



# memberletter

## NCGR Elections: Meet the Candidates

**N**CGR BALLOTS ARE IN YOUR EMAIL box, and in the mail if you do not have a registered email address with us. You must complete the ballot on or before December 31, 2013 in order for your vote to be counted.

Please vote for one Chair, and two Directors. Ballots marked for more than one Chair position or for more than two Director positions will not be counted. If you wish to include a write-in candidate, it must be in place of a Chair or Director, and not in addition to, or else your vote will not be counted. Votes for a "write-in" candidate will only be counted if the "write-in" candidate is a current dues-paid member of NCGR.

In the event you wish to vote in person, you may do so between 9:00 AM and 12 noon on January 1, 2014 at 2353 Massachusetts Avenue #91, Cambridge, MA 02140.

Please read the candidate biographies below and vote for those individuals whom you think will best serve NCGR and the astrological community.

### Chair Position

**John Marchesella (incumbent)**

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John Marchesella has enjoyed serving as Chair of NCGR in the last three years, and looks forward to another term, when we will expand our online classes

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## Times of Change—and How to Predict Them

by Ema Kurent

**C**AN WE ASTROLOGERS PREDICT LIFE changes? Those that are really *big*, those that lead to new, different lifestyles and which we never forget? Changes like getting (or losing) a new partner, job, child, home...

It's possible, of course. That's what predictive astrology is all about! We can never be 100% sure that something WILL happen but if we use our best methods and techniques, we can be 90% sure—not just to predict but to help our clients get a better perspective of their years to come.

It's always desirable that we see positive, constructive changes coming, of course. It's never nice to see a bad, disappointing period ahead. But we astrologers must be sincere and tell our clients about what looms on the horizon so that they can prepare. Be it good or bad, everything's there in the big plan. We can never know whether we (our clients) can (could) change or reshape those fates shown in the stars; all we can do is to evaluate, as correctly as possible, the nature of the future planetary influences, and suggest the best ways to meet those energies and deal with them.

Astrologers use different techniques to predict those crucial times. My long years of researching and counseling have convinced me that the first and foremost technique for this purpose are the eclipses. The next (or complimentary) are secondary progressions, and the third are transits. Sounds simple? It is, provided we

know our techniques well. If we go about them carefully and properly, those techniques will not disappoint us. By means of a recent case from my practice—one of getting (and consequently losing) a new partner—I want to show how important it is to strictly follow the rules of interpretation. We can't put the cart before the horse; it's very important to proceed in the right order, so let's repeat the order of the techniques:

1. Solar and lunar eclipses
2. Secondary progressions
3. Transits

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and lectures, our new online Forum, and our participation with international chapters. We also hope more of our members will participate with contributions to our *E-news*, *memberletter*, and journals and add to the spirit of community. Our recent conference in Philadelphia was a great success on many levels, and we're already in the planning stages of the next one.

**Director Positions****Janet Berres**

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Janet Berres has been studying astrology since the mid 1970s, when she decided that in order to understand what her friends (who were astrologers) were talking about, she would have to learn the language. Until the advent of the computer, she was mathematically challenged, and unable to construct a chart. A Level I certified NCGR member, Janet says she "channeled" the right answers for her test :-). However, her ineptness did not stop her love of astrology, and Janet has been a big promoter and advocate of NCGR for over 30 years.

During 1992-1995 Janet co-owned a metaphysical bookstore that sponsored many events for astrologers and hosted speakers and workshops to further the enlightenment of the astrological community. She was the bookstore used during the 1994 ISAR convention, and is an avid reader on all esoteric subjects.

Ms. Berres was President of the Northern Illinois Chapter of NCGR from 1995-1997, and expanded the membership to the second largest NCGR chapter at that time. She is now Vice President of that chapter, and has been for the last six years. Her other great love is the tarot cards, where Janet was Founder and President of the International Tarot Society, which she incorporated in 1997 and closed in 2003. As originator and chief organizer of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd World Tarot Congresses (1997, 1999 and 2002), Janet did the groundbreaking work of uniting tarot enthusiasts and professionals together to exchange ideas, build community, and create a forum for networking during these bi-annual events. Ten countries were represented, along with 42 states from the U.S. Out of her inspiration, many other tarot conferences have since been produced.

She has been a professional tarot reader since 1975 and the author of the book *Your Guide to the Tarot*, included in Llewellyn's *Tarot Kit For Beginners*. And now, after studying the great art of astrology over 40 years, she also incorporates astrology in her tarot readings. Janet Berres resides with her two amazing cats in Morton Grove, IL.

**Frank Piechoski**

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Frank Piechoski has served the astrology community for more than 20 years. His first foray was as chair of the Hunts Astrology Group in Cambridgeshire, England in 1990 while

TIMES OF CHANGE cont'd from p. 1**Solar and Lunar Eclipses**

1. Find the nearest eclipses and mark their position in the natal chart. If you're looking at the year ahead, mark the eclipses, which have taken place during the last year, and those that will take place during the year ahead. (See paragraph seven of this section for some additional instructions on the eclipse delineation.)

2. In addition to marking the eclipse degrees, mark the degrees of the lunar nodes and (less important but very helpful) the positions of the planets and angles. (As for the angles: relocate the eclipse to where the client presently lives.) And don't forget the vertex-antivertex axis which acts as an additional Ascendant-Descendant axis. These points are too often overlooked.

3. See if the eclipse degree is in an EXACT aspect to any of the client's important places in the natal chart. Do not allow orbs over 2°. Those don't work. They can be helpful in locating the areas of future interest and action, but they don't cause important changes. As for the aspects: don't overlook semisquares and sesquisquares. Inconjuncts and semisextiles also work. All aspects work as long as they are exact. A one-degree orb with a sesquisquare, for example, acts much stronger than a trine with a 3° (or more) orb.

4. Repeat the procedure with the client's progressed chart—that is, see if any of the nearest eclipses are in an exact aspect to any of the progressed planets and points.

5. Once you have determined the aspectual relationships, take a close look at the planet-point that the eclipse aspects: in what house is that planet, and what house(s) does it rule? What are its natural and accidental meanings? (For example, Mars is the natural ruler of young men, drive, energy, competitiveness, and cuts, burns and accidents. But if Mars rules the 10th house or is placed therein, it also rules the client's job, career, ambitions, and public image.)

Next, how does that planet act in the natal chart? Find its aspects and calculate its essential and accidental strengths and weaknesses. It's important to carefully evaluate the natal planet's nature, because the eclipse connection will strongly express everything the natal planet stands for. It will actually *bring it to the light*. That planet will play a decidedly important role in the client's life during the (approximately) next year of life, so it's important to evaluate it properly.

If the planet (or point) has no aspects, see its midpoint connections. A direct (and strong or clearly expressed) midpoint tells us more about how a planet works in the chart than a weak aspectual relationship. (For example, if natal Jupiter is on the midpoint of Saturn and Neptune, it suggests a degenerative action of some kind, while natal Jupiter on the midpoint of Sun and Venus would suggest a marriage, for example. Imagine what a huge difference in expression such an eclipsed Jupiter would have!)

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serving in the U.S. Air Force. After leaving the Air Force and returning to the United States he became active in astrology organizations and attended his first UAC in 1992.

After attaining his degree in both journalism and theatre from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he continued to practice astrology while working at a daily newspaper as a copy editor. He later worked at Matrix Software in public relations and technical support. He has had a presence on the Internet as an astrologer since 1991.

In 1998, he was elected to the AFAN Steering Committee, serving a total of eight years. He was also an appointed member of the NCGR Board for three years as the public relations and marketing director. He was also a founding member of the Astrology News Service and currently serves on its editorial board and acts as copy editor.

Most recently, Frank was integral to the success of the NCGR 2013 Conference as part of the conference committee—acting as the local liaison, public relations and marketing manager, and hospitality manager. His advocacy of Philadelphia as a conference site, knowledge of the local area, and willingness to pitch in and do whatever needed to be done helped make it an outstanding conference. Last year, after a lengthy process, Frank founded the NCGR Philadelphia Chapter. He currently serves as chapter president and membership is on the increase. The challenges he faced starting the chapter were considerable. The chapter is still evolving and will start having outside lecturers next year.

Frank has been a professional astrologer for more than 25 years, and began the study of astrology at a very early age. He has lectured at local groups and national and international conferences including UAC, NCGR, ISAR, and the Astrological Association of Great Britain. His interests outside of astrology include theatre, music, technology, cooking, craft beer, and history.

The main reason Frank would like to be elected a Director of the NCGR Board is to not only improve how the board functions but bring greater transparency to how NCGR conducts its business. He seeks to serve the astrology community as best he can and will strive to enhance how NCGR goes about its business.

**Jackie Slevin**  
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**M**y interest in astrology began at age nine after finding my mother's textbooks from the Faculty of Astrological Studies in London on the living room coffee table. Years later, while living in a college dorm, my roommate hung an astrological calendar on her side of the room. Childhood memories resurfaced, and I began applying astrology into my daily life. At home during the holiday season, I raided Mom's bookcase and became permanently hooked. I furthered my education of astrology in Adult Schools and with private teachers. In 1981, while studying

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6. Examine the nature of the aspectual relationship: conjunctions and oppositions are the strongest, of course. They can bring success and progress, or losses, accidents and illness. It all depends on the natal placement of the planet (see above). Harmonious aspects tend to bring advancement and growth—in short, a positive expression. Disharmonious aspects with benefics can bring the same, only with the potential of strong but short-lived success or happiness. Disharmonious aspects with malefics tend to bring downfalls.

7. Examine the nature of the eclipse, which shows the strongest connection to the client's natal or progressed chart. Is the eclipse good or bad? Space doesn't permit for the full explanation and evaluation of the various natures of eclipses, but follow the simple rule of looking at the eclipse's aspects to the planets and angles. Some eclipses have harmonious links with the benefics—those tend to cause constructive and positive changes—and vice versa, of course. Know also that total eclipses (solar and lunar) are stronger (usually much stronger) than partial ones, with the consequence of causing stronger or weaker changes. Know also that solar eclipses tend to cause new beginnings, while lunar eclipses are more productive of crises and endings. (This is not a rule, however, because solar eclipses can also cause endings, especially if linked to malefics by disharmonious aspects.)

8. Once you have evaluated the trend/s set by eclipses, it's time to proceed to other techniques.

### Secondary Progressions

Before I had discovered the power of eclipses, secondary progressions were my main forecasting technique. They are very powerful indeed, but, as with eclipses, we need to be very careful with the evaluation of the nature and the timing of their expression. A short (suggested) procedure of evaluating the progressed chart:

1. Create a graphic presentation of the progressed chart—in longitude AND declination. Don't forget the progressed declinations—they tend to be even more powerful than progressions in longitude. The progressed aspects in declination are rarer, though, because with declinations, we only have parallels and contraparallels.

2. See if there is an aspect formed between the natal and progressed, or the progressed to progressed planets and angles. Determine the nature of those connections and the approximate time of their fullest expression (14 days for the lunar aspects and 2-3 months for the interplanetary aspects—but know that the slower planets have longer time orbs).

3. Understand the importance of the progressed Moon sign. This will show how the native will react (instinctively and emotionally) to everything there is to happen during the examined time period.

### Transits

Transits act as activators and timers. Every planetary transit is subordinate to the main (greater, larger) scheme set by the

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at The American School of Astrology in West Orange, New Jersey, a flyer circulated about a group sponsoring astrology lectures at Montclair State University. I was eager to attend this event.

The group was the National Council of Geocosmic Research, and the speakers were Ken and Joan Negus. On that day among that eclectic group of people, I found my second home, right in the town of my birth. I began attending meetings regularly. By 1983 I was a Board member of the New Jersey Chapter and have served on it continuously in every capacity except Treasurer. I began an accelerated pace of study through the NCGR Education Program, lectured for the New Jersey Chapter and other groups, wrote articles, taught in Adult Schools, online, and in my home.

After graduating the course of Classical Studies in Horary and working as a biography writer for Lois Rodden's Astrodatabase, I was a Track Coordinator and presenter at UAC 1995, 2002, and 2012, and was a member of the UAC 2002 Education Committee.

As Co-Director of NCGR Education from 2000-2003, I was the Conference Coordinator of NCGR Education Conferences in Hartford in 2001 and Minneapolis in 2003. I've lectured throughout the USA and in Canada and Mexico. An internationally published, full-time consulting astrologer, my book *Finding Success in the Horoscope* was released in 2008 and is available on Amazon.com and on Kindle.

Currently I'm a member of the NCGR-PAA Board of Examiners, write the Daily Guides Column for *Horoscope Guide* Magazine, and serve as the Vice-President for Northern New Jersey Chapter of NCGR. My website is [geocosmicstudies.com](http://geocosmicstudies.com).

Mission statement: My 32 years of hands-on experience in astrology have given me the necessary skills to endorse our ancient art in the modern world. If elected, I will leave no stone unturned to continue to serve NCGR to the best of my abilities.

**Leigh Westin (incumbent)**  
**[leighwestin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:leighwestin@sbcglobal.net)**

**L**eigh Westin (C.A. NCGR, D.F. Astrol.S.), appointed in 2003 and elected since 2004, has continuously served NCGR as Chapter Director. When Leigh joined the Board, there were few materials for chapters to work from so with input from a multitude of sources she developed the first NCGR Chapter Handbook, then in 2008 created an addendum especially for leadership workshops.

Some of her other contributions for Chapters were: a much needed by-law template, defined rebate timing, the volunteer of the year program, organization of Delegate meetings at conferences; and two email lists that allowed greater communication between the groups and National, first a domestic President's email list, then one that included all Chapter officers, the Communication Bulletin Board email list.

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eclipses and progressions. Pay special attention to the transits of the planet—and to the planet—which has been (or will be, in the near future) eclipsed. Very often, the *predicted* event takes place when such a planet crosses one of the chart's angles. Astrology students tend to overlook the importance of the angles, but they are crucial! Planetary energies tend to be *hidden* until they cross one of the angles and thus become directly expressed on the physical level. So, keep this rule in mind when you time your forecast!

Know also that eclipse configurations are often activated by additional lunations (those taking place in the course of the following year), and by the transits of the lunar nodes, Sun, and Mars.

## **Tania or A Tragic Love Story**

### **Miss Fitness**

Let's call her Tania. She's a bodybuilder and a fitness trainer, looking great for her age. Venus, conjunct her Gemini ascendant, makes her beautiful and youthful, and combined with her trained muscles, makes for a fabulous appearance.

Tania had won a couple of Miss Fitness titles before she was invited to participate in the Big Brother show in 2010—the year that made her famous. The solar eclipse of July 11, 2010 was in an exact conjunction with her natal Sun, so it's no wonder that she happened to be chosen for the job. Unfortunately, Saturn in the eclipse chart was in an exact opposition to her natal retrograde Saturn on Scheat, the cursed star, and squaring her natal Mars, co-ruler of the 11th house of group undertakings, so she was the first to have to leave the house. Her role in society had been, however, transformed by this performance, and she became regularly featured in the (mostly) yellow press.

