Subject: Sandy's January 2021 T'ai Chi Chih Newsletter

Date: January 1, 2021 at 3:02 AM To: stephen2816@comcast.net

Like



Contents:

Sandy McAlister's Message: Surrendering to Transformation

2021 Teacher Conference News

Justin's Insights & Chi Reflections

That Out Outli Buratana had Bu Aramadtand Taraham an Baram

I'ai Uni Unin Practices Led by Accredited Teachers on Zoom

Events led by the Guide and Teacher Trainers

More T'ai Chi Chih Events

Links to Resources & Materials

Mission Statement

Sandy McAlister's Message:

Surrendering to Transformation

Nature does it all the time, surrendering to transformation. Sometimes that transformation is soggy and messy, sometimes slow and minute, sometimes bold and beautiful. What has your transformation been like this year?

We have all been forced into changes in 2020. Was our surrendering easy and matter-of-fact, or painfully grasping. Did it create transformation or just temporary changes?

Surrendering to Transformation was one of the proposed themes for the 2021 conference and it got me thinking. Transformation is more than just change. It is about growing, developing, moving forward in life and most likely it can't happen without some letting go. It is that letting go, that surrendering. that allows for transformation. Maybe it should be surrendering FOR transformation.

The definition of Transformation in linguistic terms: a process by which an element in the underlying deep structure of a sentence is converted to an element in the surface structure.

Applying that to the human experience, when we allow for transformation by surrendering or letting go we allow for something deep inside, our true nature to surface.

When we practice TCC we are letting go, and we all feel the transformation that happens within us. We are more peaceful, more this, less that. It's different for each of us, yet we all feel transformed for a time. The more we practice that transformation becomes a constant.

May the new year be filled with transformation whether it be messy, slow and minute, or bold and beautiful. And we are a part of the transformation, for as we change the world around us changes. If we learn nothing else from our TCC practice, letting go and staying grounded is enough. Staying grounded in the midst of change allows for a smooth transition. And isn't TCC about smooth transitions. It is all connected. One piece flowing into the next, without constriction when we can let go, be grounded, and centered in awareness.

Bring it on New Year. WE are grounded and ready!

~ T'ai Chi Chih Guide, Sandy McAlister

Continuing the Connection: T'ai Chi Chih Teacher Conference 2021

June 24th-27th, 2021 Virtually on Zoom

Continuing the Connection is our theme for 2021, as we come together to share our Chi in a virtual conference. As in past conferences we will have daily practices, presentations, and interaction with others in small groups. With a virtual conference on Zoom, you can enjoy practice in the comfort of your home with no travel worries, and best of all—connect with fellow teachers in a new way.



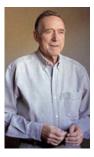
It Takes a Community—Consider Volunteering

We will need Presenters to share their areas of expertise—maybe you started paying attention to a movement in a new way. We would love to hear if you have some insight on the deeper aspects of the practice or personal experiences that have opened new awareness of the practice to you.

We need volunteers to help participants with Zoom, monitor chat to assist Presenters, and record presentations; other volunteers are needed to host small group discussions and chat in breakout rooms, and more!

Contact Conference Co-chairs Margery Erickson or Lisa Stroyan

Publicity Chair Judy Kistler-Robinson



Justin's Insights

Rewards of T'ai Chi Chih Practice

When the Chi circulates and is in balance, we can approach Oneness (Unity). Is it possible to attain Oneness? Yes! The very nature of Reality is Joy! Hakuin, the great Zen Master said, "After this Enlightenment, observing the things of the world was like seeing the back of my own hand!"

The rewards of T'ai Chi Chih practice can be great. A TCC teacher who does not practice regularly however, is a fraud—one who can make the Outside appearance but manifests none of the Inside. Each teacher who radiates, inspires his or her pupils. One with all Life, healing Joy!

~ Justin Stone, Vital Force Spring 1985 Reprinted with permission from The Vital Force

Chi Reflections

Silence

Silence is a great benediction.

