

# The Vertex



ASTROLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NORTH TEXAS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2009

## **February Speaker Donna Henson** **Horary Astrology:** **The answer to life's questions**



Horary Astrology is an ancient form of astrology. It was the only astrology used in ancient times because hardly anyone knew their birth time. Horary can be useful to an Astrologer and their clients because it can answer questions you can't get from a natal birth chart. Sunday Donna will explain some of the rules of horary chart reading. Donna is a professional astrologer, lecturer, counselor, and author who has worked with astrology since the age of ten. She has many years experience teaching astrology at Tarrant County College as well as teaching astrology classes in her home. Besides being one

of the founders of her own business ACGS, she is an active member of the Astrological Society of North Texas (ASNT) having served in almost every board capacity as well as five terms as president. Donna is also a member of the American Federation of Astrologers (AFA), from whom she has professional certification, and the National Council of Geocosmic Research (NCGR) from whom she has Level IV, the highest recognized professional certification in the USA. She has been a convention lecturer for both groups. She also has the CPA from the International Society of Astrological Research (ISAR). Donna's books include Degrees of the Zodiac, Vertex: The Third Angle, and Index of Today's Astrologer. She has a bachelor's degree from TCU and a masters degree from NTSU. After 27 years of teaching in the secondary schools, she has devoted full time to astrology since 1990.

### **Please Join Us**

**When:** Sunday, February 14th at 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**Where:** Stacy Home Furnishings Center Meeting Room / 3rd fl 1900 South Main Street Grapevine, Texas 76051

**Parking:** Please be sure to park on the sides of the building and not in front. Stacy's has asked us to be sure and respect their need for the front space for their customers.

### **CD Sales**

ASNT is pleased to offer CDs of the presentations that our speakers give each month for \$5 to members (\$10 to non-members) except the workshop cd's (please call for the current price). Please email- [thaddeus\\_fenner@yahoo.com](mailto:thaddeus_fenner@yahoo.com) if you would like to order CDs.

Your order must be paid for in advance and shipping is available for a nominal fee.

**Watch this space for details of our annual Weekend Workshop next September 11th and 12th with the exceptional, award winning astrologer, Joanne Wickenburg! Lecture topics and hours to be announced. Save the date!**



## Dear Members,

It was a real pleasure for me to attend last month's ASNT meeting with Houston astrologer Rebeca Eigen. Many of you were present at the lecture, and we had several new guests, which is always an exciting thing to see at our meetings. I hope we are going to meet these curious new faces in the future and that astrology will become even more popular and accepted in this part of Texas.

Remember, our gatherings are scheduled every second Sunday of the month and there's no meeting in May because of the Mother's day. Please attend the meetings and bring your friends with you. Here at ASNT, we all learn more about astrology and we also learn about ourselves. We are inviting several interesting and very well known speakers this year. Donna Henson will be with us this month.

Donna has been a full time astrologer and a well known teacher for many years. She is going to share her knowledge and experience about horary astrology. If you or your clients have questions about a specific outcome that cannot be seen in the natal or a progressed charts, this astrological discipline has an answer. Through horary astrology, we can find lost items, precisely predict events, and we can get better insights about relationships. My clients often ask: "Is this relationship going to work?" Instead of having a long synastry analysis, or comparing two natal charts and transits, you can simply draw a chart for the moment you received the question and check the relationship between the rulers of the first and the seventh house, Mars and Venus, or look at the Sun and the Moon. I love horary!

Mark your calendars for September 11. and 12. 2010. That's when we're going to host our Annual workshop here in Grapevine. As I mentioned last month, Robert Blaschke had cancelled his April talk and we are moving our workshop to September. ASNT is very excited that a Regulus award winning astrologer Joanne Wickenburg accepted to speak for us. Joanne is a successful astrologer and for many decades, she played a huge part in astrological education, personally and through Kepler college.

Every month, our association offers something for everyone: new astrological insights, an opportunity to learn more about planets, aspects and stars. We read each other's charts, we help each other understand planetary transits and this beautiful language of astrology that the Cosmos had utilized to transmit its messages and to give us guidance for life. But most of all, we cherish our friendship. Especially now, because we are in the month of Aquarius that rules friends, gatherings, teamwork and associations, we have to remember how important it is to have one another.

On behalf of the ASNT Board, I thank you for your membership, your commitment to this organization and for your support efforts. Thank you for the knowledge you share with everyone and for the mutual friendship and your never ending love for the skies and its mysteries.

See you on Sunday -Valentine's Day, February 14.

