

Welcome! So many wonderful and exciting things to share with this Fall edition of the Regional Rep Communique. I hope everyone is making plans to attend our Annual Gathering in Baltimore. The Program and Core Gathering Committees have been working hard to bring a diverse group of labyrinth enthusiasts together – with the intent of sharing information and labyrinth fellowship.

Regional Tables Update

We're hearing about lots of activity with these tables. The labyrinth movement will be well represented for the members of the press who will be attending. Following is a brief overview in case you are not aware of what this is all about.

The purpose of these tables is to give each region the opportunity to display and inform Gathering attendees about what is going on within their regions.

The location of the tables is in the main assembly hall at the entrance to the large General Session/dining ballroom and vendor's space. We hope this will encourage mingling among members and the public when they are with us.

Please note, it is not mandatory that regions display anything at their tables, nor is it mandatory that anyone sit at these tables. As it is with the rest of the Labyrinth Society, this is on a volunteer basis. (For those of you who are vendors, there will be more vendor helpers this year to allow you more time to participate in other activities.)

These tables are for networking and providing general informational type material about labyrinths and labyrinth activities in the area. They are not to be used for "direct sales" purposes. Activities in schools, communities, parks, hospitals, future plans, collaborations, models... all kinds of photos mounted for display would be great. A binder of labyrinth locations is another good idea. Let the creative juices flow!

Each 8' table will have an easel standing behind it with a furnished 15" x 20" full color sign for each region, depicting the geographical area and Regional Rep contact information.

There will also be a couple of chairs for any members who would like to sit and visit with passers-by. A pad will also be

available for folks to leave messages for others in that region. And there will be business card holders for members to display their services.

The Gathering Committee Team encourages the Regional Reps to contact their general membership and see what everyone would like to display. With all the labyrinth publicity/activity in this Region since the Washington Post article appeared in mid-April (there has since been many other labyrinthine articles), this should be a highly attended gathering by the general public.

We hope you are having a good time creating your displays and look forward to viewing all the wonderful labyrinth work being made manifest in a world that so desperately needs the peaceful, healing energies the labyrinth brings!

*The host region volunteers, Mid-Atlantic Regional Rep **Stephanie Blackton**, and the Gathering Committee members are looking forward to seeing everyone and are working very hard in support of the global labyrinth movement.*

Resonance... the energy of 3500+ years connecting with 3500+ years into the future

This labyrinth is a double spiral design with each of the two opposing spirals planted in a different color of alyssum - white and lavender, and has wood mulch paths. Shown here in full bloom and one of eight labyrinths at the home of Lisa Moriarty, Regional Rep for USA: Mid-West.

*Photo by
Lisa Gidlow Moriarty*



The Santa Fe Cathedral Labyrinth by Marge McCarthy (USA: Mountain)

The Santa Fe Labyrinth Resource Group was honored recently by a request from the Cathedral Church of St. Francis of Assisi to assist them in constructing a labyrinth. With approval from Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan, the rector, Father Jerome Martinez y Alire, asked us to provide information on designs, materials, costs and possible contractors to the landscape architects who were designing an overall beautification of the Cathedral's grounds. They wished to have a permanent labyrinth in the Chartres Cathedral form.

The Cathedral in Santa Fe is the center of a widespread traditional Hispanic culture dating back to the late 1500's when Spanish soldiers and Franciscan priests marched north from Mexico to occupy a land that was eventually to become the American Southwest. Yet the Cathedral was built in French Romanesque style under the direction of a French Archbishop, John Baptist Lamy. Many people recognize his name from Willa Cather's book "Death Comes to the Archbishop." The Chartres-style labyrinth, 36 feet in diameter, is a reminder of the Cathedral's French roots; the Mexican porphyry in shades of red and green is a connection to the cultural roots of many of today's residents.