As a divorced mother of one, she prided herself on waiting for the *Right One*. She publicly declared that she hadn't had a boyfriend for the last five years. Looking at her Sun conjunct Jupiter, the 7th house ruler, and its trine to Neptune, this man would really have to be Prince Charming. Would she meet him, and when?

The answer lies in the eclipses, of course. My research has shown that there is no meaningful life change, which had not been shown/foretold by an eclipse!

### **The Story**

Tania (*see chart on p. 6*) her Prince Charming in late August of 2012. He was young, rich, and handsome. Their first contact (virtual, via facebook) took place on August 23. It was followed by a meeting on August 29 and by the first kiss on September 7. After that, all followed naturally. Her lover's Mars was in an exact conjunction with her Sun and they shared some other strong synastry contacts, but, alas, the man had Moon in Gemini in the falling (phlegmatic) phase, suggesting a changeable and labile personality, which resulted in a typically unfortunate trait of the Gemini Moon—Tania was not his *one and only*! As she

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2005 Leigh led the successful publication sale, during which Chapters obtained cartons of *Essentials of Intermediate Astrology*. Then in 2006, still serving as Chapter Director, she volunteered as editor of the *Geocosmic Journal* and continued in both positions for five years. Currently she also serves a member of the Board of Examiners for NCGR-PAA.

As background, Leigh offers the unique perspective as astrologer and metaphysician of over 40 years; combined with expertise from other professional positions, involving large budgets, corporate interface, innovation and accountability; and spanning several years each in curriculum development, university instruction, editing, marketing and product management. In traditional education, Leigh finished with honors: B.S., Education, 1978; M.S., Institutional Management, 1980; and M.A., General Counseling, 1992.

One of the first to teach astrology in colleges in the 1970s, Leigh achieved the Diploma from the Faculty of Astrology Studies under Jeff Mayo in 1972. Early on, she built a client base, later turning solely to declination research. Since then she has presented original findings; lectured for many groups, and served as the 15-year editor of the Declination SIG's publication, *The Other Dimension*. In 2000, she published her first book, *Beyond the Solstice by Declination*.

Leigh's vision: As a Board we have met and resolved many challenges, and many remain. I'd like to see even stronger Chapters and SIGs; more leadership tools; greater outreach to young astrologers; quicker response and easier sign-up for new members and renewals—and Chapters, as our grassroots representatives, working with National to bring these about.

I am honored to have been entrusted with an NCGR directorship, and with your vote for re-election, I will continue to work toward an even stronger organization.

**Mark Wolz (incumbent)**

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**917-664-2771, MarkWolz@DharmaRising.com**

Throughout my formative years I was curious about character: where it comes from, how it forms, whether it can be reformed, the role it plays in shaping our lives. I earned a B.S. in psychology from Michigan State University. From there I set off to travel the globe and study languages and culture. I found my way to Cornell University and earned my masters degree in anthropology and Southeast Asian studies. I was particularly interested in symbolic systems.

Eventually, after more travel and study, I picked up astrology. At the same time I was drawn to yoga, and I saw that the two disciplines blend nicely in the spiritual study of the true self. In workshops and in my sessions with clients I encourage people to use their studies and their practice to integrate body, mind and spirit. I believe astrology can point us toward individual and collective responsibility and help bring conscious healing to ourselves and to the planet.

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discovered a year later, he had been cheating on her, practically throughout their affair, with his other lover being a married woman. When she found the definite proof of his infidelity on September 27, 2013, she decided to end her life. She tried to commit suicide on October 4 and fell into a coma, but was rescued on October 6, and moved out of his place on October 10.

In typical Gemini fashion, she was diligently posting pictures of their ideal union (fun, travel, candlelit dinners etc.) on facebook throughout their romance, and when all was over, her friends and the media also learned all the details about her disappointment and the unfortunate suicide attempt.

**The Planetary Scene**

The scene for what was to come was set by the total solar eclipse of May 20, 2012 (which was accompanied by the astronomical Venus transit—the fact that may have added to the complexity and large publicity of the case). The eclipse was in a semisquare to her natal Jupiter, the 7th ruler, in sextile to her progressed Mars (natural ruler of lovers), and in semisextile to her natal Mars—all exact to one degree. This way, her life became ready to welcome a new lover/partner.

I may add that the accompanying lunar eclipse of June 4, 2012, which stretched itself along 14° Gemini/Sagittarius and had Venus at 16° Gemini and Mars at 16° Virgo, all tightly linked to her natal configuration of Ascendant-Venus-Uranus-Pluto, definitely played an important role here, but I omitted it from the picture so as not to make it too clustered. Besides, the lunar eclipse only shows her strong emotional conditioning, which preceded the onset of the affair but does not point to an actual start of a new relationship, at least not in a clear way that the solar eclipse does.

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I am certified by NCGR for both consulting and teaching, and I am a certified yoga teacher. Several years ago I joined with two astrology colleagues to form Access Astrology; we present a live weekly show on the Internet and have a lively class in New York City every week.

I was elected to the NCGR Board in 2008, and I've been happy to serve with a wonderful group of people on the board. This year I stepped into the role of NCGR's Education Director. We are continuing to develop online courses and webinars, which I think will be a great benefit to our members. I like to encourage people to prepare for the NCGR-PAA certification exams, whether they wish to become certified or as a personal means of building their knowledge and gaining expertise and confidence.

NCGR is an important organization for astrology. It stands on two pillars: research and education, both of which serve to elevate the practice of astrology. I am pleased to see NCGR's commitment to online education. I am also interested in seeing NCGR develop regional events that are educational and strengthen the astrology community.

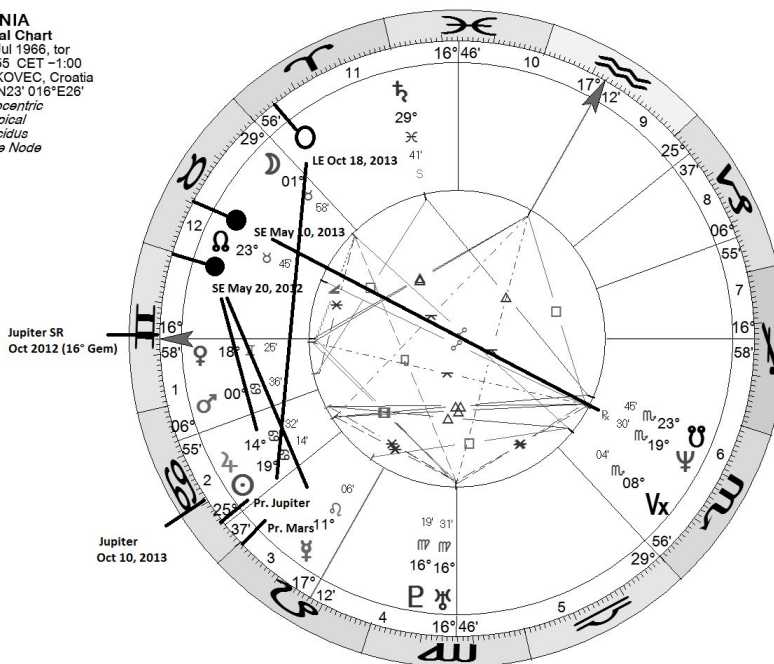
When she met him, her progressed Ascendant was in a very tight sextile with her natal North Node, while the progressed Moon was at 21° Capricorn—in a conjunction with her progressed descendant at 23° Capricorn. Why didn't she meet him (approximately) two months later when the conjunction became exact?

Well the reason seems to be that at 21° Capricorn the Moon was in an exact sextile to the nearest solar eclipse, which took place a couple of months later at 21° Scorpio. This degree already loomed large at that time and her progressed Moon simply *picked it up*, so to speak. Timing can be complicated, indeed, but once we get eclipses into play, it gets easier. (Plus, of course, angles are delicate because we can never be totally sure of the exactness of the recorded time of birth. This could also have played a role here, although it must be said that birth times in our country tend to be taken down accurately.)

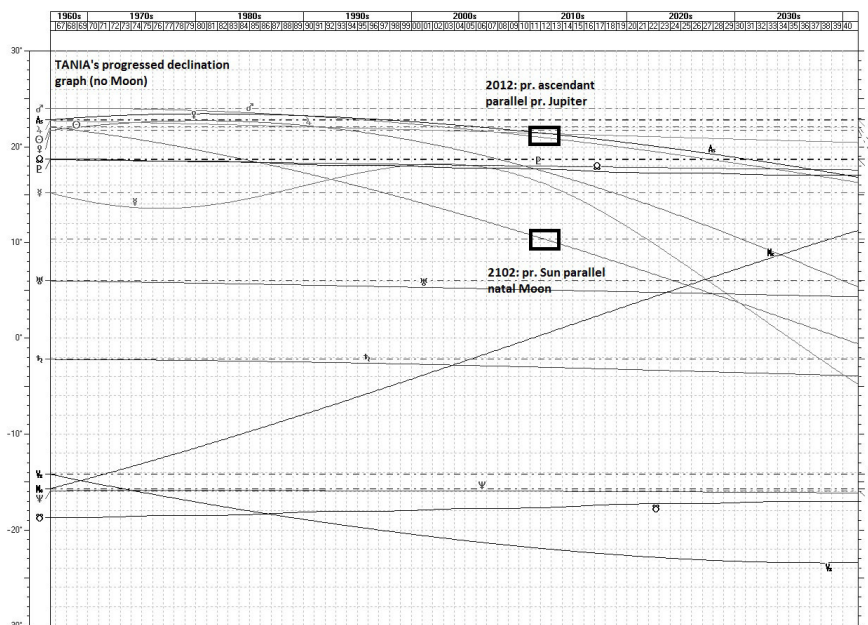
Her progressed declination graph (*see right*) shows that two very important aspects were formed in 2012: her progressed Sun made a parallel to her natal Moon, and progressed Ascendant was in a parallel to her progressed Jupiter, her 7th house ruler. This heavenly meeting of the Sun and Moon, the ancient symbols of husband and wife, shows how very important this relationship was to her. (For the sake of clarity, I have created her life declination graph without the Moon for 75 years of life. The crossings are thus more discernible.)

Transiting Jupiter, her 7th house ruler, came to conjoin her ascendant in late summer/early fall of 2012 when their romance took off. It is fascinating, though, that it turned retrograde exactly upon her Ascendant and in square of her natal Pluto-Uranus conjunction a little bit later—as if trying to say that what started at this time would end in disgrace—or in a tragic, surprising way. And this is what happened! Tania was never short of proofs that she was having the time of her life, but looking at that disgraced Jupiter, travelling through the secret 12th house (of scandal) and in its detriment, we can understand that the relationship involved secrets to hide.

**TANIA**  
Natal Chart  
12 Jul 1966, for  
01:55 CET -1:00  
CAKOVEC, Croatia  
46°N23' 016"E26'  
Geocentric  
Tropical  
Placidus  
True Node



Tania's natal chart with most of the main planetary influences that shaped her life during the year of her love affair.



Tania's Life Declination Graph

Now, to the downfall. The annular solar eclipse of May 10, 2013 was in a very exact opposition of her natal Neptune. One could argue that Neptune is a generation planet, but then, again, it all depends on the exactness of the link. A 2° or 3° degree orb can surely not have the same effect as this very tight orb of exactly one minute of arc! (Eclipse 19° Taurus 31', Tania's natal Neptune 19° Scorpio 30'). Besides (and to make matters worse), her progressed Node on October 1, 2013 was at exactly the same degree and even (almost) minute: 19° Scorpio 32'! This timing is just formidable, don't you agree?!

Neptune, when negatively aspected, is the planet of betrayal, loss, scandal, disappointment, and disillusionment. No wonder that things developed as they did! Her discovery of his unfaithfulness was just a matter of time. It happened at the time when transiting Nodes were exactly aligned with her vertex line, suggesting a fateful turning point in her relationship.

The final stage of her affair took place shortly before the partial lunar eclipse of October 18, 2013, at 25° Aries—the degree in an exact square of her progressed Jupiter at 24.5° Cancer, suggesting a (possible) break in her relationship. The fact that Jupiter is on the cusp of her 3rd house of communication, explains why she chose, after she had awoken from a coma, not to be silent but to disclose her whole story to her friends and the public (mass media).

But the strongest and most exact timing was provided by the activation of the eclipse (and Neptune) by the Mars transit. On September 27, 2013, when she discovered the ultimate proof of his lover's infidelity, Mars (at 19° Leo) was in an exact square to the May 2013 eclipse—and to her Neptune and the progressed Nodes, of course. This powerful activation momentarily broke her bonding—and drove her to her grave, suggested by the Mars position in her 4th natal house of ultimate endings.

Tania might have been dead today if the great benefic didn't come to her rescue. In those late September and early October days, transiting Jupiter exactly conjoined her natal Sun. As much as she wanted to end it all by dying, Jupiter and the Sun, strongly united, decided that she should live. And she does! On October 10, the exact day of the conjunction, she (having returned from hospital) packed her bags and moved out of his place and back to her home. Relocation is another 7th house matter, and the symbolism is very strong again: Jupiter (ruler of the 7th—relocation) conjunct the Sun (ruler of the 4th—her home).

*EMA KURENT was born in Ljubljana, Slovenia in 1962 and has been a professional astrologer since 1989. Her qualifications are DFAstroS (1988), QHP (1993), CMA (2004), ISAR CAP (2010). She also holds a BA in English and German languages from the University in Ljubljana. Ema specializes in traditional, forecasting, horary, and mundane astrology. She heads the Astrološka Akademija Stella (Astrological Academy Stella, ISAR Affiliated since 2012). Ema has written articles for NCGR memberletter, The Mountain Astrologer and for the NCGR, ISAR and AA Journals, and has spoken at international conferences in England, the United States (UAC 2012), Serbia, and Slovenia. My websites are [www.astroakademija.si](http://www.astroakademija.si), [www.emakurent.com](http://www.emakurent.com). Email: [ema.kurent@gmail.com](mailto:ema.kurent@gmail.com).*

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# Northwest Astrological Conference

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**May 22-26, 2014**  
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**Seattle, Washington**

## 2014 FACULTY

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## Message from the Chair

*Dear Members,*

I originally began this year-end Letter to Members by waxing poetic on the withstanding of the winter ahead and looking forward to warmer climes of 2014, until I remembered, by the time members would be reading this letter, we will be in the shadow of Venus's retrograde and for the next few months, we'll be experiencing one retrograde planet after another! So, on reconsideration, I thought it more astrologically appropriate to just repeat much of the last version of my letter to members....and a little more.

We are happy to continue to encourage members to join the new NCGR Forum, a new "members only" benefit. Once you join, you will see the different categories in which you can post, ask questions, answer the questions of others, trade birth data and what else, add worthwhile comments on the various topics or world events and developments, and your own insights into natal astrology, and on and on! We certainly hope you will take advantage of this tool of building community.