~ Krishnamurti

Sacred Silence

Alternation between movement and rest is found frequently in life. In the daytime we are up and moving. But at night we sleep. The heart beat is regular, but rests briefly in between each beat. In breathing there is a slight pause of quiet and rest after each inhalation and exhalation. We have heard it said that we should move like a river but rest as a mountain.

It is in the rest position in T'ai Chi Chih practice that we replicate the stillness and silence in the natural order of life. In an early Chinese classic text, the earth has been identified with stability, immobility, motherhood, the center, and the calmness of origin. In rest we concentrate on the soles of the feet. The body sinks, firmly rooted to the ground. We adopt the nature of earth.

For me, the rest position, the reuniting of the yin chi and the yang chi, can be indeed a spiritual moment. It is then when I can experience in my own body and mind the scriptural proscriptions "beside the still waters", "be still and know that I am God", and "peace be still".

Coming into the rest position softly, with a graceful conclusion and a deep breath, are auspicious ways to prepare body and mind for glimpses of this sacred silence.

~ Michael S. Isaacs - Spiritual Dimensions of T'ai Chi Chih



T'ai Chi Chih Events

Led by the Guide, Teacher Trainers & Assistant Teacher Trainers

2021 Events

Jan. 6, Online Weekly Seijaku Practice on Wednesdays with Pam Towne

Contact: Email Pam Towne or call 760-421-7589

Jan. 15 thru Feb 19 (6 Fridays) 11 a.m. EST Ongoing TCC with Daniel Pienciak

Contact: Daniel Pienciak or call 732 988 5573

Jan 11 thru Feb 15 (6 Mondays) 11 a.m. EST Begin or Review, TCC with Daniel Pienciak

Contact: Daniel Pienciak or call 732 988 5573

Jan. 21 - Mar. 4, Online Seijaku Beginning Class on Thursdays with Pam Towne

Contact: Email Pam Towne or call 760-421-7589

Jan. 23, Online Seijaku Workshop with Pam Towne Contact: **Email Pam Towne** or call 760-421-7589

March 11 - 14 3:30 p.m. Thursday thru 1:30 p.m. Sunday EST Seijaku Meditation Retreat with

Daniel Pienciak

Contact: Daniel Pienciak or call 732 988 5573

Mar 19 thru Apr 2 (3 Fridays) 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. EST Begin Or Review: Seijak & Meditation

with Daniel Pienciak

Contact: Daniel Pienciak or call 732 988 5573

March 18-21, Online Teachers Retreat with Sandy McAlister Contact: Email Pam Towne or call

760-421-7589

March 25-28, Online TCC Retreat with Pam Towne Contact: Email Pam Towne or call 760-421-7589

April 22-25, Online TCC Intensive with Sandy McAlister

Contact: Email April Leffler or call 610-809-7523

May 6-9, TCC Retreat either in Prescott, AZ or Online with Pam Towne

Contact: Email Pam Towne or call 760-421-7589

June 8, 15, 22, 29 & July 13, 20 (6 Tuesdays) 3:00-6:00pm EST T'ai Chi Chih Online Teacher

Prep via Zoom with April Leffler

Contact: Email April Leffler or call 610-809-7523

June 19-21, Online Seijaku Teacher Accreditation with Pam Towne

Contact: Email Pam Towne or call 760-421-7589

June 24-27, 2021 Teacher Conference on Zoom Save the dates. Info to follow.

More T'ai Chi Chih Events

Click here for additional events including those led by dedicated Teachers, as well as the Guide and Teacher Trainers. Attending T'ai Chi Chih events is an excellent way for you to receive helpful feedback, improve your practice, and to be with other T'ai Chi Chih practitioners.



T'AI CHI CHIH PRACTICES LED BY ACCREDITED TEACHERS ON ZOOM

MONDAYS

Lisa Stroyan Free "deepening" class/practice on zoom, all levels welcome 9:30am MST Practice at 10am

Click here for info

Jessica Lewis T'ai Chi for Veterans FREE for US Veterans & Accredited TCC Teachers, others pay with credit card. Email Jessica Lewis for cost.

11:00 am-12:00 pm EST Meeting ID: 529 988 701

Password: TC4V
Click here for ZOOM

TUESDAYS

Jessica Lewis TCC Guided Practice for experienced students: FREE for Accredited TCC

Teachers, others pay with credit card. Email Jessica Lewis for cost.

