

Crystal Connection's Alchemy Newsletter

Turning Ordinary Lives into Gold!

January 2012

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Sprinkles



For the month of January, in honor of the Chinese New Year which begins on January 23rd, we will feature FREE Red Velvet Cupcakes with Almond Cream Cheese Frosting throughout the month!

Like us on Facebook to know when these Sprinkles of delight will be around the store!

Garnets: January Gemstone

When given as a gift, **Garnet** is said to grant loyalty and affection. They inspire love, passion, and devotion. A stone of commitment, it encourages personal relationships of all kinds.



Garnets have long been known as the Warriors Stone. They are considered powerful protection talismans and insure Victory! (Go FSU!!!)



January is from the word Janus. In ancient Roman religion and mythology, Janus is the god of beginnings and transitions, thence also of gates, doors, doorways, endings and time. He is usually a two-faced god since he looks to the future and the past.

As 2011 came to an end, we looked back upon the year and found ourselves filled with love and gratitude. Like most in our community, the year was not an easy one. Tallahassee lost many great local shops and restaurants to this economy along side some very large corporate business as well. Crystal Connection opened 24 years ago and has weathered many storms over the years. We are proud to be part of this wonderful community that has lovingly supported us through them all and we are very encouraged by the conscious awakening that is happening at this time. People are really learning the importance of shopping local and supporting the diverse and unique businesses they enjoy. This year we have seen a dramatic shift in what people are looking for and we were thrilled to find that our top performing gifts this holiday were Locally made. It has been such a pleasure working with these artists and providing a place for them to offer their treasures. What a beautiful city we have here. Filled with so many talented and generous people. We are simply filled with gratitude to be part of this community and we are looking forward to celebrating another year!

*"To be able to look back upon ones life
in satisfaction, is to live twice"*

~ Kahlil Gibran ~

As we look to the future, we are excited about the direction we are heading. John F. Kennedy once said "Change is the law of life." Everything changes. In order for us to serve this community to the best of our ability, we too must constantly embrace change as the needs of those we serve change. Advances in consciousness and technology have lead to some great new products designed to help us along our spiritual paths while some of the items we once carried are no longer relevant. We have decided to let some older items go to make room for new exciting things, but do not let this alarm you. The beautiful thing about being a family owned and operated store is the willingness to special order what our customer is looking for. Be rest assured the one thing that will not change is our desire to provide you with the customer service you deserve. We will continue to offer a peaceful space and a warm smile ready to help you follow your bliss.

"Life is change. Growth is optional. Choose wisely."

~ Karen Kaiser Clark ~

Inspired: Simple ways you can add more beauty to your life.



Smile!

We are naturally drawn to people who smile. Smiles help us stay positive and can change our mood when we are not. Studies have shown that Smiling Releases Endorphins, Natural Pain Killers, and Serotonin. Together these make us feel good, relieve stress and lower blood pressure.

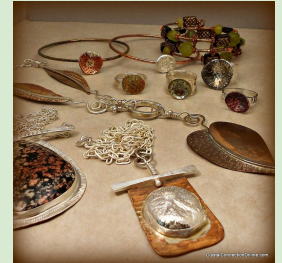
Need more of a reason to smile more? Well a smile might just get you through cold and flu season untouched. That's right, smiling boosts your immune system and the muscles we use to smile lift the face, making a person appear younger. But hands down, the greatest thing about smiling... Smiling Is Contagious! When someone is smiling they lighten up the room, change the moods of others, and make things happier. A smiling person brings happiness with them. So go ahead, make the world a brighter place by putting a smile upon your face!

Sparkles

Crystal Connection is very honored to have the opportunity to showcase some wonderful Jewelry, Hats, and Scarves by designer Tana McLane of City/Rustic Jewelry. Tana is an award winning Metal-smith and fiber artist, working in silver/copper, semi-precious rough-cut stone, and crocheted fibers. Tana McLane lives and works in Tallahassee and studied metalsmithing at Arrowmont School of Art & Crafts. Her pieces are Funky, urban, industrial, earthy, elegant, and unique incorporating silver, copper, brass, and bronze with earthy stone cabochons and semi-precious gemstone beads. Many of her beautiful works of art can be found in Crystal Connection and you can view more treats online by clicking the links below.

"Art calls for complete mastery of techniques, developed by reflection within the soul."

~ Bruce Lee ~



www.facebook.com/cityrustic.art
www.cityrusticjewelryfiber.com

In Chinese tradition, January 23rd will bring us to the Year of the Water Dragon. 2012 will be marked by excitement, unpredictability, and intensity. Traditionally Dragon years are lucky for starting a business or initiating a new project because money is easier to come by for everyone. Consequently we can expect the economic downturn to ease up a bit in the coming year. The last Year of the Dragon, which occurred in 2000, was fraught with unnecessary fear including the Y2K bug that turned out to be more hype than "byte". As we move into another Year of the Dragon, the Mayan Calendar is causing quite the stir. Is the Chinese Year of the Dragon truly something to be feared?

Not at all. Unlike the wicked, fire-breathing beasts of western mythology, China's Dragons symbolize potent and benevolent power. They are ancient, majestic, wise, and intelligent. These years also tend to boost individual fortunes and the world economy. Water Dragons are far more sensitive to others' needs, and are more likely to be progressive and diplomatic, as well as socially and environmentally conscious. The 2012 Water Dragon is most likely to bestow the Chinese Five Blessings of harmony, virtue, riches, fulfillment and longevity, adding even more weight to the growing belief that 2012 will be about breakthroughs, not disasters. So my Friends, as we prepare to "Enter the Dragon" I would like to leave you with some wisdom from someone who could be considered the master.

"Empty your mind, be formless. Shapeless, like water. If you put water into a cup, it becomes the cup. You put water into a bottle and it becomes the bottle. You put it in a teapot, it becomes the teapot. Now, water can flow or it can crash. Be water, my friend."

~ Bruce Lee ~



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Year of the Dragon 2012