



Talisman

Talisman ...

A Unique New-Age Shop

150 Main Street

Monroe, Connecticut 06468

(203) 261-0047

(203) 402-9186

www.talismanct.com

<http://blog.ctnews.com/lenhard>

Facebook - Talisman: A Unique New-Age Store

November 1, 2010

Merry Greetings!

Since the issue of Manifestation has come up several times over the past few weeks, I thought this month I'd write about my thoughts on the subject. Of course, I believe that prayers are magical - but the act of manifestation puts the seeker in less of a passive role and allows for a more direct approach to getting what one desires. In conversation, someone recently said to me "So we are telling the God and Goddess what we want ... ?" and I quickly interrupted and said, "No! We don't TELL Divinity ANYTHING!" Rather - we are directing a desire, clearly, and showing our sincerity through our research/selection, timing, fasting, gathering and assembly of components, and wording/rhyming (it is said that rhyme is most pleasing to the Divine, which is why so many spells/prayers/songs are so beautifully written in rhyme). It's a request -- not a demand!

Maybe this will make it clearer: Say you have two kids. One comes to you, tugs your sleeve and

says (incessantly) "Can I have a hamster? I want a hamster! Will you buy me a hamster? I need a hamster! Hamster! Hamster! Hamster!"

Kid #2 says, thoughtfully and clearly, "I'd like to get a hamster, please. I have checked out several library books and I think it would be the perfect pet for me. I promise I will keep its cage clean, and I've learned that if we go away for a weekend we can leave extra food and it will be fine. I have been saving my money, and I can pay for the hamster and the cage myself - will you drive me to the pet shop and help me out with the food, litter and water bottle? I need an extra twenty dollars in order to get one. In the future, I'll use my allowance money to buy supplies but I don't have quite enough money right now, and I've wanted a pet of my own for a long time now. Thank you, and I hope you'll let me get a hamster this weekend."

Okay, everyone stop rolling your eyes for a minute because we have all either a) been bitten HARD by a stupid hamster; b) got a hamster that either died or gave birth the next day; or c) lived for ten years and pooped and pee'd more than any little animal ought to be able to. My daughter Devin's freaking hamster defied all basic laws of nature, and like a parrot I thought I was going to have to write its future care into my Last Will & Testament.

That's not the point. The POINT is, Kid #2 did his research, saved his money and presented an eloquent case for a new pet. Now - here's the kicker: Sometimes, despite all the best efforts, the answer is "No". It's not "No" because we don't want our kid to be happy - it's "No" because we know our kid isn't mature enough, or has too many sports and school obligations -- or maybe, MAYBE it's "No" because we know dad is being transferred to a new job in six months, and we don't want to tell our kid and upset them right now, but soon we'll be moving to another State.

But once we settle in, we will have a big yard - and instead of a hamster, we plan to get him a puppy.

So, it was "No" to hamster but "Yes" to puppy -- in about 9 months or so (and in case you didn't know, puppy trumps hamster every time).

And that's how I believe it works. Maybe it's because I have a very "parent-child" view of my personal relationship with Divinity - certainly, I hope I never lose my childlike belief (and delight) in everyday miracles. And I've said to many of you, I'm not a big fan of "The Secret" because the premise that you get whatever you want as long as you keep asking - hey, I am a mom of four and if I had a dollar for every time I've said "If you ask me that ONE more time ...!". Ask, don't beg. Nagging is annoying. No one likes to be nagged, it's an insult to one's intelligence. It's also annoying (and disrespectful) to ask your tarot cards or pendulum or whatever the same question over and over. Stop it right now! Gosh, as a Reader that makes me crazy - and if you ask ME more than once, I'm going to hand you the Magic 8 Ball I have sitting on the counter of the shop, and nicely suggest that you "speak to the Ball".

So you do what you do, the way you do it -- light your candles, assemble your shrine, dance around the bonfire naked under the full moon, whatever - do it thoroughly, do it well, SEE IT HAPPEN AND LET IT GO. Out of your hands and into the realm of Divine Will. They heard you, they got it, and they'll let you know. Maybe it's no, maybe you'll get a hamster, or maybe you'll eventually score big and get a puppy. Just remember who is in charge - otherwise, why bother to Believe at all? And do you really want Their job - because I've taken a peek, and there are an awful lot of us all connected with our wants and our needs interwoven within and throughout

each of our individual lives. An awful lot of people asking for an awful lot of stuff - I really don't know how They keep it all straight (I guess it's the "all knowing" part of THEIR job description, huh?). Whew! No way do I ever want to run THAT show!