The Labyrinth Resource group was especially pleased to assist in this project

because Father Jerome sees the labyrinth as a gift to the community. It is open at all hours, illuminated at night and occupies a prominent place, along with the Palace of the Governors and the Plaza at the center of this ever-popular tourist town. This is also the first labyrinth project in Santa Fe to reach the Hispanic community directly. The labyrinth will become part of the annual Holy Week pilgrimage in which thousands of people walk the 21 miles from the Cathedral to the village church at Chimayo, seen as a place with healing power. With a reproduction of the Cross of Jerusalem at its center, Father Jerome says of the labyrinth: "It symbolizes the pilgrimage to Jerusalem, both the earthly and heavenly one. As one walks the rings of a labyrinth one becomes a pilgrim and enters into a meditation on the journey of life."

The landscape architects requested proposals from two interested builders and selected the team of Kevin Avants of AvantGardens and William Campbell of Sadhu Stone. Several members of the Labyrinth Resource Group participated in the planning meetings: Bob and Marge McCarthy, E.J. Paterson, Liz Paterson, Debrot Receconi, Nan Schwanfelder and Carlos Smith. The labyrinth was completed in mid-August and will be dedicated by Archbishop Sheehan on October 5.

You're Invited...

All new and existing TLS members are cordially invited to attend a Member Benefits Orientation, which will be held at the TLS Annual Gathering in Baltimore. The event will take place on Thursday, November 6, from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. in Salon A. Topics will include the new TLS Web site, Regional Reps, and volunteer opportunities. Members will also receive a Membership Packet. After the orientation, new members will also be invited to dine together at a reserved table. For more information about the orientation, please contact:

*Patricia McLaughlin, Ph.D., CLF
tlsdevelopment@aol.com
TLS Director of Development
1830 2nd Avenue, Suite 107
Rock Island, Illinois 61201
Phone: (309) 788-7167*



Photos by Marge McCarthy



Research Note

David Gallagher is conducting astrological research seeking insight into individuals' initial encounter with the labyrinth and concurrent psychological experience, especially when the later entailed a subjective perception of "transformation."

What is the operative principle that makes the labyrinth an efficacious tool? What, precisely and empirically, induces a transformative experience for some people and not others? Are there identifiable variables affecting situational or circumstantial efficacy? Perhaps astrological analysis of transformational experiences associated with the labyrinth might suggest some clues.

If you are interested in participating in this investigative work, David will need the following from you:

1) Your birth date, time (as precisely as possible), and place of birth



Royalty free photo by PhotoDisc

- 2) Date, time, and location of initial labyrinth encounter
- 3) Brief description of subjective experience

All personal information will be held in confidence and participant anonymity maintained. Findings will be published in the Society's Newsletter, if warranted and accepted, and possibly presented at a future TLS Annual Gathering.

Questions or data submission should be sent to David:

Phone: 607-387-5863

Email: DGallagher@aol.com

Postal Address: David Gallagher, P.O. Box 736, Trumansburg, NY 14886 USA

Harmonic Concordance

Editor's Note: Just wanted to share information I found to be of interest, especially as it occurs during the Gathering and presents aspects to TLS's natal chart.

The following information comes from the website of the Harmonic Concordance by professional astrologer John Mirehiel, www.astrosite.com. **Please use discernment in reading.** His web site is devoted to a discussion of the astrological metaphors and spiritual meaning implied in the horoscope of a moment in our future, the total lunar eclipse of November 8-9, 2003.

The astrological chart of that moment has a distinctive pattern, or "signature," which is visible even to the untrained eye. The astrological holograph that the

Total lunar eclipse of November 8-9, 2003

moment projects is fundamentally spiritual in nature, and can be understood in terms of Quantum Metaphysics as well as by 'astro-spiritual' metaphor. It speaks of the descent of God-Consciousness upon this plane and offers a moment in time when humankind can make a concerted effort to rise up to meet it. Mirehiel has called this moment of attunement The Harmonic Concordance. He and others believe that it opens an energetic "stargate" to the Ascension of Mother Earth, and to each of her inhabitants. Many have called the attainment of

this paradigm the Shift of Ages.

Like its spiritual ancestor, the Harmonic Convergence of 1987, The Harmonic Concordance of 2003 also is a call to the Spirit of Humankind to awaken to the idea that we are, in fact, Spiritual beings sharing a physical experience.

