

The VERTEX

April 2014

The Newsletter of
the Astrological Society of North Texas

April Program

HOW TO USE THE MANSIONS OF THE MOON

by Donna Woodwell
of Austin

Sunday, April 13, 2014 • 1:30 pm

First Jefferson Universalist Unitarian Church
1959 Sandy Lane • Fort Worth • Texas



Astrologers are familiar with the 12 signs of the solar zodiac – Aries, Taurus, Gemini and so on. But did you know there is also a lunar zodiac? In Western astrology the lunar zodiac is known as the 28 Mansions of the Moon. In Classical and Renaissance astrology, lunar mansions were considered an important tool for predictive, electional and magical astrology. In this lecture, Austin-based astrologer Donna Woodwell will explain the astronomy of the mansions, review the 28 Western lunar zodiac signs, and explore how to use them in chart interpretations and electional astrology. **Bring along a copy of your own astrological chart, and you'll be able to look up your own lunar zodiacal signs.**



Donna is the owner of Four Moons Astrology, an instructor at Kepler College, host of the internet radio show Dead Astrologers Society, and writer at Astrology.com. In addition to her astrological practice, Donna has received metaphysical training in Western, Eastern and indigenous philosophies. She is a certified hypnotist, an Initiate of the Australian branch of the Hermetic Order of the Brotherhood of Light, has studied Earth-based spiritualities, and is a master practitioner of Usui Reiki. An active member of the astrological community, Donna's served on the board of two of the world's largest astrological organizations, the International Society for Astrological Research and the National Council for Geocosmic Research.

President's Message

Donna Henson, President



This is the month of the big Grand Square of Pluto, Uranus, Jupiter, and Mars. All four will be in 13° of the cardinal signs on April 23. The first three will be at 13 degrees for 8, 19, and 98 days respectively. (Mars for only 3 days.) All of them have an effect much longer than this, though, due to their orb of influence and retrograde periods. So, what is going to happen? The truth is that nobody, including astrologers, knows for certain. That doesn't keep us from speculating though. For what it's worth, these are some of my ideas about this Grand Square.

Pluto first squared Uranus this time in June 2012. Pluto rules power. Uranus rules freedom. They are in conflict. Most of our problems in the world come from some people wanting power through restricting the freedom of others. Like the square that brought on the depression of the '30s, it is in cardinal signs, Aries and Capricorn this time and in Aries and Cancer in the '30s. It is in my natal chart since I was born in 1932. We lived through that one and we will probably live through this one too, but possibly at a tremendous cost. The world was never the same after the '30s, and it will be drastically different after this decade too. The changes have already begun. Like the '30s we are having drastic weather – floods, mudslides, droughts, low temperatures, earthquakes, etc. at the present time, while we experienced droughts, grasshopper plagues, the effects of erosion on the soil etc. in the '30s. Pluto, like Venus (natural 2nd and 8th house rulers) is a financial planet, so we had the depression worldwide in the 30's and certainly many countries are having monetary problems now too. Will they get worse? Possibly. We like to think we have safeguards now, but they didn't help enough in 2008.

What is Jupiter's role in this? Jupiter magnifies and makes things greater. And the role of Mars?

Mars has been in Libra since December 2013 and will stay until July 25, 2014. We have only to listen to the news to realize how violent our planet has become. We hear of shootings at schools, shopping centers, and on the streets far too often. The war in Syria remains with no end in sight. The entire mid-East and the surrounding countries are feeling the so-called Arab Spring with rebellions, changes of governments, and either wars or what we might call uncomfortable peace, if there is any peace at all. And now we have the takeover of part of Ukraine by Russia.

This raises the question that several people have asked me, "Will we have a war?" I don't think we will have a major war with Russia. That country has huge oil exports that they will want to protect. War would not be in their best interest. Then we have to realize that it was World War II that got us out of the depression in the '30s. I don't expect war now, but in July 2025 Uranus begins its transit of Gemini. Uranus was also in Gemini in June 1774 to June 1782, the time of the Revolutionary War; June 1858 to February 1866, the time of the Civil War; and August 1941 to November 1948, the time of World War II. I'm reminded of the scene in the movie "The Godfather" in which one of the mobsters comments that the Mafia families seem to have to have a war every so often just to clear the air.



My Stars!

Mars stationed retrograde March 2 at 27 Libra and will station direct on May 20 at 9 Libra.

Saturn is retrograde currently, and will station direct at 16 38 Scorpio on July 20.

The **Sun** entered **Aries** March 19 and will ingress into Taurus on April 20.

There is a **Grand Square** in Cardinal signs, exact on April 23. See President's message for more details.

The Bones of Time

If you have a Saturn transit to a point in your chart, you know it can bring depression, restructuring matters in your life, possibly bone or dentistry issues, and a sense of limitation in some area among other possibilities.

But it can also be about time: how you use time, the way you structure your time, getting rid of the non-essentials in terms of time. Paring down to the bare bones. And it is not always about doing. It is about the quality of a limited moment in time.

In the current transit of Saturn to my Moon, I have found myself becoming acutely aware of time. How I use it, where I'm not being realistic about it, coming to an understanding that time is a precious and limited resource in a given life span. I am becoming attuned to quality of life: what is important to make time for, what has lasting value.

Life isn't just about doing and knowing what is important to do, but it is equally about

MEETING MINUTES



Submitted by Melinda Noble, Secretary
March Minutes

A regular meeting of ASNT was held on March 9th with 15 members and one visitor in attendance. President Donna Henson opened the meeting at 1:50. Priscilla Peers said the financial report was available for review. Donna thanked Nancy Webster for providing refreshments and then read the slate for the 2014-2015 board nominations: Donna Henson - President, Dee Emrich - Publicity, Sandra Williams - Programs and Newsletter, Chris Light - Audio/Visual, Priscilla Peers - Treasurer, Melinda Noble - secretary, Mary Burke-Kelly - Membership, Debbie Hanson - Webmaster. Sylvia Dunton moved to vote by acclamation and the vote was unanimous. Donna introduced our speaker, Leigh Westin, who spoke on declinations. We adjourned at 4:20.

knowing when not to do but to simply be.

If the Sun is the Life Giver, then Saturn is the Life Keeper, because a life is measured in time. (Who ever said, "He died at 57 friends, or 200 thousand dollars." No, we say one died at a certain age in terms of time.)

Time is quite simply a measure of matter. If there was no physical matter, there would be no time. Saturn is the force or energy of setting limits, and that includes time, hence he is also the Lord of Death, of the end of one's time here. You could say Saturn circumscribes the bare bones of time and life at least in this solar system. Or this mental construct that we call reality.

—Sandra W.