What's New at Talisman?

Christopher Penczak's new Book: *The Three Rays of Witchcraft: Power, Love and Wisdom in the Garden of the Gods*. Inspired by a Vision of Awen depicting a spear, a flowering branch, and a horned serpent emanating from three drops of wisdom, surrounded by three worlds, Christopher Penczak received a teaching to reconcile many disparate parts of modern Witchcraft into a cohesive body of magickal lore for personal evolution and enlightenment. Experimented with and expanded upon, this lore is now shared through his book *The Three Rays of Witchcraft: Power, Love and Wisdom in the Garden of the Gods*. Striving to weave the diverse threads of his personal practice together, the Three Rays provided Christopher with a powerful framework to bring together modern Wicca, Traditional Craft, Druidism, Theosophy, Qabalah, Shamanism, and alternative health into a greater whole. The text outlines a model of the universe based upon the forces of Power, Love, and Wisdom. Associated with each is a ray, a path we can travel spiritually and evoke energetically. Known as the Straight Line, the Bent Line and the Crooked Line, each offers different magick, knowledge and mysteries. Each ray is associated with a race of spiritual entities with whom we can partner, including the angels, faeries, animal powers and ancestors. \$20, signed.

You may have noticed our church pew is gone (moved downstairs) and there has been some rearranging done, all to make room for our new line of "Talisman's Own" products. These include spell bottles, mojo bags, spell kits, incense, oils, flower essences, etc. In addition, we will be adding an e-store page onto the website, so some of these items can be sold on-line as well.

Talisman's next **New-Age Fest** will take place on Saturday, November 6th from 12:00-6:00pm. Andrew Neblett will be reading tarot, Pina will be doing Angel Oracle/Mediumship readings, Mark will be reading tarot and receiving messages from spirit, and Tammie will have her chair set-up for massage. Please view the Talisman website for individual bios of the readers. Tim Bshara will offer aura-chakra photography sessions \$40 includes a 22 page report.

Chair Massage by Tammie, licensed Massage Therapist, from 12:00 to 6:00 \$1/minute. While you are sitting in the specially designed massage chair, Tammie can work on legs, arms, back, shoulders, neck - five or ten minutes spent in Tammie's chair will leave you relaxed for the rest of the day ... everyone who tries it comes back again and again!

Talisman's Regularly-Scheduled Readers

(Cash payment requested)

Meditation: Drop in sessions every Wednesday from 6pm-7pm, led by Leafweave. \$5. A variety

of styles and visualizations are offered, for all levels of experience!

Starr: Thursdays - Angel Readings 4:00-7:00 pm (or by appointment) \$30 or ask question \$1/min. Among Starr's gifts is that of telemetry, or the ability to "read" an object through touch. If you would like to connect with someone who has passed through a piece of jewelry or clothing, a toy, a letter, etc. please bring these along to your session.

Barbara DeLong: Fridays by appointment (call 261-0047) \$40/30 min; \$75/60 min. Her website www.barbaradelong.com is a teaching site with spiritual material and predictions for the energies of every day in the year. Check out Barbara's Blog Talk Radio Site: www.blogtalkradio.com/night-light

Mark Hoyt: Fridays 2pm - 7:30pm. I'm pleased to introduce Mark Hoyt as part of the Talisman intuitive/healing team! Mark's readings include channeling/mediumship as well. The same as all the shop's readers, Mark did read for me as part of the "interview" process and I must say I was quite impressed with his abilities. In addition, his extensive background in Energy Work, Reflexology and Massage (trained at the Palmer Institute in Salem, MA) will eventually lead to his being a very familiar face at Talisman as we move ever-closer to our goal of becoming a full-service Healing Center. \$25/20 minutes.

Lina: Sundays - Intuitive Counseling by appointment (261-0047) \$50/45 minutes. Lina uses her gifts of mediumship, palm reading and angel cards in a reading that can extend as much as two years into the future. Her accuracy is legendary ... everyone loves Lina!