Love and Light,

Mira Cosic

# HIGHLIGHTS

January 2010

In January, Rebeca Eigen from Houston had an amazing presentation on the seventh house and relationships. She received a warm welcome from almost 30 members and guests in the audience. Rebeca's psychological, Jungian approach to this astrological topic was fresh and interesting. She made us look at relationships from a different perspective and ask ourselves a simple question: how much we are motivated by fears, or by a desire to control people and events.

"We have all had experiences with other people that really irritate us. Whenever we feel ourselves over-reacting emotionally to a quality or characteristic in someone else that pushes all of our buttons (and there will be a repulsive element to it), we can be sure that we are seeing a part of our own Shadow.

We will not be able to stand this other person or be around them at all. The reaction is usually extreme distaste as these characteristics or qualities that we despise or hate in others are our own and they are usually operating outside of our awareness. They are in our unconscious and usually they will be the exact opposite of what we believe to be true about ourselves.

Now a person carrying a light part of our Shadow we will be very drawn to, and may even fall in love with, and this is the 'Gold' part of our Shadow. So we can also project some of our very positive qualities when we meet someone we truly admire, but most of us have more trouble with the negative experiences as we encounter our Shadow. This is the psyche's way of bringing itself into the light meaning the light of consciousness."  
(from Rebeca's web site shadowdance.com).



Rebeca Eigen in January

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS and tentative topics:

April 11 Thaddeus Fenner: Chinese Animal Sign Astrology

May 9 No meeting on Mother's Day

**Remember to send Astrology questions to: Donna Henson**  
email [donnajeanhenson@yahoo.com](mailto:donnajeanhenson@yahoo.com)  
or by mail, 3024 Dreeben Dr., Richland Hills, TX 76118-6239 giving your name, mailing or e-mail address and complete birth data (month, day, and year, time of day, and location of birth).

If you have any information you would like to share and have published in the newsletter. You can email:  
**Mira Cosic**  
[myplanets@gmail.com](mailto:myplanets@gmail.com)  
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ASNT Astrological Society of North Texas The Astrological Society of North Texas meets on the second Sunday of each month in the third floor community meeting room of Chan's Burehara, 1400 G Main St

The Astrological Society of North Texas (ASNT) is the longest-lasting astrological group in all of North Texas. It was founded June 22, 1972 at 8:00 pm in Fort Worth at the Astrological Soc of Fort Worth. We meet every second Sunday of the month.

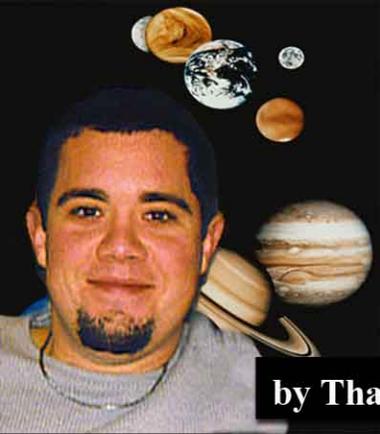
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# A Tale of Two Zodiacs:

## Breaking Through A Conceptual Boundary

by Thaddeus Fenner

The sidereal and tropical zodiacs have intrigued me for years, although like many of us, I did not completely understand what exactly the difference was beyond the obvious planet in sign surprise. I distinctly remember picking up my first sidereal ephemeris and going to my date of birth seeing that all of the planets were one sign back and in different degrees. I said to myself, “well, I'm not a Scorpio Sun.” I just sort of filed it away in the recesses of my brain for possible later discovery, and that was that. So for the next 12 years, I really never gave it a second look. The tropical zodiac seemed sufficient for what I was doing, and in many ways it still is, but the curiosity bug got me again about a year ago, and here I am again—attempting to discern differences in meaning between what the SZ (sidereal zodiac) and TZ (tropical zodiac) in a chart. Through all of this mental wrangling recently, I've even considered abandoning the zodiacs all together out of pure frustration. However, that will not be the case, at least not yet anyway! This article will do a few things: briefly explain what is different between the SZ and TZ and give a possible explanation on why the two are what they are in a chart and why they both seem to work. There are those who contend that only one zodiac works and that is fine. This article will pull from sources who are either/or in their view on the zodiacs. This is intended for anyone interested in the subject of the zodiacs, astrologers and non-astrologers alike, to give the subject another look.