Consequently, ceremonies and celebrations in honor of this idea are now being scheduled at multiple sacred sites and pilgrimage places throughout the world.

It's not too late to sponsor an item for the Gathering!

A proposal was made to the Executive Committee by the 2003 Gathering committee to allow TLS members to sponsor a limited number of items that would be given or a service provided to gathering attendees.

We are thinking that some of our members might be interested in underwriting the costs by providing funding and would thereby act as sponsors.

Following is a list of the proposed items for sponsorship:

- Keychain flashlight
- Canvas tote bag and goodies
- Floral and greenery
- 365 Club Reception
- Small brass bells
- Van rental
- Items for the 14 region tables:
 - Tiered business card holders
 - Easels for the individual region signage (signage furnished)

Please notify us with changes of email or postal address. These can be sent directly to David Gallagher tlsinformation@aol.com or a TLS Regional Rep for updating of their files and to forward on to Membership Services.

Sponsors will be able to place a logo on appropriate items and/or be identified as a sponsor in brochures or handouts and receive thanks and recognition in the program.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor please contact Gathering Co-chair **Pamela White** at pamelasgarden@hotmail.com or 410-833-5018. She will provide more information, costs, styles, sponsor limitations and more clarification via e-mail attachment or direct response.

There will be evaluation forms at the gathering with an area specifically for this topic. Out of consideration of the poor co-chair's time, please hold general comments and other feedback for the evaluation.

We hope this peaks your interest and you have fun with the concept because that is our intention.

What I Did on My Summer Vacation by Diane Terry-Kehner (USA: Northeast)

Wednesday, August 13th, 2003 was a warm but misty day at the New Jersey shore. I was with my family on our annual two-week vacation in a condo that overlooks the Atlantic Ocean. Each day, I drew a different type or size labyrinth on the beach. Right and left turning classicals of 3, 7, 11 and even 15 circuits took their turns, along with some Santa Rosas® and Hopi mother and child labyrinths.

But this day I wanted to try something I had never drawn before, not even on paper: a Chartres. I made a quick sketch from a picture in a book, slipped it into my beach bag, grabbed my drawing stick, said a little prayer, and made my way to the beach.

The tide was nearly out and I was led away down the shore to a particular spot where the sand was smooth and empty. Using my body as a compass, I drew the center circle, then ever growing concentric circles, keeping track of the count in my head.

I was aware that people were watching my efforts with great curiosity. A few asked questions while I worked, which I gladly answered. Finally, the 12th circle was complete, and I took out my sketch to see where to draw the switch-backs and cut in for the entrance and goal. It

was much easier than I thought it would be to eye things up and give the right proportions to the four quarters. Although it was by no means a perfect Chartres, the damp sand was very forgiving of my mistakes, and shortly I began to round off the turns and add the



Wonder what she's thinking?

Photo by Diane Terry-Kehner

six petals in the goal. I decided to leave out the lunations. Erasing the lines between the turns with my feet, the labryses appeared. I was very excited.

By now, several people were gathered around listening to me explain the origins and purposes of the Chartres

labyrinth while I finished my work.

One man, who spoke with a slight accent, revealed that he was French-Canadian. I lived in France for two years and speak French fluently, so our conversation switched seamlessly into French. What a thrill to have just drawn my first Chartres and to be discussing it in the language of the country where it was created! Then he called his family over and explained the whole thing to them in French.

Before I realized it, people were already on the labyrinth, following the spiraling paths in awe. More and more people flocked to the labyrinth: tiny toddlers, children, teenagers, moms and dads, grandparents. Dozens and dozens of people walked right out of the mist to enter the Chartres labyrinth, journey to the center and back out again. I was warmly thanked many times.

Later that day after I returned to our condo, I looked down the beach to the spot where I had drawn. Although it was too far away to make out the lines, I could still see people walking round and round, back and forth, pausing in the center and retracing their steps. And in the evening the rising tide claimed another labyrinth as my gift to the ocean.

