest labyrinth organization in the country.

News Briefs & Reminders

Video Project & Fund Balance: Production planning is expected to begin sometime in December. The project's current fund balance is \$13,381.50, so we still need donations to satisfy the projected \$22,000.00 budget.

World-Wide Labyrinth Locator: A major upgrade plan has been approved by the TLS and Veriditas boards of directors. The anticipated enhancements will enable improved administrative efficiencies and a more user-friendly online interface. Details will be announced when the work is completed.

Online Labyrinth MarketPlace: This long-awaited member benefit is nearly ready for launch; hopefully to be live in time for this year's Gathering. Please stay tuned. It's coming very soon.

Board Election Proxy Ballots: A proxy ballot related to the annual election of directors was sent to all active members on 18 September. If you did not receive the mailing, please [email David Gallagher](#) or call him at 607-387-5863.

Brochures: Please be reminded that bulk quantities of the beautiful TLS "Come Walk with Us" full-color brochure will be supplied upon request. If you have an occasion or a place where they can be set out for the taking, please [email David Gallagher](#) specifying quantity and shipping address.

Website Labyrinth Events Calendar: It works!! Members who post their walks and/or workshops on our website report that the exposure yields positive results. To have your dates/activities listed, [email details to David Gallagher](#)

New Members



In each newsletter we share the name and location of new members who joined TLS during the period following the last newsletter and elected to be listed in the Member Directory. If you'd like to network with any of them, their contact information can be found by logging into the Online Member Directory and searching on the name. Recall, please, that detailed MD User Instructions are in your Membership Handbook and are also conveniently available online within the MD itself.

- Grace Christine, Rockport, MA
- Sandra Coulter, Portland, OR
- John F. Dornheim, Baltimore, MD
- Abigail Edwards, Calhoun, LA
- Janice M. Francisco, Ottawa, ON, Canada
- Portia Gage, San Jose, CA
- Elizabeth Gibson, Austin, TX
- Gibbie Lu Hart, Pittsburgh, PA
- Rev. Deborah W. Higginbotham, Ripley, WV
- Frances Hodge, Discovery Bay, CA
- Malcolm Linstead, Shell Beach, CA
- Kristine Little, Timonium, MD
- Patricia L. Mazzone, Ashland, NH
- Mary Frances Myers, Austin, TX
- Renaë Quick, San Antonio, TX
- Ann Regen, Nashville, TN
- Nancy Appling Salucci, Medford, OR
- Beth Senac, San Antonio, TX
- Michael Schultz, Austin, TX
- Peggy Sue Skipper, Houston, TX
- Patti Stefek, Houston, TX
- Mary Teetor, San Francisco, CA
- Trinity Episcopal Church, The Rev. Kevin Robinson, Van Buren, AR
- Renie Vasquez, Austin, TX
- Danielle Wilson, London, UK
- Gary White, Santa Fe, NM

Quick Links...

- [Register for Gathering](#)
- [More About Us](#)
- [TLS General Forum](#)
- [Renew Your Membership](#)
- [World-Wide Labyrinth Locator](#)
- [Website Homepage](#)

email: info@labyrinthology.org
 phone: 607-387-5863 (USA)
 web: <http://www.labyrinthology.org>