One of the first things that a student of astrological history should know is that the zodiac as we know it—twelve signs, Aries through Pisces—came out of ancient Babylon. The zodiac at that time was used for timing: planting crops, religious ceremonies, going to battle, installing royalty such as a king, etc. Some of us use astrology to plant, and I would guess that many more people and nations in the ancient world used the Moon and planets for planting than they do today. From what I have read over the years one thing seems clear. The ancient world followed the movements of the stars to time and coordinate events for just about everything. In the northern hemisphere, somewhere around the beginning of the constellation of Taurus, the Sun rose against this back-ground of stars during the first day of spring (also known as the Vernal Point). The days and nights were nearly equal during the spring as usual. Astrologers and astronomers agree that in the years around 212 A.D. the first day of spring in the TZ (which is always 0 degrees and 0 minutes of tropical Aries) roughly coincided with SZ Aries within a degree. So we moved backward from Taurus to Aries. The famous astrologer/astronomer Ptolemy noticed this and strongly advocated the TZ view, noticing its simplicity and ease of calculation. Clearly, he was unaware of the precession of the equinoxes, and we arrive at another important point of information. Precession gives an explanation for the differences in the zodiacs and could offer us a possible starting point as to what the different zodiacs mean.

Precession does not need to be as complicated as it sounds, but we have to understand it to see the SZ and TZ clearly. It simply means that the position of the Sun on the first day of spring is moving backward against the background of fixed stars and constellations, very slowly, through the SZ. This is caused by Earth slowly wobbling around its poles as we go through space around the Sun.

**Imagine for a moment that you are standing on the top of a mountain and the air is extremely clear. It is the first day of spring, and the Sun is just about to come over the horizon—you can see the Sun's light increasing as the Earth slowly rotates eastward but you can still see all of the stars as well. Depending on what year it is will show you where the Sun is in the SZ, how far back it has moved. But the Sun will always be at zero degrees of Aries at this time in the TZ. And for this to make one complete revolution through the SZ takes approximately 25,920 years. This is known as a Great Age. Today, zero degrees Aries in the SZ depends on which ayanamsa (Hindu for “falling back portion”) you use. Ayanamsa is the value of difference between TZ zero degrees Aries and SZ zero degrees Aries used to calculate SZ points. This is roughly 24 degrees in the TZ. Of course, this will change until zero degrees Aries in the TZ reaches zero degrees Libra in the SZ. After this, the precession will begin to move the Vernal Point back to SZ Aries. The one wrench that I do have to throw out there before we move on is this: By the time the Autumnal Equinox (180 degrees opposite the Vernal Point) makes it to 0 degrees Aries in the SZ, in the southern hemisphere spring will align with Aries. This is a little known tidbit that often times gets left out in the conversation among astrologers.**

**So how are the two zodiacs used in the everyday life of an astrologer? We could say that they are really just second nature to the majority of us, literally falling into the background of the chart at times. Depending on how one interprets, the signs may take more of a secondary importance with aspects, houses, and other factors taking more precedence. And while all Vedic astrologers, sometimes known as Jyotishi's, use a SZ for their charts, some use a tropical system in their work just as many TZ astrologers in the West who practice an Eastern method such as Vedic astrology use a SZ for their work. James Braha is a well known Jyotishi and Vedic astrologer who uses both zodiacs. In his *How To Predict Your Future: Secrets Of Eastern & Western Astrology*, writes that, “[f]or thousands of years there has been confusion and disagreement as to whether both zodiacs are legitimate, and if so, which one is preferable and produces the most accurate results. Astrologers who have studied and practiced both systems, Using the tropical zodiac for western astrology and the sidereal for Hindu astrology, almost always conclude that both work because they have experienced accurate results from both. (it is possible that the information gained from tropical or seasonally-based astrology may relate somewhat more to a person's psychology and behavior than events and circumstances.) Unfortunately, most astrologers are not expert[s] in both Hindu and western astrology and have therefore confronted the question of the two zodiacs from a theoretical perspective.” Braha goes on to say that there is still much confusion out there regarding the zodiacs, and that one zodiac, to many of us, “must be correct.” In *How To Predict Your Future*, Braha treats both Western tropical and Hindu sidereal basic predictive methods (western transits through the houses and western aspects as well as Hindu dasas respectively). I highly recommend this valuable book for anyone interested in integrating both systems. To further expand on the difference in the zodiacs with regard to side by side comparisons, we can look at a recent article in the June/July 2007 issue of *The Mountain Astrologer* magazine, *The Vedic Signs*, by Hank Friedman. Friedman expands on the basic premise of Braha; he writes, “But in fact, those who use the tropical zodiac do so in ways that differ from those who employ the sidereal zodiac. It is vitally important to emphasize here that, in the hands of a talented practitioner, all methods of astrology using either zodiac can offer accurate and profound delineations...[n]evertheless, each zodiac has exceptional value within the astrological system in which it is used.” Here are some examples of rising signs and the physical attributes associated with them: “Aries has round eyes, weak knees, poor appetite, concealing facts, sexy, and Cancer is henpecked, many friends, walks fast, few sons, owns many houses, wealthy.” Friedman goes on to note that in Vedic astrology, astrologers look at the relative strength of the planet using specific rules within that system that correspond with the SZ, with a planet in the opposite sign of its natural rulership not necessarily debilitated or weak. The very conception of the signs are different between the two systems.**