Kyle Ukes, our Communications & Media Director, put for these simple instructions in order to log on:

1. Go to the Forum website: [http://z13.invisionfree.com/NCGR\\_Forum](http://z13.invisionfree.com/NCGR_Forum)
2. Click on REGISTER
3. Choose a USERNAME (Your first and last names), a PASSWORD, and a VALID E-MAIL. (Note: Using your full first and last name is the only way to be accepted into the Forum).
4. Agree to Terms of Service and Click "Submit my Registration"
5. Wait for the confirmation page.
6. That's it! The NCGR Forum Admin will then make sure you're a current member of NCGR and you'll receive an e-mail confirmation once you've been approved for the Forum.

Please join the discussion!

Just a reminder that you can purchase any of the recordings of lectures, workshops and seminars from the recent Philadelphia conference "Everything under the Sun: The Art of Astrology" on [www.geocosmic.org](http://www.geocosmic.org).

If you are interested in online education, **Meira Epstein** will be continuing her online classes for Level II students on subjects including advanced astronomy, declinations and antiscia, houses and Saros cycles, and more. That begins on January 9, 2014, so check our website for details and registration. On January 14, Meira will begin "Astronomy for Astrologers & Natal Chart Calculations" for Level I students. Again, details and registration on our website, so take a look and give serious consideration to these studies. Don't let fear of math and science hold you back! Knowledge of the astronomy of the horoscope and its calculations will make you more creative in your interpretations.

*please turn to p. 9*



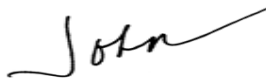
We are also delighted to announce the first NCGR Spanish speaking course in Level I astrology with **Monica Escalante** in the new year for all our members and friends who want to learn astrology "the NCGR way" in their native language. Specifics are coming soon!

Continuing in the retrograde theme, NCGR is re-instating its practice of membership cards for new and renewed members. So, from now on, you can expect a membership card to come to you via email after paying your dues along with a welcome letter of membership benefits. See? Retrograde is not a bad thing, after all!

Looking back over 2013, once again, many thanks to speakers, staff, volunteers, chapter presidents, and most of all, the attendees who made our Philadelphia conference so successful!

And to all of our members, we send our good wishes, thoughts and hopes for a great new year.

Onto 2014.



John Marchesella  
NCGR Chair

## Mental Agility

**A**n active brain is key to maintain an agile mind. Lucky for us that NCGR encourages astrologers to become adept at calculating charts: natal charts, secondary progressions, solar arc directions, solar returns, charts for anytime and anywhere. Once you learn to set them up, they'll serve as great exercises for your grey matter. Then when your hair has gone grey you can sit for 20 minutes a day setting up a chart to make sure your brain functioning stays fresh. This is one more benefit you'll get from certification.

Mark Wolz  
Education Director

# Murder in Mexico

by Marguerite Dar Boggia

**I**MET ENRIQUE LINARES, THE ISAR VP FOR Mexico, when he lectured on Planetary Synodics, a Method of Prediction, at the ISAR astrology conference in Los Angeles in 1977 (see his chart on p. 10).

His book entitled *A Scientific Approach to the Metaphysics of Astrology* was published by Seek-it Publications in 1982. It is an exceptional book; both thought-provoking and enlightening (Moon in the 3rd house of writing). It is a medley of scientific information culled from various sources. He was a chemical engineer by profession. (Mercury, ruler of the 10th in the 9th of higher education, trines Saturn.) He was very erudite and well read, not only on scientific subjects covering the constellations, vibrations, magnetism, minerals, color, light, the trinity, the bible etc., but also on the teachings of the Ancient Wisdom as found in Theosophy and in the *Secret Doctrine* of Madame H.P. Blavatsky (angular Jupiter, loaded 8th house).

The 8th house relates to death, transformation, research and self-mastery. Through his thorough research on cycles, he discovered the septenary cycles of the Moon, Mars, and the Sun. He correlated them to the affairs of a human. His theories and analogies are most novel and interesting. He taught astrology, which was his other love. (Uranus, ruler of the Moon in Aquarius, trines Neptune in the 10th of career.)

I had heard that he had died in 1984, but did not know the circumstances of his death. In 1989 I met Vicky Malo, one of his astrology students, at a UAC Conference. She learned of Enrique's death from Maria, a mutual friend of Enrique. Maria was somewhat mediumistic and sensed that Enrique wanted to give Vicky a message through her. So, while Maria was in a trance, Vicky heard the voice of Enrique instruct her to ask his sister to go to the police. Two of the five men who came to his home, were the twins who had worked for him. One of the men (a Colombian drug

"hit man") killed him. I believe it was by drowning (Moon inconjunct Pluto (death) in the water sign, Cancer). Then, Enrique made a remark that was most enigmatic. He said that his death was the **greatest thing** that ever happened to him! His sister did inform the Mexican police who were very interested in her report and within two weeks all five men were arrested and his automobile was returned.

Enrique was born on July 15, 1938 at 3:45 PM CST in Gomez Palacio, Mexico 25N34, 103W30). His study of astrology began in 1957 at the tender age of 19.

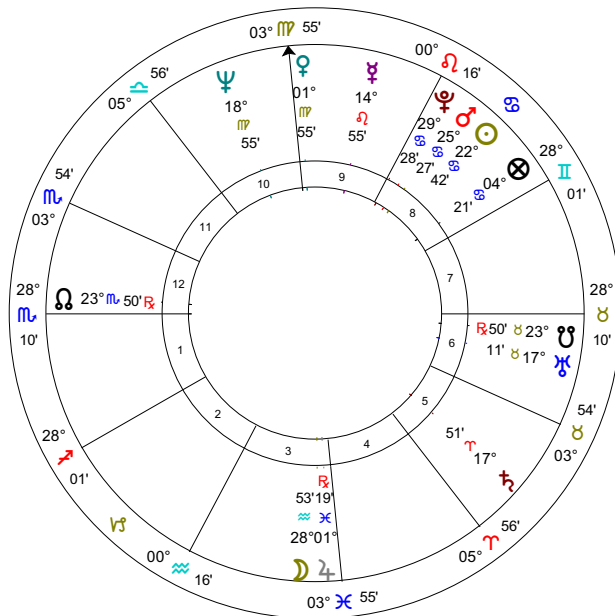
His planets are predominantly in cardinal and water signs. He is enterprising, has executive ability, is empathic, secretive, reserved, protective, intuitive and sensitive. He has to learn detachment.

The dispositor of Cancer in his loaded 8th house is the Moon in Aquarius. He is new age oriented, independent, humanitarian, progressive in his beliefs and loves astrology. Moon squares his Scorpio Ascendant and is inconjunct the ruler of the Ascendant, Pluto (himself). He has challenges to work out with his emotions and karma to work out, probably with Mother. Moon conjunct Jupiter suggests his Mother was spiritual and religious and highly educated and intellectual.

He had Pluto conjunct the Sun. He had an indomitable will to achieve whatever his Inner Self desired. With Mars conjunct the Sun, no one was going to take advantage of him! I recall his anger and resentment when he thought he was being discriminated against. He had submitted an article to ISAR, which was not acknowledged. When he bitterly complained, it was published in the ISAR journal.

Angular Venus conjunct the MC and Jupiter conjunct the IC were his strongest planets. Their opposition suggested challenges in relationships possibly involving his unorthodox beliefs. He was

Enrique Linares  
 Natal Chart  
 Jul 15 1938, Fri  
 3:45 pm CST +6:00  
 Gomez Palacio, Mexico  
 25°N34' 103°W30'  
 Geocentric  
 Tropical  
 Placidus  
 Mean Node



exceptionally loving and caring and valued his family and his work. With Pluto and Mars trine the Scorpio Ascendant, he was in harmony with himself. His joy was research, the esoteric studies of occultism and teaching astrology (3rd house-9th house).

Moon conjunct Jupiter (ruler of the 4th) opposes Venus in the 10th. Venus rules the 7th house cusp of relationships. This suggests challenges in relationships had to be worked out, especially with parent. It is possible that his mother (Moon) was his wife in some previous incarnation. Pluto (he himself) forms an inconjunct to Jupiter, the co-ruler of the 4th house (parent). Neptune, ruler of the 4th (parent), forms an inconjunct to Saturn (karma) in the 5th. This theme suggests that he may have past life karma to work out with Mother possibly relating to the abandonment of children (5th house). The inconjunct correlates to a separation of some type. An adjustment must be made to establish harmony and balance. By his untimely, violent death, he succeeded in working out some of his past life karma.

Mercury squares Uranus in Taurus (money) in the 6th house of work. He was self-willed with an exceptional mind.

He was murdered because his employees told the thieves that he had money in his safe. He had three planets in their fall (Mars, Venus, and Saturn) and two planets in their detriment (Neptune and Uranus). Jupiter, the natural ruler of the ninth house of higher mind, ethics, faith, the truth, higher values and belief systems, was in Pisces. Jupiter is co-ruler of Pisces.

At the time of his death on September 30, 1984, progressed Moon (18° Scorpio 53') sextiled natal Neptune (18° Virgo 56'). Both planets formed an inconjunct to Saturn (karmic destiny) forming a finger of god aspect, called a yod. Progressed MC (18° Libra 16') activated the yod by its opposition to natal Saturn (17° Aries 52').

Progressed MC inconjunct progressed Uranus, (unexpected events and/or violence). Progressed Jupiter (26° Aquarius) inconjunct natal Mars (violence). Progressed Venus (relationships) squared natal Sun. Progressed Mercury (ruler of the MC) opposed natal Jupiter.

Progressed Pluto (death) inconjunct natal Jupiter, ruler of the 4th, the end of life. Transiting Pluto exactly squared progressed Pluto. Transiting Jupiter was exactly on his progressed ascendant (4°

## do you get e-news and memberletter?

To ensure that you will continue to get your bimonthly *memberletter*, which is online only, and *E-news from NCGR*, please be sure to send your email address to Liane Thomas Wade, Secretary, at [execsec@geocosmic.org](mailto:execsec@geocosmic.org), if she does not already have it. If you already receive your *E-News from NCGR* and *memberletter* link, you do NOT need to do anything unless you want information sent to a different email address. If you wish to continue to read hard copy, just print this issue out and staple it together. If you do not have access to a printer, please ask another NCGR member to print out a copy for you, or contact your chapter president. If you have technical issues, email me at [memberletter@geocosmic.org](mailto:memberletter@geocosmic.org) or email [online@geocosmic.org](mailto:online@geocosmic.org) and someone on the Board will assist you.

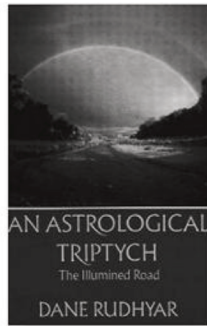
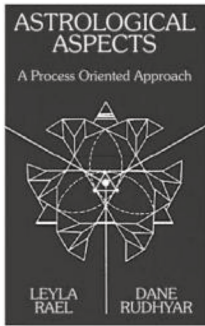
Ronnie Dreyer  
*memberletter Editor*

Capricorn). Transiting Saturn squared natal Mercury, transiting Mars formed an inconjunct to natal Sun, Mars, Vertex and Pluto and transiting Mercury formed an inconjunct to natal Moon.

Why did he say that death was the best thing that happened to him? Perhaps we are not to fear death; perhaps with his level of consciousness he was dwelling in higher spheres?

MARGUERITE DAR BOGGIA serves as Membership Secretary of ISAR. She was the past Secretary and Director of ISAR and Publisher of *Kosmos*, the ISAR journal. She was a co-founder of UAC and its past Secretary and Director. She presently offers online three pages weekly of the *Esoteric Studies* as was known by *Pythagoras*. It is **FREE** and can be obtained through her website: [www.FreePythagorasTeachings.com](http://www.FreePythagorasTeachings.com).

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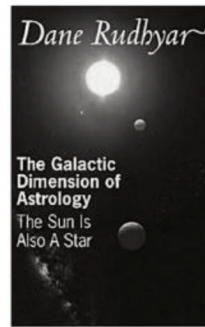
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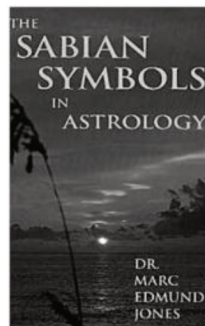
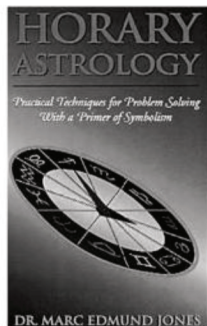
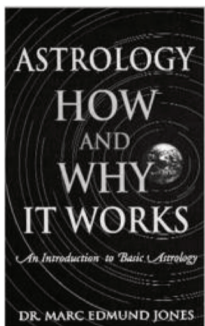
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—Henry Miller, author

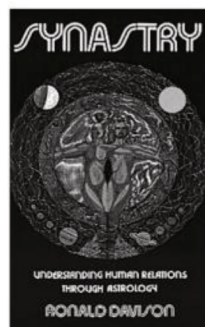
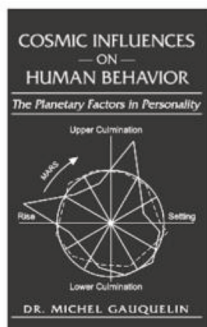
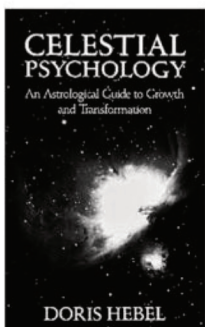


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"Emotionally, I would prefer that Gauquelin's results don't hold, rationally I must accept they do."

—Hans Eysenck, London University of Psychiatry

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# This Just In: When Planetary Patterns Make Headlines

by Elisabeth Grace

I AM A REPORTER WITH A VERY UNIQUE BEAT. Blame it on Rockie Gardiner, Bill Herbst, and Noel Tyl. For years, I read *LA Weekly* astrologer Rockie Gardiner's daily forecast, *Rockie Horoscope*. When she passed away on Halloween of 2008, I missed her insights terribly.

In March of 2009, I booked a consultation with Bill Herbst, whom I'd found through Rockie several years earlier. I'd been riveted by Bill's newsletters about mundane astrology, especially his thoughts on the Uranus-Pluto square. He posted predictions long before other astrologers, and events have since been manifesting pretty much as he called them. In 2009, I was at a crossroads in life—two months away from my accumulated solar arc semi-square—and my Aries Sun and Capricorn Ascendant would soon be under pressure from Uranus and Pluto. I wanted Bill's take.

Bill thought I certainly had the horoscope of a writer (true enough). His take was that at some point I'd find a subject to write about with great passion. And that once I started, I would never shut up. He was right! Three weeks later, I was laid off from yet another freelance gig in TV news. I had no *Rockie Horoscope* to guide me. So I decided to write my own daily forecast. With a twist.

Working in news, I had noticed an odd synchronicity between planetary patterns and whatever was making headlines—specifically the homepage of the *New York Times*. That became my passion—and I've been writing about it for almost five years now. As Bill Herbst predicted, I just can't stop. Want a few examples of how I've observed planetary patterns reflected in the headlines? Keep on reading!