USA: Southwest Update by Crow Mitchell (Coordinating Regional Rep for Texas)

The labyrinth movement is flourishing in Texas. With over sixty publicly available labyrinths, and several individuals and groups dedicated to the promotion of the labyrinth as a sacred tool, almost anyone in the Lone Star state can find a labyrinth to walk.

East Texas

The newest Regional Representative, **Heidi Zech** of Houston, came on board with TLS in June. She's offering a workshop called "Children and the Labyrinth" in mid-September. In late September, Covenant church is offering an equinox labyrinth walk. In mid-October, Lauren Artress will visit Galveston to offer Veriditas Labyrinth Facilitator Training. The Houston Labyrinth Network continues to support networking in the southeastern corner of the state. Several Houston

area labyrinths offer a facilitated monthly walk to introduce newcomers to the labyrinth.

Central Texas

A large group of dedicated labyrinthians met in Austin to create a Central Texas Labyrinth Network. Plans for a newsletter and website are underway. St. David's Episcopal Church will dedicate its recently completed Chartres pattern with a visit and presentations by Lauren Artress the first weekend in October. Robert Ferre will present a weekend retreat called "Everything About Labyrinths" at the end of November in Austin. **Crow Mitchell** is our Coordinating Regional Rep in Texas, and she keeps in touch with labyrinthians in Central Texas. She continues to explore new labyrinth patterns and create labyrinth art.

West Texas

Sarah Lee Morris of Lubbock has undertaken the task of seeking out all the hidden labyrinthians in the broad Western desert. With two Canvas labyrinths, she is poised to share the labyrinth with many other Texans in the near future. Sarah Lee became a TLS Regional Representative in May.

To learn more about the Labyrinth in Texas, visit the following links:

<http://www.houstonlabyrinthnetwork.org/events.cgi>

<http://hometown.aol.com/learnfac/myhomepage/business.html>

<http://www.newlifetexas.org/index.htm>

Also, a search on the Veriditas Labyrinth Locator reveals the majority of Labyrinths in Texas.

Meet Your Regional Reps



Meryl Ann Butler
USA: West
Serves Southern California

Meryl Ann Butler is a modern day renaissance woman. A professional artist since 1974, she is also a writer, labyrinth builder, workshop facilitator, traditional drawing and painting teacher, contemporary fiber artist and mother of a daughter and seven stepchildren. Nearly 100 articles by and about her have appeared in magazines and newspapers in the U.S. and abroad, and she has been featured in books and on television. She

was the featured expert on the Edgar Cayce New Millennium TV series show on creativity.

Her permanent labyrinth installations include a 48-foot diameter Chartres style labyrinth painted on the patio of the A.R.E. (Association for Research and Enlightenment/Edgar Cayce Foundation) Headquarters in Virginia Beach, VA. After she designed this labyrinth, she painted it, with the assistance of a group of volunteers, on the terrazzo patio overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, it is open to the public 24 hours a day.

Others installations include a teal-colored Chartres-style painted labyrinth at the A.R.E. Center in Houston, Texas, and a Classical labyrinth made of rocks in upstate New York. Meryl Ann also built a temporary Chartres style labyrinth, over 60 feet in diameter, in Red Rocks

National Park for the Heal the Earth as One Festival in 1996. She has created many labyrinths on cloth, canvas, and paper, including the Chartres-style and Roman labyrinths she uses in her workshops.

She has presented labyrinth-related workshops, lectures and events from California to Massachusetts, from Florida to Illinois, for such diverse audiences as: A.R.E. affiliated groups, The United Methodist Church, Women's Circle Full Moon events and The New England Women Ministers Association. Currently she offers labyrinth workshops through Learning Tree University's Chatsworth Campus in Los Angeles.

She lives in Los Angeles and can be contacted at merylannb@aol.com.