November 6: Talisman's Monthly New-Age Fest. 12pm-6pm

November 13: Elpida, Greek Coffee Ground Readings 1:00-6:00pm, \$30/25 minutes

November 20: 1:00pm-6:00pm; Gwen, Whole-Life Tarot (may include some past life aspects) \$25/20 minutes; and Tammie Barletta, Chair Massage, \$1/minute 12:00-5:00.

11/6 from 12-4; 11/13 & 11/20 from 1-6pm: Christine Honeck - available by appointment. When you call for an appointment, please provide your birth date/time/place so she can incorporate aspects of your astrological chart into the reading. Prior to the reading, at her home, Christine prepares to meet each individual by meditating/journeying and using automatic writing techniques. Christine reads with The Heart of Fairy Oracle cards - when I sat with her, I found her reading to be unique and accurate. \$30/30 min.

NEW HOURS

Tuesday-Thursday: 11:00am-3:00pm and 5:00pm - 7:00pm
Friday: 11:00am-3:00am and 5:00pm - 8:00pm
Saturday: 11:00am - 8:00pm

Closed Thanksgiving Day

----- If coming from a distance, please always call ahead of time -----

Available by Appointment ...

Laura: Almost everyone knows that I'm happy to throw cards/read palms for five dollars. As a courtesy I don't do this when there are scheduled readers working that day, many of whom drive a distance to get to the shop and it's not fair to them. People ask - Why only five dollars? Because you have to catch me between customers/phone calls and even then I am apt to be interrupted by the business of running the shop - so \$5 seems fair to me! However, I have been getting requests for private readings for some time now ... and so, if you would like a private appointment on Sunday-Tuesday (when Talisman is closed) I will come to Talisman and sit with you, in an uninterrupted reading, for \$25. Also, most of Talisman's readers - and myself - are available to read at home parties or events for three or more people. Call me (261-0047 or 402-9186) to schedule.

Healing massage/Reiki with Kim: Most of you have met Kim, my best friend and sister-in-law, as she has watched the shop from time to time. She has dressed candles, done house cleansings, and sat in on healing/reading sessions at Talisman as well. Kim is now (finally!) taking her own special brand of healing massage/Reiki/journeywork on the road, so to speak - "Have table/will travel!" and is available for at-home sessions for \$85/hour. Of course, I am biased ... but the feedback I have been getting is that she is providing a truly unique and wonderful experience. Call 261-0047 for more information.

Reflexology with Mark Hoyt: Call Talisman for details, but people are raving about his talents in this healing arena. Mark has an extensive background in Energy Work, Reflexology and Massage (trained at the Palmer Institute in Salem, MA). Hour-long sessions (\$100) can take place at your home or Talisman, whichever is most convenient and relaxing for you.