Planets also have friends, enemies, and “neutrals” just as many of us may or may not have in our lives. Planets seem to be sensitive, or fierce, and they tend to take on a more personal dimension with the Vedic delineations, however, the results of their tyranny and/or blessings may or may not offer any consolation as to what to think about what is happening in our lives. For this, a “TZ depersonalization” may be in order, a step back, in order to view the planets from afar as to give a bit of respite and perspective as to what is taking place in a particular person’s life.

But what does it mean, on a deeper level, perhaps spiritual, to use two completely different zodiacs in astrological work? Astrologer and astrology book seller David Roell commented in the July, 14 2009 edition of his AstroAmerica.com Newsletter, Tropical versus Sidereal, that the, “[s]igns of the Tropical zodiac are symbolic, not actual. They represent the annual, on-going relationship between the Earth & Sun. The Sidereal zodiac is entirely different. Therese Hamilton says there's some things that Sidereal just does better, and I think she has a point. Give each their due!” Another astrologer, Robert Powell, in his Hermetic Astrology Volume I, gives the precession of the equinoxes the task of determining the spiritual evolution of man throughout the ages (by precession meaning the growing difference between the SZ and the TZ). He writes that, “A new spiritual impulse begins to take effect whenever the vernal point enters a new sign of the zodiac, and lasts for the length of time taken for the vernal point to regress through 30 degrees (= one sign of the zodiac), which is  $30 \times 72 = 2,160$  years, as the vernal point takes 72 years to regress through 1 degree...[and] [t]o begin with, a new zodiacal impulse takes effect in the subconscious depths. For Powell, a complete cycle of the Venus pentagram (1,199 years) must pass for the complete age to take effect, of course within the framework of the SZ. In Elias and Theanna Lonsdale's Inside Star Vision: Planetary Awakening and Self-Transformation, man has earned the TZ in a sense, and that their “[t]welve life streams articulate a free zone that has been won in modern times; in fact, is the primary attainment that redeems our otherwise destructive record. Desperate to spring ourselves from our starry ancestors, we activate precisely the region of potential we could never locate while still under the spell of the venerable cosmic ordering. Here the authors refer to the SZ as “constellational star wisdom, or predictive astrology.” I get the sense that what the Lonsdale's are trying to convey is that both systems are ancient and are at play, and that with the awareness of both the TZ and SZ as having potential in our lives. With the TZ, we are breaking free from the ancestors, allowing ourselves a perfect 12-sided figure for expression. There is meaning in precession, and by extension meaning inherent within the two zodiacs, but to come to a greater understanding, we must practice, practice, and get into the game so to speak. The tropical zodiac could represent the special relationship with the Earth and our Sun, the life giver. The vital exchange between the two manifesting as the seasons, reflecting the cosmic seasons as shown to us by the stellar forces in the constellations, where we derive the essential meaning of the star lores. The zodiacs are the filter through which the sky speaks to us, and the seasons reflect the seasons of our lives, and of course, the naturally varied cycles of all living things on the planet. Whether we choose to integrate the two in whatever way we are compelled, or simply practice astrology the way that we were taught, unquestioning, we have been made aware. The stars and all cycles, terrestrial or otherwise are speaking to us. But are we listening?

Thaddeus Fenner

2/2/2010

email- thaddeus\_fenner@yahoo.com

## **Astrological Conferences and Workshops in 2010.**

**25 - 28 February 2010** – NCGR National Conference: Planetary Revolution: Geocosmic Alchemy II, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Cambridge MA. 23 February Pre-Conferences with Christeen Skinner and Richard Tarnas. Technology for Astrologers workshop with Mark Kuenzel. 24 February. History of Astrology Seminar with Nick Campion, Gary Christen, Ronnie Gale Dreyer, Benjamin Dykes, Demetra George, Rob Hand, Ken Irving, Richard Tarnas, John Townley. NCGR-PAA Professional Astrology Workshop. Over 60 speakers. Luncheon Lectures with Arch Crawford, Rob Hand, and Richard Tarnas. Entertainment with Michael Lutin. 1 March Post-Conferences with Nick Campion and Steven Forrest.