AKA Runs With Glitter

Midwest Labyrinth Festival

A one-day festival on Saturday October 25th sponsored by Wisdom Ways Center for Spirituality and Minnesota Labyrinth Network, at the Carandolet Retreat Center adjacent to the College of St. Catherine, 1890 Randolph Ave, St. Paul, MN
Keynote speakers, Jeff and Kimberly Lowelle Seward of Essex, England, choice of 12 concurrent labyrinth-related workshops, vendor/resource room, labyrinth walk to live harp music and a multi-media show by Cindy Pavlinac of Sacred Land Photography, California. Earlybird discount deadline October 1st. More information and registration available at the Wisdom Ways website at: www.stkate.edu/wisdomways or by calling 651-690-8830 or email at wisdomways@stkate.edu



Photo by Lisa Gidlow Moriarty

This paver labyrinth is a 35 foot diameter Circle of Peace design installed at Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie, MN. It is adjacent to a memorial paver pathway and overlooks a wildlife pond in the rear of the building. Lisa Gidlow Moriarty (USA: Mid-West) was the consultant on the project.

There will be a reception honoring the 365 Club members at the TLS 2003 Gathering in Baltimore, Saturday from 5-6 pm in Salon A.

Meet More of Your Regional Reps

Margaret Saizan
USA: Southeast
Serves Louisiana
and Florida



Margaret Saizan is a veteran small business owner, community activist, and labyrinth facilitator from Baton Rouge, Louisiana who focuses her work with the labyrinth into three passionate arenas: business, community, and spiritual tourism. Her inspiration for working with labyrinths was sparked by an article on the internet in January, 2000. She became so intrigued that she set a goal to make working with labyrinths her vocation for the new millennium, and she trained with Dr. Lauren Artress later that year. Inspired by her training, Saizan spent the next three years travel-

ing the globe to experience and learn about labyrinths. Her labyrinth quest has not only enabled her to meet many leaders in the field, but has taken her to places near and far, such as Sedona Arizona, Grace Episcopal Cathedral in San Francisco, Chartres Cathedral, Glas-tonbury, England, and Bali Indonesia.

In January, 2003, she became co-director of The Baton Rouge Labyrinth Project, with fellow TLS member, Maida Owens. The project is a volunteer effort to teach the Baton Rouge community about labyrinths and to work with public agencies and organizations to create community labyrinths in the area. BRLP most recently created a temporary labyrinth installation at City Park in Baton Rouge, and is working with the Baton Rouge Recreation and Park Commission to propose a permanent labyrinth installation in a new master plan for innovations to City Park. BRLP's vision for this project is to make Baton Rouge a "city of labyrinths" for members

of the community to enjoy, and to attract spiritual tourism to its area.

Saizan is also the owner and chief dreamweaver of the newly launched "Labyrinths at Work," a company whose mission is to connect the ancient symbol of the labyrinth to the modern world of business and commerce. She promotes the use of labyrinths as a tool for inspiring creativity, insight, innovation, problem solving, meaning, purpose, vision, values, and soul in the workplace. Margaret brings the labyrinth to bear on organizational life through conferences, retreats, workshops, labyrinth walks and events. Her passion and experience is in creating unique labyrinth events for large groups. Her ultimate vision is to create a labyrinth pilgrimage trail in Louisiana, including a land- art, labyrinth- inspired, eco-friendly theme park as the centerpiece.

You can reach Margaret at:
brlpmargaret@hotmail.com
or visit her website at:
www.batonrougelabyrinthproject.org



Photo by Lisa Gidlow Moriarty

Another Circle of Peace style labyrinth mowed into the lawn at the Minneapolis Convention Center in July by Lisa Gidlow Moriarty. It was created for the Episcopal Church national convention and had many walkers!



SarahLee Morris
USA: Southwest
Serves West Texas

SarahLee Morris, a certified associate Christian educator in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) serving a congregation in Lubbock, TX, works in all areas of spiritual formation, with all ages, and at all levels of her denomination. After a brief "former life" in the business world, SarahLee found her true calling in spiritual formation and the labyrinth plays a major part in her personal and professional lives. A certified labyrinth facilitator, SarahLee indulges in books (several thousand on her shelves), travel, music, the American Civil War, continued formal education, long walks, and especially loves time spent with her husband and cat.

You can reach SarahLee at:
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