* * * * *

The Undercroft at Talisman to Host the Circle

The Circle of the Sacred Well now has a permanent 'home' or covenstead, located at Talisman in Monroe. The Circle has long had a close relationship with Talisman, and with Laura, as we share many of the same goals regarding helping to create and serve the pagan and New Age community here in western CT. After almost 10 years of a nomadic existence for the Circle, it is wonderful to have a permanent space, where we can meet. We welcome the community to join us on any of the dates below.

~~~~~

### The Undercroft at Talisman

November Open House

Second Friday each month - November 12

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

There is no cost for attending the Open House events. Adults and children are welcome. Come when you can and stay for as long as you like! These are family-oriented events. Adults and children of all ages are welcome to attend. These are great events at which to socialize and meet others of like mind. If you have heard of the Circle, but want to find out more before attending a formal event, these Open Houses are the place to do so! Contact Mandy at 203-922-2643 if you have questions.

-----

**Wiccan/ Pagan Study Group:  
Wheel of the Year & Celebrating the Sabbats**

**When: Tuesday ~ November 16th at 7:30 p.m.**

**Where: Undercroft at Talisman ~ 150 Main Street ~ Monroe**

-----

**Full (Frost) Moon  
November 21 - 7:30 pm  
UU Church, 96 Chapel St., Stratford**

\*\*\*\*\*

**News & Notes**

**Sunday, October 31: HALLOWEEN FAIRE** sponsored by A Healing Hand. Admission Free! 10am-6pm. Hotel Sierra, 830 Bridgeport Ave., Shelton.

\* Readers \* Healers \* Vendors \* Hourly Door Prizes

Psychic Medium-led spirit circle 6:30-8:00pm (tickets for spirit circle available on-line at [www.ahealinghand.net](http://www.ahealinghand.net)). For additional information, email Tim Bshara at [tbshara@hotmail.com](mailto:tbshara@hotmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Monroe will soon have a second metaphysical shop, as "Effigy" is opening November 6th at 415 Main Street (Vazzy's Plaza). The Grand Opening is planned for the weekend of October 20-21. A collaboration between Donna Golias and Mark Chapman, Effigy will feature mainly one-of-a-kind and handmade items along with a wonderful collection of rocks, incense, custom-blended oils, as well as an herb room where Donna will be working in her natural element! Mark is bringing a little bit of Salem in an elegant boutique setting to Connecticut - Donna will be available for readings - and they have an exciting line-up of guest readers and speakers coming in as well.

It is certainly my fondest hope that the pagan community will welcome Effigy, and that having two shops on Route 25 will result in the area becoming a "destination" as patrons will undoubtedly travel farther distances for the opportunity to visit not just one, but two unique shops in close

radius to one another. It's all good!

\* \* \* \* \*

Roland Comtois, Internationally acclaimed Spiritual Medium and Channel, will be at my friend Denise's Spiritual Center "Finding Feathers" in Fairfield on November 22nd, 6:30-8:30 pm, \$75.00. Seating limited to 40 persons max, everyone will receive a message from Spirit. Roland has helped thousands of people receive messages and communications from their departed loved ones. Learn more at [www.rolandcomtois.net](http://www.rolandcomtois.net) Please come for an amazing evening of spiritual communication and the knowledge that love never dies. It is advised that you bring a personal item from someone you wish to reach. Finding Feathers is located at 395 Commerce Drive, Fairfield - call (203) 362-9578 for reservations.

\* \* \* \* \*

Barbara DeLong, together with her friend Patrick Cooke, has created a video that is now up on You Tube. It started as a small project, almost a curiosity and has grown into an impressive and compelling endeavor. It has evolved into The Secrets of the Stones which is a preview of a new documentary about the largest collection of ancient and amazing stone structures in the world, which are hidden in the forests of New England. There is already a studio interested in producing a full length documentary - so to say the least, everyone at Talisman is very excited for them! The links to part 1 and part 2 , are included below. Please take a moment or two to watch them and let Barbara know what you think, and pass the link on to anyone who might be interested.

Part 1 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVMyqIlgVoKA>

Part 2 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yN3JD3C0dMM>

\* \* \* \* \*

### CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**RSVP (203) 261-0047**

I want to start by making a quick request - please, if you register for a class or workshop and find you cannot attend - call and let me know ASAP. Many presenters travel a distance to get to Talisman and I am going to have to begin collecting pre-payments for all classes if the trend of no-shows continues. Thank you!

**November 7 & 15 (Sunday classes) Wicca University 9am-5pm, \$125 taught by Bill & Mandy Oram/Circle of the Sacred Well**

Join us for this two-day workshop that covers all aspects of the Wiccan religion. The class traces the cultural and religious traditions and individuals that have influenced the modern religion of