Info: Liane Thomas Wade, Email [execsec@geocosmic.org](mailto:execsec@geocosmic.org) URL <http://www.geocosmic.org/>

**5 - 7 March 2010** – "The Celestial Spheres: Astrology & Cosmology in the Medieval World" in San Diego CA, USA. A 3-day workshop with Bernadette Brady, Nick Campion and Darrelyn Gunzburg.

Info: Email [info@thecelestialspheres.com](mailto:info@thecelestialspheres.com) URL <http://www.thecelestialspheres.com/>

**10 - 18 April 2010** - "Creating a New Civilization: The Aquarian Age Emerging" - 24th Annual International Conference of the Seven Ray Institute and University of the Seven Rays at the Dobson Ranch Inn in Mesa AZ, USA. Info: Phone 201-798-7777 201-798-7777 , Email [sevenray@sevenray.com](mailto:sevenray@sevenray.com) URL <http://www.sevenray.org/>

**16 - 18 April, 2010** - Lee Lehman: A Horary Intensive at the Margaret Austin Center, Chappell Hill, TX - The Astrological Society of Austin is proud to present STAR 2010 featuring Lee Lehman sharing the secrets of Horary Astrology in a weekend intensive. Why Study harary? Because Horary is awesome, just like our weekend will be. For more information go to: [www.texasastrologyretreat.org](http://www.texasastrologyretreat.org) Email: [info@texasastrologyretreat.org](mailto:info@texasastrologyretreat.org)

**24 - 25 April 2010** – "Imagining Astrology: Painted Schemes and Threads of the Soul" at the University of Bristol. Supported by the Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Bristol. Scheduled speakers include Roger Beck, Bernadette Brady, Peter Forshaw, Liz Greene, Darrelyn Gunzburg, Ronald Hutton, Geoffrey Shamos, Kocku von Stuckrad, and Elliot Wolfson. Info: URL: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/arts/birtha/imaginingastrology>

**28 - 31 May 2010** – NORWAC, Seattle WA, USA - The Northwest Astrological Conference is both educational and entertaining. Lectures for the beginner as well as the advanced. Scheduled speakers include Philip Sedgwick, Demetra George, Deva Green, Rick Levine, Jeff Jawer, Laura Nalbandian, Steven Forrest. [www.astrologyetal.com](http://www.astrologyetal.com)

**13 - 19 June 2010** - "Conversations with Astrologers" in Shropshire, UK. Scheduled speakers include Bernadette Brady, Nick Campion, Liz Greene and Robert Hand. Info: URL <http://www.infohub.com/schools/1108.html>

**23 - 24 July 2010** – "Astrologies: The Truth, Claims and Culture of Modern Astrology", Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institute, 16-19 Queen Square, Bath BA1 2H, UK. Hosted by the Sophia Centre for the Study of Cosmology in Culture, University of Wales, Lampeter. Scheduled speakers include Bernadette Brady, Nick Campion, Vanessa Chambers, Martin Gansten, Nicholas Goodricke-Clarke, Clare Goodricke-Clarke, Liz Greene, Rob Hand, Philippa Mansur and Kocku von Stuckrad. Info: URL <http://www.lamp.ac.uk/sophia/events/>

**11-12 September 2010** – Astrological Society of North Texas (ASNT) Annual Workshop, Grapevine Texas, USA. Scheduled speaker award winning astrologer Joanne Wickenburg, topics to be announced. For more info: Phone: Mira Cosic (214) 418-7433 Email: [asntexas@gmail.com](mailto:asntexas@gmail.com) URL: [www.asntx.com](http://www.asntx.com)

**20-23 October 2010** – Organization for Professional Astrology (OPA) Annual Astrologers Retreat at the Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove CA, USA. Scheduled speakers include Benjamin Bernstein, Gary Christen, Robert Corre, Monica Dimino, Maurice Fernandez, Jacqueline Janes, Rick Levine, Chris McRae, Bob Mulligan, Glen Perry, Sandra-Leigh Serio and Arlan Wise. Info: Phone Alexandra Karacostas ( 530-520-9992 530-520-9992 ) or Bob Mulligan ( 239-261-2840 239-261-2840 ), Email: [alexandrakaracostas@yahoo.com](mailto:alexandrakaracostas@yahoo.com) URL: <http://www.professional-astrology.org/site/opa-astrologers-retreat/>

# WORD SEARCH



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ASNT meets on the 2nd Sunday  
of every month (except May)

Doors open at 1:00; Business meeting at 1:30

Stacy Home Furnishings Center  
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