I'm writing this on November 15, 2013. Yesterday at 8:13 PM EST, Venus in Capricorn was squared by Uranus in Aries, suggesting the potential for sudden and/or

unconventional attractions, a need for freedom in social expression, and/or breakthroughs in issues involving women, money and art. This evening, Venus conjoined Pluto, adding intensity and power to the mix. How fascinating to read that Snapchat, a *tech* company with a *revolutionary, no-strings-attached* channel for social expression, rejected a zillion-dollar buyout offer. What's "no strings" about it? You can post pictures for all your friends to see, just like Facebook—but those pictures can't come back to haunt you; after a short time, they'll disappear. How liberating is that?

Also on the *New York Times* homepage, an Andy Warhol painting brought in millions at an auction—and set a record high for Warhol's work. A breakthrough device designed to liberate babies who get stuck during childbirth was another story. And Janet Yellen—a high-powered, pioneering woman in the world of finance—was grilled by Congress; her reassuring testimony pushed the markets to yet another record high at the closing bell today. Coincidence or conspiracy?

But wait, there's more. Over the weekend, Doris Lessing, the Nobel prize-winning author known for her emancipated (Uranus) and empowered (Pluto) writings about women (Venus) passed away. Not only that, but a bitter feud between the Cheney sisters about gay marriage rights hit social media outlets and the front page of the *New York Times*.

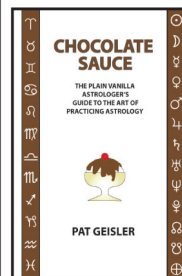
Take a Venus-Pluto square that happened in February 2012 and add a conjunction between Mercury and idealistic Neptune, plus a trine between Mercury and sober Saturn, and you have a recipe for a potential outpouring of emotion and inspired thinking that can be delusional, practical, and/or transcendental. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to

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conclude that these patterns seem perfectly aligned with the outpouring of emotion expressed by the public after Whitney Houston's sudden passing at age 48 on February 11, 2012.

Or how about this: on October 19, 2013, on a potentially bedazzling and bewildering opposition between proactive Mars in analytical Virgo and Neptune in dreamy Pisces, I was intrigued to find this article: "Data-Mining Our Dreams." How cool is that?

Another example: Jupiter-Uranus transits in the horoscope are often experienced as sudden windfalls and changes of fortune. On January 7, 2011, Jupiter and Uranus conjoined in compassionate Pisces. The poster child for this transit was Ted Williams. On January 7, a story about him was uploaded to YouTube and soon, the entire Free World was motivated to assist the homeless man with the "golden voice." It didn't take long for Kraft to hire him for a lucrative gig pitching macaroni and cheese. I suspect that the Ted

*please turn to p. 13*

Williams “miracle” was not the only one happening under the Jupiter-Uranus conjunction, even if it did not make headlines. Contrast that story with the stunning headlines we saw during a 2012 Sun-Saturn conjunction in Scorpio. That’s a heavy transit, and we’d expect heavy themes of focus and loss in matters of sex, death and money—and especially the attitudes, obsessions, fantasies, and fears on these matters we prefer to keep hidden away. Saturn in Scorpio suggests we will be forced to confront these attitudes—and take responsibility for the consequences that follow, no matter how ghoulish. We are seeing plenty of opportunities to confront our dark side during Saturn’s Scorpio sojourn.

On this particular Sun-Saturn conjunction, which I wrote about on October 26, 2012, two very ghoulish stories hit the news, in neighborhoods that could arguably be called utterly boring and bourgeois. One involved the arrest of a 28 year old police officer—married, with a baby girl—and his alleged conspiracy so evil and twisted that he’s been called the “Cannibal Cop.”

The other involves the arrest of a nanny in Manhattan who murdered two of the young children in her care before apparently attempting to kill herself. Meanwhile, across the Pond, another scandal that “threatened to become a political crisis” was brewing, as inquiring minds demanded to know why the BBC apparently did nothing to stop Jimmy Savile, a popular TV host from sexually abusing boys and girls over the course of 40 years. I’ve been fascinated to see how Sabian Symbols—especially for a New Moon—manifest in the headlines during that lunar cycle.

On the New Moon in July 2012, I could not bring myself to include the Sabian Symbol for 27° Cancer in my forecast because the image was so disturbing, given the fierce volatility of an exact Mars-Pluto-Uranus t-square in the New Moon chart. The symbol for 27° Cancer is “a violent storm in a canyon filled with expensive homes,” suggesting (quoting Dane Rudhyar), “a confrontation with a social upheaval demanding the reconsideration of static values...a crisis situation produced by uncontrollable karmic forces that could lead to a successful

CATHARSIS.” (Dane Rudhyar, *An Astrological Mandala: The Cycle of Transformations and its 360 Symbolic Phases*, New York: Vintage Books, 1974. p. 128.)

Could it have been a coincidence that the biggest story of that lunar cycle was the shocking massacre at a midnight premiere of the latest *Batman* movie in Aurora, Colorado?

Another striking New Moon and Sabian Symbol example happened in March of 2012 with the Moon at 2° Aries. The Sabian Symbol is “a cameo profile of a man in the outline of his country.” Of this symbol Blain Bovee, another Sabian Symbol expert, noted the potential “to stereotype others at the expense of their full individuality; to highlight only their prominent features....and...snap judgments based on general outlines.” (Blain Bovee, *The Sabian Symbols and Astrological Analysis: The Original Symbols Revealed*, St. Paul: Llewellyn Publications, 2004, p. 30.)

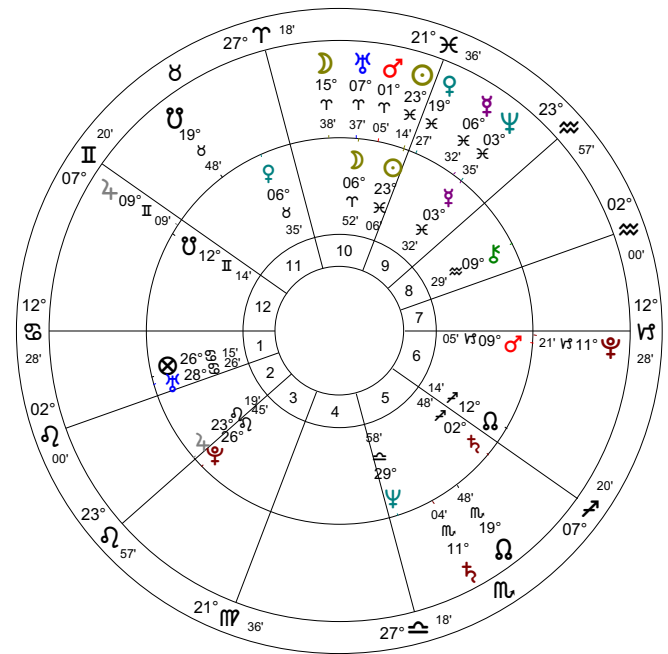
So what was the biggest story of that lunar cycle? The trigger-happy thinking of George Zimmerman, when he shot and killed an unarmed Trayvon Martin. Isn’t that interesting?

As a reporter with a very unique beat, I’ve had fun observing solar arcs and transits in the horoscopes of people who are making headlines, too. Something big is always going on—nearly always involving an outer planet. And while that may feel intuitively obvious to seasoned astrologers, seeing it manifest over and over never ceases to amaze me. Astrology is amazing!

One newsmaker I’ve been observing since fall of 2011 is Jamie Dimon, the CEO of JPMorgan Chase. In 2011, I had a

Inner Wheel  
**Jamie Dimon**  
**Natal Chart**  
Mar 13 1956  
12:00 pm EST +5:00  
New York, NY  
40°N42°51' 074°W00°23"  
Geocentric  
Tropical  
Placidus  
Mean Node

Outer Wheel  
**Transits Mar 13 2013**  
**Event Chart**  
Mar 13 2013  
12:00 pm EDT +4:00  
New York, NY  
40°N42°51' 074°W00°23"  
Geocentric  
Tropical  
Placidus  
Mean Node



producing gig at CNBC, where Mr. Dimon’s actions were getting more attention than in more mainstream media outlets. Looking at planetary patterns on his birthday (March 13, 1956 in New York City, birth time unknown), I suspected he might do something significant around March of 2012, and, in fact, he did. Here’s what I wrote on March 14:

“Jamie Dimon, the highly-respected CEO of JPMorgan Chase, gets my vote for best public manifestation of the Earth Grand Trine, raised to greater heights by rebel Uranus and Mercury retrograde. Why? For projecting an aura of empowered, abundant self-sufficiency that rocked the markets and the timetable of the Federal Reserve. Jamie Dimon’s horoscope is personally affected by the EGT and other compelling planetary patterns.

On March 13, 2013 (yes—on Dimon’s birthday—not that any other media outlet noticed), JPMorgan Chase announced that it had passed a “stress test” given by the Federal Reserve. Nineteen banks had

please turn to p. 14

to show they have enough capital to survive another big, fat financial crisis. JPMorgan said it had plenty of cash, thank you very much—and it was going to raise its dividend. Wow! JPM stock soars! And the market goes even higher! But wait—wait—the results of the Fed stress tests were to be announced on *Thursday*. But Jamie Dimon *didn't wait*—and soon, other banks *followed his lead* and announced their test results and dividends, too. Ultimately, the Fed announced all the test results *two days earlier* than it had planned. And this whole scenario is deliciously in line with planetary patterns outlined in prior forecasts.

Jamie Dimon is a Pisces with Moon in Aries, which needs to be *first*, dang it. He needs to inspire, to be a pioneer, to lead. Moon in Aries is not known for patience. Jamie Dimon also has assertive Mars at 9° of enterprising, make-it-happen Capricorn. That's where ruthless, resourceful Pluto is right now—yes, sitting on top of Jamie Dimon's Mars, suggesting great efforts of empowerment. Add the Earth Grand Trine among Jupiter, Pluto and Mars to the mix and you can see how themes of material abundance and expansion are currently “hot” in for Mr. Dimon. We should follow Mr. Dimon carefully through 2013.”

So what's been happening with Mr. Dimon since then? Well, exactly three months after his dramatic assertion of will in March, with the transiting Sun squaring his natal Sun, he appeared in Congress to answer questions about how \$2 billion was allowed to vaporize on his watch in the so-called “London Whale” debacle. In May of 2013 he had to do some serious lobbying to keep shareholders from voting to strip him of half of his job title as Chairman and CEO of the company.

Fast-forward to the August 7, 2013 face-off between heavyweights Jupiter at 9° Cancer and Pluto at 9° Capricorn, when JPMorgan revealed it was facing criminal and civil inquiries about its questionable mortgage lending practices leading up to the financial crisis of 2008. In September, with Pluto still at 9° Capricorn, Mr. Dimon reportedly met with U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder. And a couple of days before October 19, when JPMorgan Chase reached an alleged 13 billion dollar

settlement with the Justice Department, Uranus backed up to 9° Aries. So how did this unprecedented settlement deal get done? According to this report, hours before the Justice Department was to announce civil charges against the bank, a “rare outreach” by Mr. Dimon put the announcement on hold and led to this “record” deal. It will be interesting to see what Mr. Dimon does between January 18 and February 14, when Uranus will hit 9° Aries for the last time.

In other news, here's how planetary patterns were playing out on an interesting day in the life of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia (born March 11, 1936, 8:55PM in Trenton, NJ):

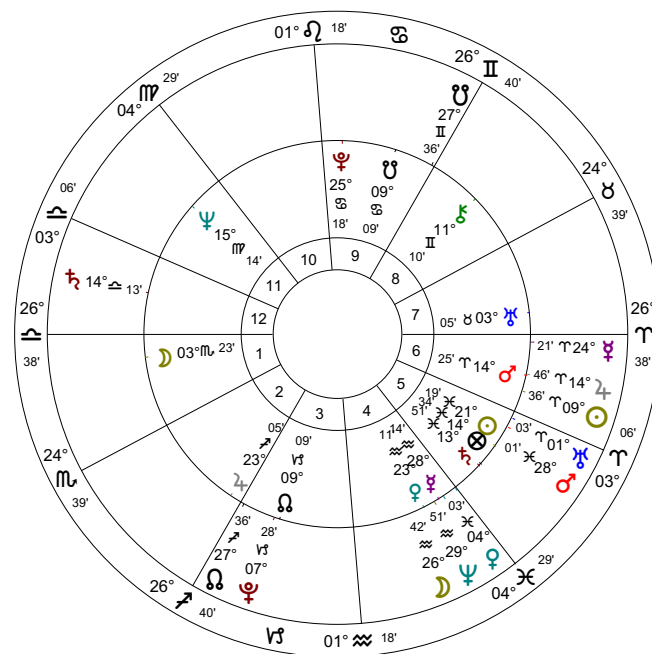
On March 30, 2011, Scalia's natal Mars in impulsive, impatient Aries was triggered by a Jupiter-Saturn opposition, with Jupiter conjoining Mars. This suggests a need for a physical release of energy.

Mars is in the 6th, ruling the 6th, with the Saturnine potential for frustration or delays in efforts to expand or move forward. Jupiter and Saturn are the rulers of Scalia's 3rd house of short journeys. Scalia's natal Mercury (mind, communication, travel) was under the influence of a separating conjunction from transiting Neptune, perhaps clouding his usual sharp focus.

Transiting Mercury was stationary retrograde almost exactly opposite his Libra Ascendant and squaring his Pluto in Cancer. There's more, but that's enough to suggest a potentially explosive release of energy projected in a public one-on-one encounter, as a result of unfocused thinking and impatient and/or aggressive actions curbed by certain controls...such as *two tons of steel blocking one's path*.

Inner Wheel  
**Antonin Scalia**  
Natal Chart  
Mar 11 1936  
8:55 pm EST +5:00  
Trenton, NJ  
40°N13°01" 074°W44°36"  
Geocentric  
Tropical  
Placidus  
Mean Node

Outer Wheel  
**Transits Mar 30 2011**  
Event Chart  
Mar 30 2011  
12:00 pm EDT +4:00  
Washington, DC  
38°N53°42" 077°W02°12"  
Geocentric  
Tropical  
Placidus  
Mean Node



And in fact, Justice Scalia was issued a traffic ticket when he rear-ended a car, perhaps in a short journey to or from his office. Fascinating!

Meanwhile, it should come as no surprise that planetary patterns in Rand Paul's horoscope (January 7, 1963 in Pittsburgh PA, birth time unknown) were under high developmental tension on March 6, 2013 (*see chart on p. 15*).

Here's what I wrote on March 7: “Sen. Paul (R-KY) is an enterprising Capricorn with Moon in Gemini, a lunar placement that *needs* to talk. And OMG, did this Moon need to talk talk talk—for hours and hours on the Senate floor in a good old-fashioned filibuster. And you might talk, too if you woke up that morning with an idealistic and communicative Mercury-Venus transit conjoining your compassionate, philosophical and somewhat overblown Jupiter in Pisces and opposing your Pluto in details-*ad-nauseum* Virgo.