Wicca, as all as other NeoPagan religions. It explains many of the common terms associated with Wicca and provides an overview of the Wiccan belief system. It also discusses Wiccan concepts regarding the Divine and provides details about the Elements and the Elementals. There is an overview of the Wheel of the Year - Sabbats & Esbats included. An overview of the Wiccan ethical system and details of the concepts and methods involved in creating sacred space are also discussed, along with ritual construction and altar set-up. The class will conclude with an open discussion of the challenges of living the Wiccan religion in a modern world.

NOTE: This class is very extensive and is a great way to learn about this spiritual path. This is a very popular class and seating is limited. **Advanced registration is necessary.** Register early to secure a seat. Payment is required upon registration. Includes: All handout material, along with a binder with subject dividers in which to place the material.

**November 13 Introduction to Hypnosis, taught by Andrew Neblett, 5pm-7pm \$20**

Learn the history/application of hypnosis, which is medically known as hypnotherapy and metaphysically called "trance" - and referred to as stage hypnosis for entertainment. You will learn what hypnosis is, how it works, and its benefits. Learn how to successfully use self-hypnosis for positive change. Be prepared to be amazed!

**November 20 Tarot 101, taught by Laura Lenhard, 2-4 pm \$10**

Bring your own tarot deck and we will discuss the basis tenants of tarot reading, then build our skills by throwing cards in the classic "Celtic Cross" spread and reading for each other. Handouts.

**December 11 A Touch of Tibet, taught by Cathy Kane, 2-4pm \$20**

Sound and energy are perfect partners. In this class, an overview of some traditional Tibetan ceremonial instruments (singing bowls, gantas or singing bells, and tingshas) will be presented, along with some interesting and practical ways to use them for energy work. This includes "smudging with sound", finding energy blockages in the chakras, clearing negative or "stuck" energy, meditation, stress management and other practical purposes. You'll also get the opportunity to play a dragon bowl which tradition holds is good for long life, good health, good fortune and prosperity. This class combines theoretical knowledge with hands-on experience, and is helpful for people at all levels of experience with sound/energy work. If we have time, we'll also play the instruments as a group (if you have any of the above instruments, please bring them). Come prepared to learn something new and have fun!

**December 18 Energetic Dowsing - Tools & Techniques, taught by Cathy Kane, 2-4 pm \$20**

The world is full of energy-flowing, radiating, transforming. When you can tap into that energy

and understand its many states, new possibilities open up to you! Come learn to use various tools (including your own body) and techniques for dowsing to understand the energy fields around you; detect and clear "stuck" energy; find lost items; answer questions and other interesting and useful activities. This class is for all experience levels.

### [Astrology Corner by Alethea](#)

Neptune resumes forward orbit this month on the **6th**, which is rather welcome news as it has been hovering around the 26 degree mark of Aquarius for quite some time now. For anyone with planets found in the late degrees of the Fixed signs (Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, Aquarius) or latter degrees of Cancer & Virgo this is good news as it will once again be moving away from stressful contacts with any planets that fall in this specified range. Though Neptune will not leave this sign until early 2012, the dates surrounding Neptune's direct station will afford us a unique opportunity for enlightenment if we choose to use it. These days can help us to dispel any illusions we've had and send any Neptunian fog we've been living under rolling back out to sea.

When Neptune makes challenging contacts to a planet in our chart the effects can be similar to walking around in a haze. We tend to lack clarity, direction, and can have trouble focusing. We may be inclined to daydream or seek an escape from the harshness of reality in one form or another. We can often feel confused and out-of-sorts in a vague sort of way - something isn't right, but it's hard to put a finger on exactly what it is. In more difficult manifestations of this energy, we may be inclined to deceive ourselves and others. We may see only what we want to see and can turn a blind eye to anything that doesn't fit our idyllic vision of the way things "should" be.

For those who identify strongly with any of the above inclinations and have felt particularly affected by Neptune, I recommend trying a meditation for clarity and insight on the date of the New Moon, **November 5th**. New Moons are quite powerful and good for setting intentions and helping to dispel any negative influences we may have been under. If your aim is to pierce the veil that's been surrounding some aspect of your life lately this is just the time to do such a meditation as this Moon falls in the sign of Scorpio, an especially perceptive sign well-equipped for probing the depths of our inner worlds. Further lending a helping hand is the fact that Neptune will station direct just a day later and will begin to resume forward motion once again. Stations mark the beginning and end of a retrograde period and denote particularly powerful moments for that planet's energy. Meditation is a constructive tool to channel Neptune's energy, as it gives us the ability to tap into our intuition & receive inner guidance.

