

POSTCARDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Is Your Life *Koyanisquatsi* or *Dans L'équilibre*, *Nell'equilibrio*, *En Equilibrio*? ¹

by Robert Alan Black, Ph.D., CSP

A stroll along a trail next to the Avon across from the Shakespeare Theater in Stratford. A camel ride in Egypt or in South Africa. A cable car ride to the highest mountain peak in the Crimea near the Black Sea. A walk on Seven Mile Beach outside Hobart, Tasmania. Visiting the Mauri museum on the highest hill in Auckland or playing visiting king during a Mauri festival in Rotorora, New Zealand. Sitting on a beach at 2:00 a.m. outside Colombo, Sri Lanka or Noordvick, Netherlands. Pubbing in London with American friends. Strolling beside a small stream in Nove Zamky, Slovakia with a new creativity friend. Touring St. Peters in Rome, the Kremlin in Moscow, the Chinese museum in Taipei, the Louvre in Paris or the Petronis Towers in Kuala Lumpur.

These are examples of things that put balance in my life now.

In the past, what balanced my life were walks with Merry anywhere in the U.S. or in our neighborhood *du jour*, Great Britain or Italy; eating peanut butter sandwiches with my sons, sitting in a tree by our favorite little league field; making up stories with Jessica and laughing at the silliness of *The A-Team* on television; walking trails in Michigan, Florida or Georgia; listening to beautiful music; drawing on Saturday mornings the many buildings in Boynton Beach, hoping to create a book; or walking the one and a half miles from my apartment to the ocean each morning to watch Sol rise one more time each day on the Atlantic along the Gold Coast of Florida.

Like a teeter-totter, something else has to be part of the game as well.

For me, it has been the various types of work I have done,

searching for a mission and purpose in my life. Some of the 47 jobs in the past 44 years didn't produce a positive balance, yet most did. When any of them became negative, I "wandered on," changed jobs and careers, went back to school once again and started over another time.

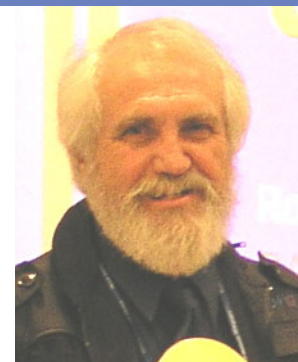
The past twenty-plus years of my life have been the most balanced, since I started my practice as a full-time speaker/trainer/consultant. Though personal tragedies and some business mistakes and setbacks have knocked me off my board or path, I have managed to get back up to move on and continue my search.

Now my life is devoted to a mission that occupies each part of my life following the same vision: to help as many workplaces around the world as I can become more creative through using and further developing my own creativity for the remainder of my life.

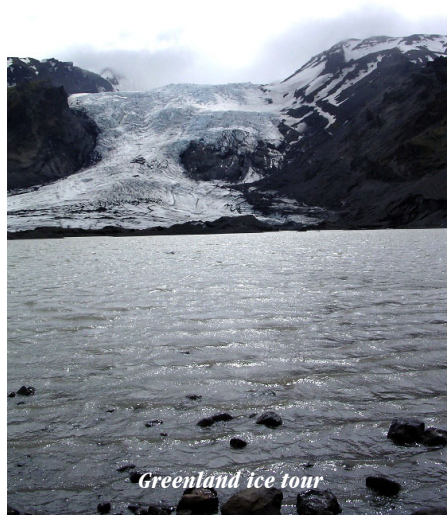
Until seven years ago, there were two of us with similar visions, working and loving together. Now there are many, though mostly in virtual or temporary teams or partnerships, ranging from a few hours, a couple days, perhaps a week, and a month or up to three or four.

Balance to me now is having a life worth living with people I love, who love me, doing meaningful work that benefits people in a geometrically progressive way, like the math puzzle that asks,

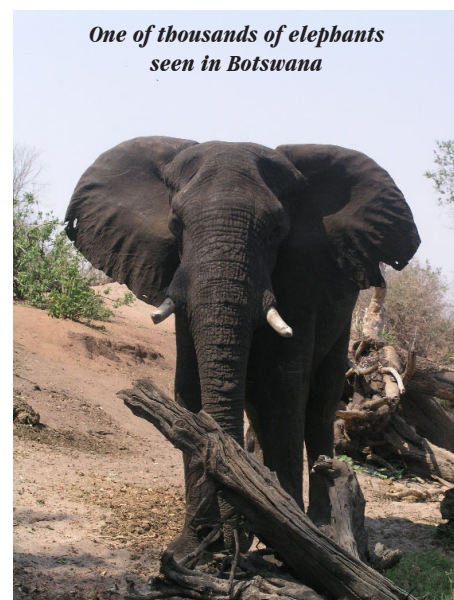
¹ Hopi Indian term for "life out of balance;" French, Italian and Spanish for "in balance"



Street view of medieval
Chester, England, UK



Greenland ice tour



One of thousands of elephants
seen in Botswana



Iceland glacier walk



View of Gurzuf, Ukraine on Black Sea

would you rather have \$1,000,000 in cash right now or be paid 1¢ a day, doubling each day for 31 days. I seek and strive to double my efforts through the efforts and help of the many people I meet working and traveling around the world.

Like Johnny Appleseed, I know my life is worthwhile. Though I may not achieve fame, I will help others to help others to help others. One seed can produce orchards.

That is balance to me—learning with a



Interior of cathedral on Danube in Hungary

purpose, letting go to live, loving and living each day with meaning and value.

*Since earning his CSP, **Robert Alan Black** has spent much of the last two years traveling the world and speaking on his expertise, Creativity. While traveling internationally, Alan can be reached through his web site: www.cre8ng.com.*



New soccer stadium in Cardiff, Wales, UK



View of village in Cique Terre, Italy region