*please turn to p. 15*



You would also have plenty of stamina to hold court indefinitely, given your super-charged and resourceful natal Jupiter-Pluto opposition. And you'd have no problem with the "holding court" part, because you'd have aggressive Mars in royal Leo and would be naturally inclined to "get away with murder" (quoting Grant Lewi). And with that Mars retrograde, suggesting a double agenda about your actions, it would make perfect sense that you'd enjoy using a filibuster to talk about everything under the Sun, while intending to draw attention to the current administration's stance on the use of drones.

But hey, it's all information—and that Moon in Gemini needs to inform, right? And with transiting Saturn at 11° Scorpio squaring your natal Saturn at 10° Aquarius, we could expect an ambitious reach from you at that time. And guess what? Given the benefic nature of some of these transits, people who usually dismissed you as "nuts" might actually agree with you, like *New York Times* columnist Gail Collins, for instance, who had her usual entertaining and provocative take on your efforts."

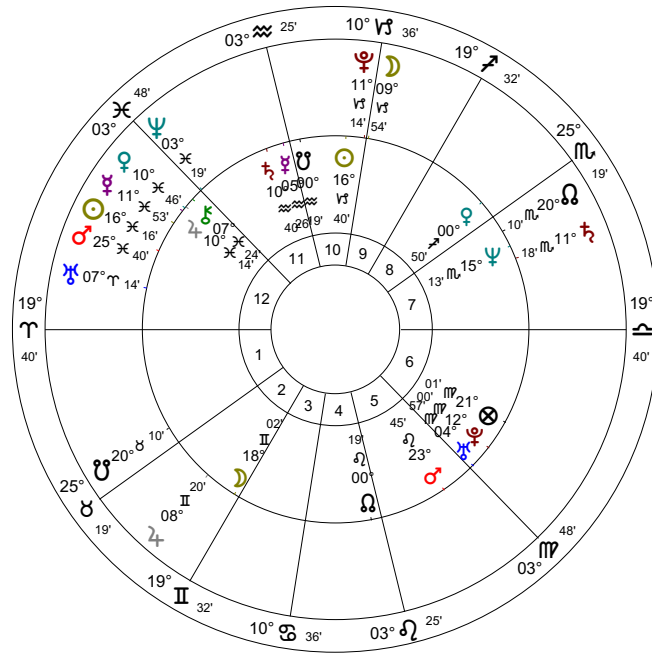
Really, I could go on and on about these news events and corresponding planetary patterns. I encourage you to try this at home. Take note of planetary patterns and see how they manifest in the headlines. As the great sage Yogi Berra once said, "You can observe a lot by watching!"

And in case you're wondering how Noel Tyl fits in with my reporting obsession: because I had the good sense to enroll in his masters course back in August of 2009, I now know why Bill Herbst said what he did about my horoscope—and much, much more.

Back to you in the studio...

Inner Wheel  
**Rand Paul**  
Natal Chart  
Jan 7 1963  
12:00 pm EST +5:00  
Pittsburgh, PA  
40°N26'26" 079°W59'46"  
Geocentric  
Tropical  
Placidus  
Mean Node

Outer Wheel  
**Transits Mar 6 2013**  
Event Chart  
Mar 6 2013  
12:00 pm EST +5:00  
Washington, DC  
38°N53'42" 077°W02'12"  
Geocentric  
Tropical  
Placidus  
Mean Node



(All charts with no precise time were drawn for noon-Ed.)

### Birth Data

**Jamie Dimon.** March 13, 1956, Time Unknown. New York NY. 40N42, 74W00.

**Rand Paul.** January 7, 1963, Time Unknown. Pittsburgh PA. 40N26, 79W59.

**Antonin Scalia.** March 11, 1936, 8:55 PM EST, Trenton, NJ, 40N13, 74W45. Source: **Birth Certificate.** As recorded on Atrodatabank.com.

*ELISABETH GRACE spent decades promoting local and national news as a writer and producer for NBC, WNBC, and CNBC. For five years she's been a passionate reporter of the synchronicity of news and planetary patterns in her daily forecast @graceastrology.com. She has a B.A. in Philosophy from Wellesley and is an ISAR CAP-certified astrologer. She is a highest honors graduate of Noel Tyl's rigorous masters course. She will never stop talking about astrology, and so far has done so on the radio, in Los Angeles, New York and Tokyo. She consults with clients all over the world, helping them live life better.*

## Celestial Events November 2013- January 2014

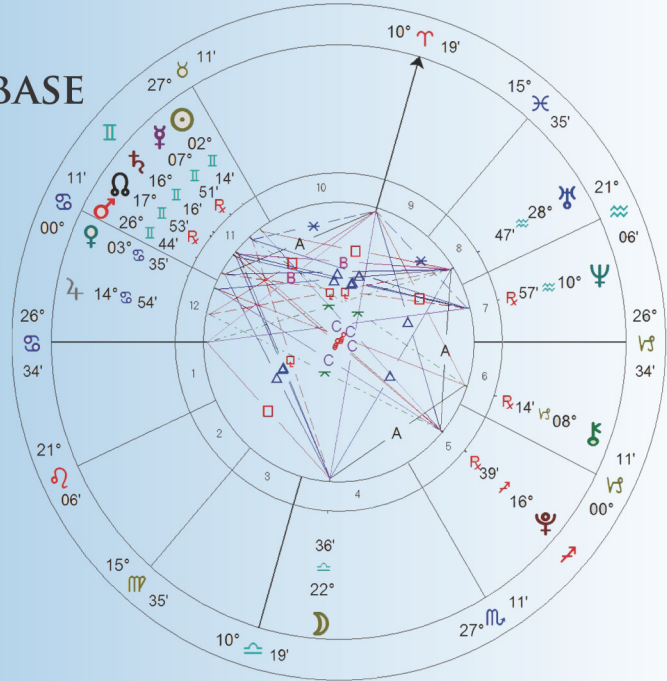
- November 3, 2013.** Solar (New Moon) Eclipse. 12:46 PM. 11° Scorpio 15'.
- November 5, 2013.** Venus enters Capricorn. 8:43 AM.
- November 7, 2013.** Jupiter stations retrograde. 5:04 AM. 20° Cancer 30'.
- November 10, 2013.** Mercury stations direct. 9:12 PM. 2° Scorpio 30'.
- November 13, 2013.** Neptune stations direct. 6:43 PM. 2° Pisces 34' D
- November 17, 2013.** Full Moon. 3:16 PM. 25° Taurus 26'.
- November 22, 2013.** Sun enters Sagittarius. 3:48 AM.
- December 3, 2013.** New Moon. 12:22 AM. 10° Sagittarius 59'.
- December 5, 2013.** Mercury enters Sagittarius. 2:41 AM.
- December 7, 2013.** Mars enters Libra. 8:41 PM.
- December 17, 2013.** Full Moon. 9:28 AM. 25° Gemini 36'.
- December 17, 2013.** Uranus stations direct. 5:39 PM. 8° Aries 35'.
- December 21, 2013.** Sun enters Capricorn. 5:10 PM.
- December 21, 2013.** Venus stations retrograde. 9:53 PM. 28° Capricorn 58'.
- December 24, 2013.** Mercury enters Capricorn. 10:12 AM.
- January 1, 2014.** New Moon. 11:14 AM. 10° Capricorn 57'.
- January 11, 2014.** Mercury enters Aquarius. 9:34 PM.
- January 16, 2014.** Full Moon. 4:52 AM. 25° Cancer 58'.
- January 20, 2014.** Sun enters Aquarius. 3:51 AM.
- January 30, 2014.** New Moon. 9:38 PM. 10° Aquarius 55'.
- January 31, 2014.** Mercury enters Pisces. 2:37 PM.
- January 31, 2014.** Venus stations direct. 8:48 PM. 13° Capricorn 33'.

Listings are calculated according to the tropical zodiac and GMT. For sidereal positions with Lahiri ayanamsa, subtract 24°04' from tropical positions, and with Fagan-Bradley ayanamsa subtract 24°57'.

# Planetary Stock Trading-IV

## ALL-NEW HOROSCOPE DATABASE

NETFLIX-NFLX  
NATAL CHART  
MAY 23 2002, THU  
9:30 AM EDT +14:00  
40° N 42'51" 074° W 00'23"  
Geocentric  
Tropical  
Koch  
True Node



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METHODOLOGIES

MORE ON JUPITER PORTFOLIOS

THE LATEST ON THE EARNINGS  
ANNOUNCEMENT METHOD

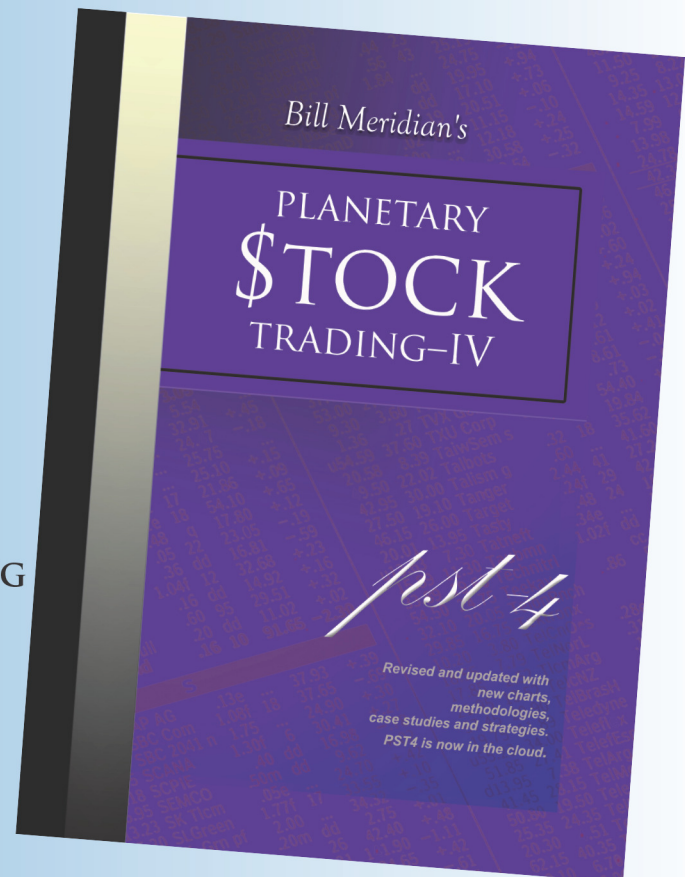
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NYC



# Musings

by Bonnie Armstrong

(August 9, 1924-May 8, 2008)

From conversations with  
Leigh Westin



*Known as the “lady in the hat” and always elegantly attired, this diminutive, modest lady, from Lincoln, Nebraska, was a tall figure in knowledge of our craft. Fifty years ago, when declination was rarely thought about—never mind, actually applied—Bonnie Armstrong was an experienced, practicing advocate, meticulously recording highly accurate results for both her clients and students. Through the years, Bonnie worked with psychiatrists, scientists and well-known astrological professionals, and had many intriguing tidbits and memories. Bonnie denied claims to the writing department, thus a series of interviews ensued so that her knowledge could be shared. The last interview occurred just a year before she departed this plane. Bonnie especially wanted what she termed the Lifetime Factor to be presented to the astrological community.*

*Leigh Westin*

**M**ANY YEARS AGO, I WAS EMPLOYED IN THE RAILROAD industry and had access to the exacting time and place of railway accidents. It was then that I found the value of declination. Although longitude may give the picture of what is happening where, with the parallels you see other contributing forces that don't exist by longitude. So it is very important that you have the parallels in view at the same time that you are looking at longitude.

For years, I kept track of astrological data in diaries using all of my family's charts. When I discovered the value of declination, I took a huge piece of paper and charted every family member's planets on a paralleling chart. The idea was I had to find some sort of system.

My motto is the *kiss* principle—*keep it simple, sweetie*. After trying many methods, I developed a form with that thought in mind. With this form you have everything you need on one page. Now that we have computers, no one wants to put anything on paper. Yet the process of handwriting the astrological information helps to imprint the chart on one's mind. The hand-eye-brain coordination creates a very positive effect on synthesis—and the computer can't do that! Synthesis is complex. By putting the information on paper, it helps to develop the mental image and impress.

To me, parallels of declination are like moving objects that time that which is going to happen and take place on the cross of life. The cross of life is shown on any chart as the 1st, 4th, 7th and

*please turn to p. 18*

# Global Gatherings

by Lynn Koiner

*This column will focus on Lynn Koiner's international travels, which will include interviews with international astrologers. In this article, Lynn ruminates on a conference she attended, resulting in her thoughts about coffee from an astrological point of view..*

**T**HE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CHEMISTRY WAS OBSERVED IN Vienna, Austria, with a discussion of coffee by Veronika Somoza, an American who is a professor at the University of Vienna. In America, coffee always made me very ill, usually because it was served with milk. It was during my second visit to Europe, in the town of Heidelberg, Germany, that I had my first cup of Bavarian coffee—without milk and only a little artificial sweetener. It was wonderful; I was hooked! Since that time, I only drink Bavarian coffee, specifically Dallmayr that can be purchased in the United States

As I listened to the lecture on coffee, I thought about the astrological signatures for coffee and, with my many years of studying astrology, I immediately knew the significators: Virgo—Uranus—and the Moon. There may also be a connection with the “dwarf planet,” Ceres. I normally associate Ceres with food intolerances, especially to grains and dairy, but there is definitely a connection with food as a form of self-nurturing.

Let me explain my reasoning for these rulerships: Many years ago I observed that caffeine was the drug of choice for Virgo. Virgo is one of the “food addiction” signs (with Cancer) and coffee is both a tasty and a stimulating beverage. Keep in mind as you read this article that I have a Sun and Ascendant in Virgo with Venus in Cancer and I have always battled food addictions.

Virgo has an affinity with foods that have some health benefit. Over 1,000 compounds make up coffee's complex phyto-chemistry. Their documented protection against diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, cancer, and a host of other chronic diseases may be due to an intricate web of chemically induced actions along various biological pathways—sounds like a health food to me!

The caffeine in coffee is a stimulant to the central nervous system so that the next rulership would be Uranus. Consumers feel that coffee gives them energy but it is not a Mars-type energy—it is mental energy due to the stimulated nervous system.

In my medical research, I have observed that a transit from Uranus stimulates us into taking action and making changes in our lives because it creates a low level inflammation within the body. This harmless, low-level inflammation or electrical impulse impacts the nervous system and this agitates us into making changes in our lives. The Moon has a relationship with food,

*please turn to p. 18*



*MUSINGS cont'd from p. 17*

10th house cusps. The chart I use shows the cross at right angles dead-on in the chart. If the cross is over to one side like some of the charts you see today, you don't see the right angles. This is how things throughout history get crossed up. We need to see the cross of life to be able to interpret it right!

I finally figured out that I had to have north and south together in order to see the contra-parallels. Therefore 0° on the left hand side of the chart represents the equatorial plane and then you go on up to 28° or so but I did discover that you can allow a whole degree either north or south until you get up to 20°—then I saw things happening right down to the minute. When progressed planets are entered, it is important to indicate the Moon's declination direction so you can see when timing is exact or something is forming. Then you can go to transits to see when the progressed aspects will be activated.

