

Dear Subscriber,

05/02/2014

# Behold February



The origin of the month of February hails either from the ancient Italian god Februus, or the festival of purification that was celebrated in Rome during this time of the year; known as Februalia or Februatio. The word Februare means to purify with water and is associated with the rainy weather that ushers in the spring season. We know it as the month of 28 days and perhaps the month of balance, as it gives us a leap every four years to equalize the calendar. Sosigenes of Alexandria, Egypt was the astronomer credited with the creation of the Julian calendar and is responsible for the designation of February's shortened status. Did

you know that February at one time was actually the last month of the year?

Some interesting patterns develop in February, such as the fact that it begins on the same day of the week as March and November and ends on the same day of the week as October ends? If you wanted to consider a more global approach, February is on the equivalent of August in the Southern Hemisphere. We see it perhaps as a little more precious with its limited days and its relation to the heart with mid month's Valentines Day celebration, though February contains many events, at least 30 that we've uncovered and at



with at least 28 days for walking in this month we might realize a reason for celebration with every daily walk this month and we hope you do! Behold everyday

Just imagine developing a walk around a few of these events and you may find some very interesting ways to see the labyrinth as a tool or patterned metaphor everyday. Get Creative!

The Super Bowl World Marriage Day Presidents Day National Wear Red Day Family Day in Canada Flag Day in Mexico Waitangi Day in New Zealand International Mother Language Day or Candlemas... there are enough events this month to enjoy one a day. Share your marvelous creations with us when you do!

Labyrinth Image on the top left via the Church of Truth, Victoria BC and on the right by member Sue Swanson with our thanks.

# **Going for the Gold**



The Winter Olympic Games are also an event of February this year and much like the month that celebrates an extra day every four years, the Winter Games have that in common. It is a time for athletes from across the globe to unite and "go for the gold". Apart from the individual dedication and passion, the <u>Olympic Games</u> provide hope for "building a better world through sport".



We know that there are many ways apart from athletics to "go for the gold" in life. Just for the sport of it and in the spirit of the Winter Games, we thought it might be fun to consider ways the 365 Club offers us an opportunity to go for the (labyrinth) gold and build a better you through the labyrinth. What ever you can do to find your "gold" and reach for your glory, it will and does make a difference in how you will then encounter the world. We build a better world through the labyrinth with our efforts and all we had to do was walk into the gold that glimmers within.

Share your labyrinth gold with us through the blog on at least one of the 28 days in this month and make our 2014 Club Olympic worthy with your shares and stories from the labyrinth. Can we collect 28 of your walking reflections this

month? Email them or simply share in the comments section. *On your mark... get set... GO!* 

Labyrinth design from spirit of science dot com.

## At the Heart of the Matter

Happy Valentines Month! It seems commercially that this is a holiday to last all month, though beyond the commercial aspects, the heart is always in play and for those who have

played with the idea of putting the heart and the labyrinth together, we have loved discovering the connections of heart to mind and body. We appreciate those who share their creativity and we find there are lots of ways to use the heart in your designs. Enjoy the many hearts we are sending you this month, and if you look through our blog from 2013, you will find 28 different heart designs to appreciate.



From our members... The labyrinths above are submitted member images from the year that have been adjusted and are from Arizona, Ohio, Oklahoma, California and online images. The labyrinth below has been submitted by new member Sue Swanson of Minnesota and is made of prayer beads. Many thanks and appreciation for your contributions.

### **Valentine's Labyrinth**

Such a simple thing when you reach the heart of the labyrinth: a mirror, showing you the face you realize you always knew.

Lesley Hayes, 1993©

### **Lesley Hayes Poems**

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# Welcome New Members



Every month new members join our walking experience and this year we are highlighting a warm welcome to them as they come in each month noting only their first name and location as we have members from all over the world. In November we welcomed Robert of Florida, and Elmer of Indiana. In December Mona of New York joined us and in January both Sue and Martha

joined us from Minnesota. Welcome new members and we look forward to hearing more about you and how you use the labyrinth for yourself and for others. Feel free to share stories and experiences and plenty of pictures. Just write to us

at: 365Club@labyrinthsociety.org

Image from Jerry Etzkorn of Vancouver, he shared many sand designs with us at the TLS Conference.

## **Blog Update**

The month of February with its shortened season, can be a good reminder for urgency. How many times do we put off or delay what we want to do because we believe something else is so much more important? What if we made this a month of doing it now and making things happen? Just like putting one foot in front of the other, soon we may find that in the

routine of our daily walk, we begin completing what we thought we could not.

May this month of February move us all with heart, though be a catalyst for movment and urgency. Share with us how taking this focus made a change in your walk and your life when you do and know you will inspire others in what you can do.

<u>Contact us</u> to be added as a contributing writer.



## With Heart...



We love walking, writing and being a part of the labyrinth! We love you all too and look forward to the day when you will share those stories and show the love of what you do too.

For this month we wish you urgent heart filled moments of passion and purpose and as you walk along the paths, may your step be plentiful and your realizations grand.

Wishing you all the journey of joy and love, *Lynda Tourloukis and Mary Silvaroli Daul* 

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