Start by picking a quiet spot to meditate where you will not be disturbed. You can light a candle, burn some incense, or put on some soft music in the background to help you relax and get into the right state of mind. Focus on breathing deeply, in and out, in and out. Visualize yourself at the edge of a stream, a lake, or the edge of the ocean and when you are ready walk over and dip your toes in the water. Water is symbolic of the unconscious. Notice how the water feels - is it comfortable or too cold? Wait until you find it refreshing and inviting and then immerse yourself in it completely. Then ask for guidance and clarity and see what becomes revealed to you. I like to do a meditation like this right before bed and let my dreams help incubate the

answers my unconscious self may have for my conscious mind. Both Neptune & Scorpio energy are highly receptive, psychic, and can infuse the subconscious with knowing via the ethereal membrane of our dreams. May this help you to find the guidance you are seeking!

Blessings, Alethea

\* \* \* \* \*

Last Monday, I went to see the movie "*Hereafter*." Directed by Clint Eastwood, it has been getting very good reviews and to be fair, it WAS beautifully filmed and written. The tsunami scene (which opens the movie) was incredible. The movie centers around one person - a psychic who opts out, as he "can't take it anymore" and wants a normal life - but really there are three main characters: the psychic, a French newswoman and a young English boy, each have been profoundly affected by death in very different ways.

**NOTE: DO NOT READ BELOW IF DETAILS WILL RUIN THE MOVIE FOR YOU!**

Some parts of the movie touched me deeply. I'm not sure this movie would have the same impact on someone who is not involved in the metaphysical world, especially a "reader" or psychic, or at least someone who has gotten a reading. For example, when the psychic reluctantly gives a reading to the Greek guy (friend of his brother's) and mentioned "June" -- anniversary? birthday? -- and said, "I can be wrong" -- we've all said that, KNOWING damn well we aren't wrong! And the way he let it go - very authentic to a good reader.

Then, when his cooking partner talked him into reading her -- well, both illustrated the truth about readings, as even a good one where a connection is made, the information really isn't anything so awesome and usually all stuff you already knew anyway. The thrill is in the connection, not the information. I think many "average" people watching the movie, that's going to disappoint because they will expect some revelation about the "other side" and like the psychic character later says to the little boy - "After all this time, I still don't know what goes on over there".

When the little boy steals the money and goes to the different (fake) psychics - you can see his disappointment even though he doesn't say a word. He just wants to make that connection, he misses his brother so much. For me, when the French woman goes to Switzerland to meet with the Hospice Doctor, and the doctor tells her about her own professional/medical experiences and how she came to believe in an afterlife ... I, too, worked with Hospice and one of the workers in California (when my mom was dying) said very much the same things. It really sparked interest - so all that resonated with me in a big way.

Something we are seeing now (over the past year especially) are people, especially those who are intuitive/sensitive losing EVERYTHING - job, home, family, etc - but the loss invariably lifts them out of one life, a life they are usually very comfortable with, and sets them directly down on a new, usually spiritual path. "Divine Will" versus "Free Will" as I always say. The scene where the Frenchwoman is sitting in a restaurant talking to her boyfriend and she says, "It's funny - only a

few weeks ago, I was famous, rich, everyone wanted me to write this book ... and I was happy. And I had you". He seemed clueless (although he is not, and she holds him accountable - "YOU told me to take a break! YOU told me to write the book!") and in the end he was cheating on her with her T.V. replacement. The kicker? When she said "You know, all of this would never have happened to me if only you'd bought the gifts for your kids yourself" and he looked at her "Huh?".

Then she walks out on him. Bravo!

Of course, there's the brother trying to be a psychic pimp - "just two readings a day!" then presents him with offices and "meeting space for groups." But one of my favorite parts is when the little boy, realizing that because of him, the psychic had missed an opportunity to connect with "the writer" (French woman) and knowing he really liked her -- found out where she was staying and passed the information along. He, a child, tried to make amends for inconveniencing the other person -- when other adults who had forced themselves or their "agenda" on him, didn't. The girl he met at cooking class was a classic example of this experience going terribly wrong ... "Read me! Read me anyways! EW! I didn't expect/want to hear THAT!" And everyone who does readings must have to grapple with the issue of what do you say, how MUCH do you say, when the information you are given is hurtful or may not be received well?

I feel the most important message of the movie "Hereafter" is that everything happens for a reason, even the really bad stuff, and we are directed - then redirected - until we find ourselves exactly where we are meant to be. Oh! It's a long movie - so don't drink a big ol' cup of coffee before you go. Voice of experience, here.

\* \* \* \* \*

I'm very grateful that, one way or another, all of you found your way to Talisman. Our mailing list has over 1,200 names; plus the website, blog and Facebook page each get hundreds of hits each month. You gotta love that "Divine Will" thing, you really do!

Much love & light,

Laura