In teaching, I start people out in terms of themselves first, in other words, understanding their own chart. You are the only one that knows what is going on in your mind and therefore, the whole issue is your thinking process. Your experience is what helps you define how a planet works. Without experience of understanding, you are just repeating words other people have said.

All astrology can do is hold up a mirror to yourself. No one knows where you are coming from or your inner dialogue—you are the one that has to look at yourself, cope and find answers in the harsh reality. Of course the best thing is to find a way to use the negative in a positive way.

It is an incredible creative world out there. It is not cut and dried, certainly not cookbook in any way. People make their choices and each person has the context of their own background—not just their own chart—but also all the charts of those people that have been—shall we say—sitting on them all their lives. Instead of asking, *what's the matter with me*, they should be asking *who's the matter with me*.

All any astrologer can do is to open up potentialities—possibly a dimension that hasn't been thought of before—thereby help people grow in that process.

A lot of astrology is learned by watching things happen, not only to yourself, but all around you. You might be surprised how many times an exact transit or the angle to a planet will activate an event. A long time ago we lived near the accident corner of the city. I used to watch the clock, knowing exactly when there would be a crash-bang there. You get to feeling a little guilty now and then like maybe you need to get out and wave a red flag—but I am considered too much of a kook already! Yet, this is the way things work, and you know they work this way because you, yourself, have researched it and used the information.

In my own family, there was a time we had flat tires on exactly the same day five years out of six. Knowing that possibility, I chose not to be in downtown traffic on that particular day. I have Mercury semi-square Saturn and that's a good example of what can happen—Mercury as automobiles and flat tires as Neptune. Another time, I was charting a trip driving out west—moment by

*please turn to p. 19*

*GLOBAL GATHERINGS cont'd from p. 17*

food addictions, and food intolerances. It also rules habitual behavior, such as one's morning coffee. The Moon is associated with food as a form of nurturing and sustenance. Hard aspects to the Moon indicate food intolerances that develop in direct connection with the relationship to the mother.

When I looked at the transits occurring at the time when I was traveling in Europe and cultivated an addiction to coffee, Uranus in Capricorn in my 5th house was sextiling Ceres in Scorpio in my 3rd house. I have found Ceres to be associated with the nurturing and mothering that we did or did not receive in our childhood. It is definitely connected to food issues in the life. Under favorable aspects, we find new ways to nurture ourselves—even if it is just a cup of coffee.

In Europe, and wisely so, coffee is always served with a glass of water to neutralize the acidity and to prevent the absorption of calcium from the body! In Austria, it is considered rude not to include water when the coffee is served.

Because coffee depletes folic acid in the body, it is essential to replace this, especially as an under-the-tongue liquid supplement, after drinking coffee. Folic acid prevents inflammations and inflammations detected by the C-Reactive Protein test can lead to Alzheimer's Disease, heart attacks and strokes. In Professor Somoza's lecture, she gave a list of the biggest coffee consumers, specifically in Europe, and given per person in one year: Finland: 12 kgs; Norway: 9 kgs; United States: 4 kgs; Poland: only 1.5 kgs (to convert kgs to lbs, multiply by 2.2; this makes the U.S. consumption to be almost 9 pounds person).

She added that Americans are known to prefer a very bitter coffee. Even in Europe, Starbucks serves the bitter, overly roasted coffee blends. I was only able to tolerate Starbucks coffee when they began producing their BLONDE variety which is less bitter. Yet, I hear people commenting that it has no taste or flavor, simply because it is not bitter. In Europe, the Italian brand, *illy*, is bitter, as well as the French roast but none are as bitter as those found at Starbucks.

Green coffee beans are not bitter, the darker the roast the more bitter and light roast is mild. Green coffee extract is sold in health food stores as a powerful anti-oxidant and metabolism stimulant. Medically, dark roast coffee is more effective than light roast coffee in reducing body weight and in restoring red blood cell vitamin E and glutathione concentrations in healthy volunteers.

So, while your mother may have been wanting in her nurturing skills, take heart that you can relax with a hot cup of coffee to nurture both your psyche and your body. Coffee is good for you!

*LYNN KOINER has been a full-time professional astrologer since 1969, and she is the International Liaison for NCGR.. Since 1989, Lynn has traveled to Europe every year, connecting with astrologers, especially those in Central Europe. She will be lecturing in the next six months in Poland and Serbia. Her main area of research is Medical Astrology and she has a Medical Forum on her website [www.lynnkoiner.com](http://www.lynnkoiner.com).*

moment. When Neptune reached an angle, we were getting gas and that sort of thing. When Mars was there though, it was another issue. I remember my husband was driving and though he rarely sped, I said, check your speed because in a few minutes I think we will see the police—and sure enough, within a few minutes, we heard the sirens and a police car zipped by us, an indication for that moment at that place in time. When you keep up with aspects over a period of time, these types of examples become indelible in your mind.

When the July 16, 2007 earthquake occurred in Japan (According to the New York Times, two earthquakes occurred on July 16, 2007, 14 hours apart, 6.8 and 6.6 intensity, involving damage to the world's largest nuclear power plant), I looked at the NM (July 14) and noticed that Jupiter was on the 10th house cusp just to the west of the location.

By Astro\*Carto\*Graphy, there was a whole conglomerate of factors right in that area. Neptune and Saturn set across the Ascendant parallel at about 14°. Mercury was parallel Jupiter, while Jupiter was parallel the Sun—the Sun close to the 5th house. Mars was almost on the 3rd house cusp parallel Neptune and Saturn. So we not only had Jupiter at the MC, and Saturn and Neptune with the Ascendant, Mars was involved for fire, not unlike the Russian Chernobyl incident

in 1986. Neptune is the ocean, and the ocean was contaminated. Venus was at 29° Leo 53' with the fixed star Regulus—then Uranus was within minutes of where the eclipse will be in September (2007) around 18+° of Pisces.

The connection to the eclipse may have something to do with the magnitude of contamination. It was reported that several hundred gallons of nuclear waste went into the ocean, but this was slow to be admitted and even then, it turned out that a lot more nuclear waste released than originally stated. I believe it will be found after the eclipse that there was more contamination than they are mentioning.

So again, although longitude may give the picture of what is happening where, with the parallels, you see other contributing forces that don't exist by longitude, thus the importance that you have the parallels in view on the chart at the same time that you are looking at longitude.

I have taught my students to set up a chart in the locale they are in for every aspect that occurs. We do this by hand to get away from being computer dependent so that they will be able to set up a chart for an exact moment, no matter where they are, with or without a computer. We set up an exact time for every aspect in space and place it around the natal chart—then really incredible things are learned.

Another method I use is to set up all the aspects that the Sun makes to natal positions in a year, by longitude and of course declination. I call this *the lifetime factor*. Doing this by hand is a tedious job, especially if you include sextiles, squares, trines and oppositions and of course, the very important parallels and contra-parallel; but it offers enormous value as you will see if you try it.

---

*As brilliant as she was, Bonnie never claimed to be much of a writer and since she especially wanted what she termed the Lifetime Factor to be presented to the astrological community, I promised her I would do so. When I tried this technique for myself, I have to confess I only looked at parallels and contra-parallel—yet, gracious!—even with those few aspects—what an eye opener, at least for me!*

*Many dates during the year that the Sun hit a parallel or contra-parallel of a point in my chart, a what an eye opener, at least for me! Many dates during the year that the Sun hit a parallel or contra-parallel of a point in my chart, a significance was found. For example, when the Sun hit the other three points of the same declination degree, the contra-parallel, the antiscion and the antiscion contra-parallel, these were birthdates of important men in my*

*please turn to p. 20*

#### 2014 Declination Life time Factors of the NYSE (May 17, 1792, 10: am, LMT, New York City, NY)

Point	Longitude	Declination	Mo.	Day		Mo.	Day		Mo.	Day		Mo.	Day	
SN	02 Ar 14 R	00N53	Mar	18	CP	Mar	22	P	Sep	20	P	Sep	24	CP
NN	02 Li 14 R	00S53	Mar	18	P	Mar	22	CP	Sep	20	CP	Sep	24	P
Mar	18 Vi 45	05N37	Mar	6	CP	Apr	3	P	Sep	8	P	Oct	7	CP
Mon	19 Ar 46	06N18	Mar	4	CP	Apr	5	P	Sep	6	P	Oct	8	CP
Jup	22 Li 57 R	07S34	Mar	31	P	Apr	8	CP	Sep	2	CP	Oct	12	P
Sat	26 Ar 23	08N03	Feb	27	CP	Apr	10	P	Sep	1	P	Oct	13	CP
Nep	27 Li 42 R	08S58	Feb	25	P	Apr	12	CP	Aug	29	CP	Oct	16	P
MC	27 Ar 59	10N46	Feb	20	CP	Apr	17	P	Aug	24	P	Oct	21	CP
Ven	05 Ta 30	11N57	Feb	16	CP	Apr	21	P	Aug	21	P	Oct	24	CP
Ura	15 Le 09	16N58	Feb	1	CP	May	7	P	Aug	4	P	Nov	9	CP
Mer	23 Ta 47 R	17N11	Jan	31	CP	May	8	P	Aug	4	P	Nov	9	CP
Asc	09 Le 38	17N51	Jan	28	CP	May	10	P	Aug	1	P	Nov	12	CP
Sun	27 Ta 17	19N34	Jan	22	CP	May	17	P	Jul	25	P	Nov	19	CP
Plu	23 Aq 31	23S02	Dec. 2013	31	P	Jun	10	CP	Jul	1	CP	Jan. 2015	1	P

## Classified

Janet's Plan-its Celestial Planner 2014 Astrology Calendar by Janeth Booth. Transits translated for students and non-astrologers, and ingeniously organized for professionals. Great tools and short-cuts! JanetsPlan-its.com, 1-877-293-1607. Volume discounts available.

### *MUSINGS cont'd from p. 19*

*life—one being my father. Two of the dates, when the Sun reached Pluto's declination, were separate birthdays of my mother and my son. When the Sun reached the declination of Saturn, it singled out my maternal grandmother's birthday, the primary disciplinarian in my life. I could go on—better yet—try it for yourself!*

### Life Time Factor Demonstrated

*To demonstrate the Life Time Factor, the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) was selected using birth data from Barbara Watter's An Astrological Analysis of the Dow Jones Averages.*

*In the table on p. 19, only parallels and contra-parallels were identified. The data is hand-calculated by locating it in an ephemeris (Raphael's Ephemeris 2014) the days the Sun parallels or contra-parallels the natal declination positions of the chart. Parallels and contra-parallels are listed in order from the lowest to the highest so they would be in the order the Sun would make its contact. Each year the dates will be close, within a day or two of any year, but not exactly the same because Earth's orbit around the Sun (365.24 days) requires four years for a closer repeat to occur. One could also find the dates the Sun would make contact by longitude.*

*This article first appeared in the Summer 2007 issue of the Declination SIG Journal, The Other Dimension, Vol. 12 No. 2.*

*BONNIE ARMSTRONG, who passed away in 2008, was an astrologer and palmist, and an enthusiastic advocate for the use of declinations in one's astrological work.*

*LEIGH WESTIN is the author of Beyond the Solstice by Declination, editor of the Declination SIG Journal, and NCGR Chapter and SIG Director. She can be reached at leighwestin@sbcglobal.net*

## NCGR News

### Around the Board

#### Report on the Meeting of the NCGR National Board of Directors and Reports of Directors on October 27, 2013

The meeting was called to order by **John Marchesella**, Chair. The following Board members were in attendance: **Patricia Buckley, Nina Gryphon, Judy Johnson, Joyce Levine, Jagdish Maheshri, John Marchesella, Christeen Skinner, Kyle Ukes, Leigh Westin, Linda Wilk**. Staff in attendance: **Ronnie Dreyer, Kenneth Irving, and Liane Thomas Wade**.

**Chair's Report. John Marchesella.** Conference recordings are up online. Site selection for the next NCGR conference, most likely in Chicago, has begun. Ideas for the next conference include replacing the book store with author signings if they bring their own books and an Amazon affiliate account for NCGR where members can place orders. A GoTo Meeting account has been set up. Membership cards are being revisited.

**Clerk's Report. Joyce Levine.** Joyce Levine. Executive Committee expenditures: \$120 for bins for Patricia Buckley to store NCGR journals, \$49 a month for 5 months for Go-To-Meeting for NCGR classes. Judi Vitale chaired the Nominating Committee. Incumbents up for reelection: Chair, John Marchesella; Directors: Leigh Westin, Mark Wolz. Additional Director candidates are: Janet Berres, Frank Piechoski, Jackie Slevin.

**Treasurer's Report. Linda Wilk.** Chapter rebates are going out. The Treasurer is trying to reach the IRS regarding a NCGR overpayment. Preliminary profit from the conference (as of October 24, 2013) was \$25,363. This does not include bonus payments to speakers or additional expenses that are still outstanding. An additional \$90 will be due for the conference website, which will remain up until January. The bookkeeper is preparing a form for expense reimbursements.

**Secretary's Report. Liane Thomas Wade.** The Philadelphia conference brought in new members. Work on the database will proceed so that deceased

members can be deleted.

**Webmaster's Report. Kenneth Irving.** Recordings from the Philadelphia conference are up online and selling. A way to connect the online store with Quickbooks is being looked into. The chapter portion of the website will be redone, most likely after Quickbooks. For the volunteer of the year program, recipients can download MP3s. Coupons will be created and the recipients will be notified as how to download. One recipient from each chapter receives three downloads.

**Memberletter Report. Ronnie Gale Dreyer.** The November-December issue of memberletter is in the works. There are lots of additional ads as this is a holiday issue. The memberletter will be restructured in 2014. Election information will be in memberletter.

**Research Director's Report. Jagdish Maheshri.** Seven or eight abstracts for the next Research Journal have been received. A couple of articles are being reviewed. January 1 is the deadline for articles. Work is being done to revive the Gulf Coast Chapter.

**Membership Director's Report. Nina Gryphon.** Membership cards are being sent out when monthly updates regarding new members and renewals are received.

**Chapter and SIG Director's Report. Leigh Westin.** Each chapter has the opportunity to designate a Volunteer of the Year, who is awarded three MP3s from national as an acknowledgment of service to individual chapters. A questionnaire was sent out to chapters asking what NCGR national could do to help the chapters. The following are some of the responses: "I see we now have a Forum...I applaud the project." "The addition of the mathematics online is a wonderful beginning." "Would like: 'an easier to use monthly PDF style member list,' 'membership cards,' etc."

**Media and Communications Director's Report. Kyle Ukes.** The NCGR Forum is up and running. There are 160 members on the Forum. Facebook is going well.

**Education Director's Report. Mark Wolz.** Two online courses leading to NCGR-PAA certification are being offered: Meira Epstein, Level II, part I, and Jackie Slevin, Chart Synthesis. Monica Escalante is to start an online Spanish class in mid-February. Each module consists of five to seven sessions. Go-to-Meeting allows 26



people for a class. Teachers decide what their minimum and maximums are. NCGR will donate \$500 to Astrology News Service for 2014.