3:30-4:30 pm EST January 12 - March 16 (no class Jan. 19)

Meeting ID: 894 4599 5747

Password: 519307

Click here for ZOOM

WEDNESDAYS

Daniel Pienciak TCC Ongoing Practice Class: Wednesdays beginning Jan. 27 11 a.m. EST

Contact: Daniel Pienciak or call 732 988 5573

Jessica Lewis T'ai Chi for Veterans FREE for US Veterans & Accredited TCC Teachers, others pay with credit card. Email Jessica Lewis for cost.

3:15-4:15 pm EST

Meeting ID: 171 422 068

Password: TC4V

Click here for **ZOOM**

THURSDAYS

Margery Erickson Seijaku for accredited teachers and serious students who are familiar with all the moves. These practices will be held regardless of whether Margery is present. Teachers Accredited in Seijaku take turns leading.

11:30am to 12:30pm Eastern (8:30am to 9:30am Pacific)

Meeting ID: 815 1921 2028

Passcode: joyjoyjoy

Click here for ZOOM

Lisa Stroyan Free all-levels class/guided practice on zoom, beginners welcome

1-2 pm MST (3 pm EST)

Click here for info

FRIDAYS

Margery Erickson For accredited teachers and serious students who are familiar with all the moves. This will be a silent practice. We may end with a brief reading.

11:00AM to 12noon EST TCC

Meeting ID 394-729-865

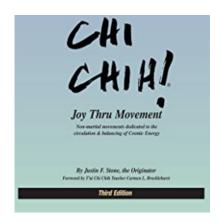
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Click here for ZOOM



Links to Resources & Materials

Institution Observator That Old Old Institutional Institution



Justin Stone's 1'ai Cni Cnin individual movement instruction (plus separate 30- and 45-minute practices) streamed digitally. Click here for lifetime access 100% of your subscription allows Justinstonetcc.com to remain available online.

For Justin Stone's Other Materials click here

Sandy McAlister's Seated T'ai Chi Chih DVD: click here

Pam Towne's Serenity in the Midst of Activity DVD or Digital Download: click here

Skype Lessons with Pam: click here Inquires: Email Pam Towne 760-421-7589

Seijaku Booklet:

\$4.00 per copy +\$1.20 (first class) \$30 for 10 copies +\$8.60 (priority mail) or \$2.75 (media rate) \$50 for 20 copies +\$9.45 (priority mail) or \$3.27 (media rate) Make checks payable to: Ann Rutherford 1534 Wagon Train Dr. SE ABQ, NM 87123

Web Resources:

Teachers!! Claim or create a personal Teacher Listing Page: click here

T'ai Chi Chih's originator Justin Stone's website: click here

T'ai Chi Chih's website: click here

T'ai Chi Chih Community website: click here

Tai Chi Chih Facebook: click here

Tai Chi Chih Teacher Circle Facebook: click here

Pinterest Justin's Quotes:click here

Pinterest: click here

Instagram: click here

Twitter: click here

Flickr: click here

Youtube: click here

T'ai Chi Chih International Foundation: click here

A 501(c)3 nonprofit agency which:

Sponsors our annual Teachers Conferences;

Provides scholarship funds for Teacher Accreditation and Continuing Education;

Tax deductible donations can be made out to and send to: T'ai Chi Chih International Foundation, PO Box 11, Norwood, PA 19074

T'ai Chi Chih Association: click here

Produces a monthly publication - T'ai Chi Chih News. Sells books from Justin Stone's Recommended Reading List.

The Vital Force Journal quarterly newsletter: click here to subscribe

The Vital Force Archives: click here

T'ai Chi Chih Guides' free monthly newsletter -- Sign-Up link: click here

Past issues of the Guide's newsletters (thru Aug. 2017): click here



Mission Statement

The International T'ai Chi Chih Community of students and accredited teachers is dedicated to the personal practice of T'ai Chi Chih and to sharing with the world this form of moving meditation and its benefits affecting body, mind, and spirit.