**Conference Coordinator's Report. Judy Johnson.** There were 291 attendees at the conference, 268 were from the United States and 23 were from out of the country.

**Advisory Board Director's Report. Christeen Skinner. Madalyn Hillis-Dineen** congratulated the Board on the Philadelphia conference. **David Cochrane** submitted suggestions for speaker selection at future conferences.

**UAC Update. Patricia Buckley and John Marchesella** NCGR is in on-going negotiations with regard to a future UAC.

The next Board meeting will take place on January 26, 2014.

*Submitted by  
Joyce Levine, Clerk*

**Media and Communications News.** **The NCGR Forum is Here.** After a summer of waiting the NCGR forum is finally open. The NCGR Forum offers current NCGR members an open space to share astrological ideas, research, hypotheses, questions, and other astrological related topics. The forum is also used as a community space that allows for the NCGR members to network and meet.

### How to Register on NCGR Forum

**Step 1:** Go to the forum website: [http://z13.invisionfree.com/NCGR\\_Forum/index.php?act=idx](http://z13.invisionfree.com/NCGR_Forum/index.php?act=idx)

**Step 2:** Click on REGISTER

**Step 3:** Choose a USERNAME (Your first and last name), PASSWORD, and a VALID E-MAIL. (NOTE: Using your full first and last name is the only way to be accepted into the Forum.)

**Step 4:** Agree to the Terms of Service and Click Submit my Registration

**Step 5:** Wait for the confirmation page

**Step 6:** That's it! The NCGR Forum Admin will then make sure you're a current NCGR member and you'll receive an email-confirmation once you've been approved for the Forum.

*Kyle Ukes  
Director,  
Media and Communications*

**NCGR Conference MP3 recordings** are now available from our Philadelphia Conference "Everything Under the Sun: The Art of Astrology." To order, please go to [www.geocosmic.org/lectures](http://www.geocosmic.org/lectures).

**NCGR has a YouTube Channel** where you can see interviews that **Lynn Koiner** and **Linda Furiate**, members of NCGR's International Liaison committee, conducted interviews with our international members at UAC in New Orleans. Go to [youtube.com/thegeocosmic](http://youtube.com/thegeocosmic) where you can see and hear the following astrologers speak about how they practice astrology and what it means to them to be astrologers:

- **Karine Dilanyan** (Russia)
- **Meira Epstein** (United States) and **Joe Matarasso** (Israel)
- **Mónica Escalante-Ochoa** (Mexico)
- **Baris Ilhan** (Turkey)
- **Miloslaw Krogulska** (Poland)
- **Ema Kurent** (Slovenia)
- **Winai Ouypornprasert** (Thailand)
- **Izabela Podlaska** (Poland)

### Around the Chapters-SIGS

**Volunteer of the Year.** We have wonderful people keeping our local Chapters running and moving forward and because we felt these people deserved special recognition, we offered the Chapters the opportunity to name a Volunteer of the Year. To be selected, the member should have made a special contribution to the Chapter in time or effort and belong to NCGR. Of course, it is the Chapter's choice to take part or not. Each selectee will receive the opportunity to download for their enjoyment, three MP3s of their choice from the NCGR data base.

We've offered this program in the past and it will now be promoted every year with the deadline to be the same as when the annual Chapter Reports are due in September.

Congratulations to all below. We will be in touch with you shortly on how to download your selections.

*Leigh Westin  
Director of Chapters*

Chapter Volunteers are: Annapolis. **Terri Thomas**, Asteroid SIG. **Richard Wright**, AstroMexico. **Victor Rosillo**, Baltimore. **Kari Noren-Hoshal**, San Francisco Bay Area. **Blesilda Carmona**, Boston. **David Perloff**, Florida Atlantic. **Scott Silverman**, Long Island. **Angelita DeChristopher**, Mexico City. **Martha Goenaga Verdin**, Mid Hudson Upstate. **Susan Campbell**, Milwaukee. **Maria De Spears**, Network Triangle. **Beth Wilson**, New Mexico Enchantment. **Marcia Campbell**, Northern Illinois. **Lee Martin**, Northern New Jersey. **Nancy Basenese**, Ohio Valley. **Karen Neuhaus**, Philadelphia. **Rita Ricci-Fowler**, Richmond. **Jill Melichar**, Sacramento. **Joyce Mason**, San Diego. **Anne Phillips Pitzer**, Southwest Suburban Chicago. **Julie Camery**, Minnesota Stars. **Marlys Wilson**, Turkey. **Oya Vulas**, Thailand. **Sergeant Major Surachai Krimjai**.

**New York City Chapter.** As we say **N**every year after our NCGR-NY Annual Education Conference, thank you, thank you, thank you, to our generous and creative speakers, to our hard-working associates, and to our kind and dedicated volunteers, again, thank you, thank you, thank you! We so appreciate your help, and most of all, we're grateful for our regular attendees year after year, as well as the new faces, new members and curious souls who made this their first toe in the water of astrology!

### Joanna Shannon MP3s are now available.

The New York City Chapter is pleased to offer a special collection of MP3 recordings for sale by the renowned astrologer **Joanna Shannon**. Many of you knew Joanna, who passed away in 1998. For those who did not, she was a leading personality in the New York and national astrology community, being instrumental with **Joan Negus** in establishing the educational certification system NCGR now uses. On top of that, Joanna was a brilliant and entertaining lecturer, who fascinated students in the 80s and 90s with her southern drawl and profound sensitivities.

For the complete online collection go to [www.astrologynyc.org/store/](http://www.astrologynyc.org/store/). The collection includes "The Progressed Moon Cycle," "Gay Relationships," "Roadblocks to Personal Fulfillment,"

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"The Power of the Solar Eclipse in Your Chart," "Healing Through the Horoscope," "Pluto: Descent into the Depths," "Contemporary Coupling," "Family Signatures," "Chart Interpretation," "Secondary Progressions." The NYC Chapter hopes you enjoy these unique treasures from our past. Stay tuned for future MP3s from our rich archive of lectures!

*John Marchesella*  
Education Chair

**Network of Triangle Astrologers.** (Raleigh-Durham Chapter). The NTA Educational Book Club (EBC) will be reviewing:

December 3, 2013. *Key Words for Astrology* by Hajo Banzhaf and Anna Haebler.

January 7, 2014. Steven Forrest. *The Inner Sky* by Steven Forrest.

EBC online meetings at 7:00pm Login instructions sent prior to meeting.

If you would like to participate, please contact NTA Educational Coordinator, Dorothy Taylor, CH at 180dorothy@gmail.com or at 919-889-0457 to be added to the contact list.

*Many chapters will be hosting holiday parties. Please turn to pp. 28-29 for dates and times, where you can also find out about chapter events as well as chapter websites and facebook pages. If you wish to find out about a chapter in your area, or one where you are visiting, or if you would like to speak at a chapter meeting, you can find out about that as well.*

## Around the Community

**Astrology and Academia.** Sophia Centre for the Study of Cosmology in Culture at the University of Wales offers the MA in Cultural Astronomy and Astrology. For information about the distance learning program, contact Nick Campion, [n.campion@lamp.ac.uk](mailto:n.campion@lamp.ac.uk), [www.lamp.ac.uk/sophia.edu](http://www.lamp.ac.uk/sophia.edu).

**Institute for the Study of the Ancient World**, part of New York University, is a graduate program dedicated to the study of the ancient world (including astrology). For information about upcoming lectures and events and to put your name on the mailing list: [www.nyu.edu/isaw.com](http://www.nyu.edu/isaw.com).

*Archai, The Journal of Archetypal Cosmology* is now accepting submissions and subscriptions. Archai is an academic

## Welcome to New Members

**Welcome to all new members who joined or rejoined NCGR between September 18-November 30, 2013.**

**Boston Chapter.** Robin Ball, Mary Agnes Clark, Maureen Maxton; **Florida Atlantic Chapter.** Virginia Weikel; **Members-at-Large.** Phoebe Ahlen, James Anderson, Jennifer Tindell; **Minnesota "STARS" Chapter.** Charles Obert, Adam Wolter; **New Mexico "Enchantment" Chapter.** Daniel Fiverson. **New York City Chapter.** Tracy Atkinson, Flavia Castro, Jill Glist, Gabriela Konefal, Erin McDonald, Maria Rodriguez, Sonia Rogosich, Yumin Tan-Gutierrez; **Northern Illinois Chapter.** Kelvin Ward. **Sacramento Chapter.** Indra Rinzler, Kate Sholly; **San Diego Chapter.** Leslie Hickcox, Laurie Rosenthal, Carol Williams; **San Francisco Bay Area Chapter.** Regina Jessup, Erica Peterson; **Southwestern Suburban Chicago Chapter.** Mahala D. Bacon, Pamela A. Sirtak.

journal that explores significant correlations between cyclical alignments of the planets and the archetypal patterns of human experience. Articles should be approximately 5,000-10,000 words and in Chicago style format. For information [archaijournal.org](http://archaijournal.org).

### Astrology and the Media.

**Astrology News Service (ANS)** has a collection of articles on the history of astrology, studies that validate astrological factors, and controversies that keep popping up around astrology. The mission of ANS is to educate the public about astrology and demonstrate the value of astrology to individuals and society. Check it out at [AstrologyNewsService.com](http://AstrologyNewsService.com).

We extend our best wishes to astrologer **Kelly Lee Phipps** who is courageously fighting a brain tumor. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation earmarked for Kelly to NCGR's Lucy Titunik fund, you can do so by sending a check made out to the "Titunik Fund, NCGR" to: NCGR, 531 Main St., #1612, New York, NY 10044. A receipt will be emailed to you if you include your email address, or mailed to you by snail mail if you wish. The Lucy Titunik Health Fund was created many years ago by NCGR for astrologers who might be in financial need due to poor health.

Congratulations to astrologer, author, and former NCGR chair **Robert Hand** who recently received his Ph.D. in history from Catholic University. Congratulations Dr. Hand.

*If you would like to Send tidbits about NCGR members, media reports, news about births, marriages, promotions, passings, recognition, etc. to: [memberletter@geocosmic.org](mailto:memberletter@geocosmic.org).*

## Around NCGR-PAA

**NCGR-PAA Education and Certification News.** Congratulations to the following NCGR-PAA test-takers and NCGR members (and their Chapters) who have attained proficiency in a level of testing:

**Level I.** AstroMexico Chapter. **Yolanda Hernandez Bustos, Blanca Elena Aguilar Huerta, Adriana Gonzales Palafox;** Members-at-Large. **Joel Conner;** New York City Chapter. **Dorothy Abrahams, Maggie Connell.**

**Level II.** New York City Chapter. **Vanessa Cleary.**

**Level IV:** I am very proud to announce that **Bonnie Kanin** and **Amy Kilham**, both members of the Boston Chapter, have obtained NCGR-PAA Certification as Consulting Astrologers. Congratulations to Bonnie and to Amy!

I want to thank **Monica Escalante Ochoa, John Marchesella, and Joseph Polise** for proctoring the above-mentioned tests. I also thank **Martha Goenega** and **Donna Henson** for proctoring Level I exams; and **Patricia Taglilatelo** for proctoring a Level III exam. To all these proctors, I want to

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## NCGR 2014 Education Program Online Distance Learning

Beginning in January, 2014, **Meira Epstein** will teach her online exam preparatory Level I and Level II Part 2 courses. In February **Monica Escalante** will begin Curso NCGR Online Nivel I and Nivel II, taught in Spanish and designed to prepare the student for Level I and Level II, respectively, of the NCGR-PAA certification exams. We are very happy to be offering all these classes, and we recommend them for anyone—not just those who want to sit for exams. The teachers are excellent, and the classes will help you organize what you know and make it all useful. Go to [www.geocosmic.org](http://www.geocosmic.org) for information and registration.

Mark Wolz  
NCGR Education Director

express my gratitude for their helpful service to NCGR-PAA's certification program.

The following new NCGR-PAA certified astrologers were honored at their graduation ceremony at NCGR's conference in Philadelphia at the Opening Ceremony on August 15, 2013: **Josefina Gonzalez Barney, Leticia Mizrahi Chouchleb, Linda Sacal Halabe, Kimberly Rae Jewell, Bonnie Kanin, Estela Euridice Aguirre Lazcano, and Luz Maria Lazcano y Martinez. Lauren Howard Coleman was honored in absentia.**

I also want to express my appreciation for the NCGR-PAA award I was given for Excellence in Astrological Education and Community Service at the Opening Ceremony of the NCGR conference.

Please visit [astrologersalliance.org](http://astrologersalliance.org) for a complete listing of all NCGR-PAA Certified Astrologers, testing venues and fees, webinars, and educational programs, and information about our certification program.

Shirley Soffer, C.A., NCGR-PAA  
Director of Education

# Book Reviews

by Donna Van Toen

***The Plain Vanilla Astrologer*, by Pat Geisler, 2013. Paper. 366 pp. \$19.95; *Chocolate Sauce: The Plain Vanilla Astrologer's Guide to the Art of Practicing Astrology*, by Pat Geisler, 2013. Paper. 55 pp. \$12.00. Both published by ACS Publications, [astrocom.com](http://astrocom.com).**

First of all, what about those names? Well, one of Pat's students called her a "Plain Vanilla Astrologer" because she sticks to basics and keeps it simple. Whether that's plain vanilla or meat and potatoes is up to you, but the result is a pair of very solid books.

*The Plain Vanilla Astrologer* is not so much a basic textbook as a refresher course. In it, you'll find a thorough review of the planets (including a chapter on retrogrades), signs, and houses, tips on using forecasting, including progressions, solar returns, and transits, some commentary on asteroids and archetypes, a very interesting chapter on the Moon's Nodes, and a great deal more, including some common sense advice on things astrological. For example, "Don't check your chart constantly. It is not meant to replace your brain or your common sense but to help you over the rough spots and provide you with a road map for travel."

There are even chapters on horary, electional, and decumbiture charts. Each chapter is a bite-sized morsel that can easily be savored in one sitting—especially since the order of chapters is not necessarily the order in which you might teach or learn stuff. Thirty-three charts are included, and while there is no mention of house system, they appear to be tropical Placidus. They range from charts from Pat's own files, to charts of people like Mick Jagger and Cher, to event charts.

Highly readable, and very far from dry except for the wit, *The Plain Vanilla Astrologer* is a wonderful addition to any astrologer's library—and I bet even some of you long-time astrologers will learn something from it by the time you've finished it.

...But wait! There's *Chocolate Sauce* too. This one is a guide to practicing astrology and contains all sorts of information on everything from ethics to setting fees to giving and getting referrals, to using things like timed and untimed solar charts, using relocation charts, and understanding the importance of oriental and occidental. Pat gives a set of basic rules for astrologers, many of which are deceptively simple and often overlooked. She also gives tips on how to start your astrological business.

As with *The Plain Vanilla Astrologer*, her approach here is strictly common sense, but it's amazing how often some of these nuggets of common sense are overlooked by new—and even seasoned—astrologers, including the fact that your primary job is your own growth—not helping other people.

Written by a seasoned astrologer and journalist, both books are absolute gems and simply but beautifully produced. *Chocolate Sauce* is the next-best thing to having a mentor living next door. My advice to anyone who is a professional astrologer, or who is planning to be one, is to just go out and buy both of these books. You truly can't go wrong—and you can't beat the value for the money.

***Planet-Centered Astrology* by Stephanie Clement, AFA, Inc., [www.astrologers.com](http://www.astrologers.com), 2012. Paper. 152 pp. \$23.95**

In this book, Stephanie Clement takes a look at each of the planets from an Esoteric (think Alice Bailey) and archetypal perspective using planet-centered charts. Planet-centered charts are charts that are displayed from the perspective of the planet, rather than as viewed from the earth. In other words, your Jupiter-centered chart would display your chart as it would appear if viewed from the planet Jupiter. If you're familiar with heliocentric astrology, you've got the general idea.

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Now some people are immediately going to say “Why bother?” After all, we don’t live on Jupiter or Mars or Pluto; we live on Earth. Clement counters with several reasons. For one thing, she feels these charts can put you in touch with a more direct or possibly more “essence-tial” expression of each of the planets. For another, she feels that these charts take ego out of the equation and are more soul-centered. In other words, they may give you a greater appreciation and understanding of each planet’s function in your chart.

For each planet, she discusses the role of the other planets in the planet-centered chart, most of which are not so different from the roles they play in the natal chart. What IS different is that she discusses the major satellites of each planet, offering keywords and in some instances interpretive tips. Each chapter ends with a summary that suggests ways in which you can look at the particular chart, contrast it with your natal chart, and draw conclusions. For example, you can compare element predominance in the two charts and see how, if at all, that reflects the planet’s placement in your natal chart. Or you can compare the chart Saturn’s. Or you can simply look at it to gain insight into how the planet functions in terms of various types and levels of experience.

Numerous charts are included to illustrate the use of these charts, including Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, Alice Bailey, Buckminster Fuller, and more. Data sources are included, but it is noted that some of the birth times used are speculative or in one instance, rectified. Interpretations given are based on the Intrepid Astrology Program. While this system is definitely too labor-intensive to consider for the average astrologer, it is definitely something to consider if you are a transpersonal or esoteric astrologer, or if you have an interest in the mythology and workings of the various planetary moons. I found the book thought-provoking and suspect I’ll be going back to it.

*DONNA VAN TOEN is an astrological consultant, teacher, and author of “The Mars Book” and “The Astrologer’s Node Book.” She coordinates the annual State of the Art (SOTA) Conference, and speaks for groups and conferences throughout the world. Donna has served on AFAN’s*

# Transitions

## Suzanne Denise Reynolds (1963-2013)

IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS THAT I MUST report that Suzanne Reynolds passed away after a courageous battle with inoperable uterine cancer.

In her professional life, Suzanne was a sales person in the wine industry, selling to local stores and restaurants. She was a whiz at what she did, garnering a large clientele with her formidable knowledge of wines and her engaging personality. She attended my weekly astrology class during the years 2001 and 2002, usually coming straight from work with her rolling suitcase of wine samples in tow.

In her life’s search for true meaning in everything she did, Suzanne had an abiding interest and love for astrology, as well as other spiritual quests. Over the years we would meet for her solar returns and for a time going over particular issues in her interesting and varied life. She began her foray from New Jersey into the Big Apple some 30 years ago, beginning as a singer, where she performed in downtown venues with various other musicians.

Around 2002, Suzanne became an Associate on the Board of the NYC Chapter of NCGR, where she helped on mailings and other tasks, always eager to contribute to the community she learned so much from at conferences, lectures, and classes.

*Steering Committee in a variety of capacities, most recently as its Presiding Officer. She serves on NCGR’s Advisory Board, and was co-coordinator of UAC 2008. Donna can be reached for consultations at 905-525-0646, dvantoen@rogers.com, donnavantoen.com.*

If you would like to send a book for review, please email [memberletter@geocosmic.org](mailto:memberletter@geocosmic.org), and we will provide you with the mailing address. We cannot guarantee if and when a review will appear. If a review is not published, we will mention it in our Books Received column.



Among her many friends and colleagues in the worlds of wine, music, and astrology, she was an inspiration. Her light touched everyone who knew her. She was always positive, finding the good in all people and situations, and even—no, especially—after her diagnosis in 2011, she exhibited enormous courage and a determination to live her life with quality and love. She found her true love and companion, J.R. Battipaglia, in 2010, and he has stood by her with devotion and support throughout her illness.

I will miss her gentle soul, her affectionate humor, and her deep spiritual wisdom. She will live in my heart and certainly within the hearts of all who knew her.

*Shirley Soffer*

Born: November 9, 1963

Died: July 5, 2013

You can also submit a description of your book to the Book Nook, which appears in the weekly E-News from NCGR. Send to [execsec@geocosmic.org](mailto:execsec@geocosmic.org).

*Have you moved recently? Has your email address changed? Are you getting your “E-News from NCGR?” Please send address, telephone, and email corrections to Liane Thomas Wade, Executive Secretary (see p. 8). You can get our weekly electronic publications, Calendar and Commentary, if we have your email.*

## CHAPTER CONTACTS

[www.geocosmic.org/chapters](http://www.geocosmic.org/chapters)

*The following events occur November-February. Many chapters and SIGS have their own websites listed below. Longer descriptions can be found in Around the World with NCGR.*

### CALIFORNIA.

**Los Angeles County Chapter.** Jack Taube, President, 6333 Canoga Ave. #391, Woodland Hills CA 91367, 818-716-1765, arlenekmr@aol.com, [www.ncgrla.com](http://www.ncgrla.com). Mtgs. 3rd Thurs. Coco's Restaurant: 18355 Ventura Blvd, Tarzana. 6:00-7:30 pm. Eat, Visit, and Talk Astrology, 7:30 pm. Speaker. Members: \$3 Visitors: \$5.

**Sacramento Area Chapter.** Sacramento Area Chapter. Linda Byrd, President, 2351 Sunset Blvd., #170-404, Rocklin CA 95765, 916-721-4838, Fax: 916-722-4223, [info@ncgrsacramento.org](mailto:info@ncgrsacramento.org), [www.ncgrsacramento.org](http://www.ncgrsacramento.org). 4th Sunday, 1:00-3:30 PM. The Reserves at the Galleria Clubhouse, 501 Gibson Dr., Roseville CA. All events and meetings below. Call for gate code. Schedule subject to change. Contact us to confirm. Door fee \$5 NCGR members/\$15 for non-members unless noted. Special events individually priced with advance registration discounts (members only) up to a week ahead. 11/17. Shadow & Chart Interpretation. Facilitated by Chet Zdrowski.

**San Francisco Bay Area Chapter.** Steve Pincus, President, P.O. Box 4834, Mountain View, CA 94040; 408-962-0596, Fax: 408-962-0709; [stardial@earthlink.net](mailto:stardial@earthlink.net); [ncgrsanfrancisco.org](http://ncgrsanfrancisco.org). Meetings TBA Weekday evenings, 7:30-9:30 PM; Fort Mason Center, Building C. San Francisco. Advance Reg. \$12 NCGR Members/\$15 non-members. Day: \$15 Members/\$18 non-members. Workshops Half Day: Noon-4 PM, Advance Reg: \$25 NCGR Members/\$30 Non-Members. Day of Event. \$30 NCGR Members/\$35 Non-Members. Full Day: 10:30 AM-5:30 PM; Advance Reg: \$50 NCGR Members/\$60 Non-Members. Day of Event: \$60 NCGR Members/\$70 Non-Members. Wed. 11/13. Adam Gainsburg. *The Venus Phases*. Tues. 1/7. Nora Jean Stone. *Social Media Marketing for Astrologers*

**San Diego Chapter.** Tina Miles, President, [president@ncgrsandiego.org](mailto:president@ncgrsandiego.org), 760.271.6773. Kelly O'Tillery, Publicity Director, [publicity@ncgrsandiego.org](mailto:publicity@ncgrsandiego.org), 760.683.5191; [www.ncgrsandiego.org](http://www.ncgrsandiego.org). Mtgs. 3rd Saturday featuring local and regional astrologers. 11am-1 pm. US Bank Building, Community Room, 131 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, CA. 92024. Meetings-\$5. Members/\$8. non-members. 12/21. *Holiday Party including presentations from Diane Ronngren: Ingress Chart, Donna Stellhorn: Horary, Tami Magaro: Tarot around the Wheel, etc.*

### COLORADO.

**Rocky Mountain (Denver) Chapter.** Karen Anderson, President, P.O. Box 328, Ollinsville, CO 80474; [DistantStarkA@cs.com](mailto:DistantStarkA@cs.com); 303-258-7258; Mtgs. Generally 1st Fri. 7:00 PM, September through June. Nic Nac Nook, 4280 Morrison Rd, Denver, Colorado, (303) 922-9063. 11/1. Maurice Fernandez. *The Yod*; 12/6. Christmas Party, Bring a chart for discussion, refreshments, and a wrapped astrology theme gift; 1/7. Janis Paige. *Asteroids*; 2/7. Marguerite Hafeman. *Transits*.

### CONNECTICUT.

**Berkshire-Fairfield Chapter.** Pamela Vitko, [pamsstars@aol.com](mailto:pamsstars@aol.com), Sharon McNeal, [mac813@charter.net](mailto:mac813@charter.net), [www.ctastrologers.org](http://www.ctastrologers.org), Study groups 2nd Sun, 2-4:00 PM. \$5. Check website for dates of monthly study groups. Our eight onthly study-groups Study-group locations will be announced via e-mail prior to each meeting, so please send us your email address. Study groups will take place 11/10, 1/12, 2/9, 3/9, 4/13 and 5/18.

### FLORIDA

**Florida Atlantic Chapter.** Mimi Alonso, President, 954-296-1211, [mysticmimi@gmail.com](mailto:mysticmimi@gmail.com); Kelley Tanner, Vice-President, 954-261-5805, [Kelley@kelleytanner.com](mailto:Kelley@kelleytanner.com), [www.ncgrsouthflorida.org](http://www.ncgrsouthflorida.org), [www.meetup.com/astrologers](http://www.meetup.com/astrologers). New Time: 10:00am -5:00 pm. New Location: Nova Southeastern University, Carl DiSantis Bldg. 3301 College Avenue, Ft. Laud.-Davie, FL 33314. Close to Turnpike, I-95 & I-595. Socialize and register: 10:00 AM; Lecture: 10:30am. Please plan on arriving before 10:15am. Lunch: 12:30-1:45pm. Afternoon Workshop: 2:00-5:00pm. \$40 Current NCGR Members, \$45 Non-members and guests. Stay all day, for both the morning lecture and the more in-depth afternoon workshop. This sometimes includes practical examples with attendees charts, so get your chart in early if you want to be an example! Lecture Only: 11am-1pm \$15 members or guests. Bring new or gently used book or item to donate for raffle.

### ILLINOIS.

**Northern Illinois Chapter.** Judy Johnson, President, 7807 Eleanor Place, Willowbrook, IL 60527, [judyjohnson7807@yahoo.com](mailto:judyjohnson7807@yahoo.com), 630-303-3187, Janet Berres, VP, [janetberres@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janetberres@sbcglobal.net), [www.chicagolandastrology.com](http://www.chicagolandastrology.com). Mtgs March-December, 2nd Tuesday 7:30 PM at the Dance Building, 1330 Webford Avenue, Des Plaines, IL 60010. Doors open 7:00 PM. \$8 members and \$10 non-members. See website for details as they are posted. AYA members can attend at NCGR member rates. 11/12. Margaret Fox. Topic TBA

**Southwest Suburban Chicago Chapter.** Pat Hanus-Dussman, President, 6501 Patricia Avenue, Tinley Park, IL 60477, 708-444-8323, [patriciahanus@aol.com](mailto:patriciahanus@aol.com), Julie Camery, 219-880-6603. Mtgs. 1st Friday. 7-9 PM. Palos Heights Recreation Center, 6601 W. 127th St. Palos Heights. Members \$5.00; Non-Members: \$10.00. (Note: Always bring your natal chart to lectures if you have one.) 11/1. Christine Arens. *Eclipses and Planetary Events for 2014*. 12/10. *Annual Holly Daze Party*.

### MARYLAND.

**Annapolis Chapter.** Lynn Koiner, President, 301-589-2074, [koiner@starpower.net](mailto:koiner@starpower.net). For speaker scheduling, contact Linda Furiate, [LMFuriate@verizon.net](mailto:LMFuriate@verizon.net) Mtgs. 2nd Sat. 10:30 AM-2:30 PM. The Country Inn and Suites, Annapolis. 5\$ Members/\$10 Non-Members. Workshops \$40 Members/\$50 Non-Members. The group meets at the Italian Market, 26 Defense Highway, Annapolis for lunch and a round table discussion. 11/9. Jacqueline Janes. *Derivative House Analysis*. 12/9. *Yuletide Party*.

**Baltimore Astrological Society.** Teri Taylor, President, 410-794-9126, [terilee2306@gmail.com](mailto:terilee2306@gmail.com), Kari Noren-Horshal, VP, [karinorenhorshal@aol.com](mailto:karinorenhorshal@aol.com), [www.basastrology.org](http://www.basastrology.org), 410-662-4676, [meetup.com/Baltimore-Astrological-Society](http://meetup.com/Baltimore-Astrological-Society). Mtgs.

monthly (usually 3rd Friday) 7-9 PM. Community Room at Ruscombe Community Health Center, 4801 Yellowwood Rd. (Ruscombe Mansion lower level), Baltimore. NOTE: This is a shoeless facility. Please bring socks. \$10 members/non-members. Sat. 12/14. 6:30-9:30 PM. *Annual Holiday Party at the home of Kitty Hatcher*; Sat. 1/18. Jeanne Mozier. *Oracles for 2014*; Fri. 2/14. Eliza Graney, Rick Scott, Cheryl Oed. *Neptune in Pisces*; Sat. 2/15. Workshop. *Neptune in Pisces*.

### MASSACHUSETTS.

**Boston Chapter.** Joyce Levine, President, [joycel@joycelevine.com](mailto:joycel@joycelevine.com), 617-354-7075; [www.ncgrbostonastrology.org](http://www.ncgrbostonastrology.org). Mtgs. One weekend day per month. Registration and Networking. 12-12:30 PM. Lecture. 12:30-4:30 PM. All meetings at Beech Street Center, Belmont. 11/23. Wendy Ashley. *Is the Sky just the Zodiac?*: 88 constellations condensed into 12.

### MICHIGAN.

**Ann Arbor Chapter. Southeast Michigan Astrologers' Round Table. (SMART).** Rodney Smith, President, 734-879-0035, [astrologer@delaney-smith.net](mailto:astrologer@delaney-smith.net). gs. Sundays. Classic Cup Café. 4389 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI 481032-4:30 pm, \$15 members/\$18 non-members.

### MINNESOTA.

**STARS Chapter.** Heather Roan Robbins, President. [RoanRobbins@aol.com](mailto:RoanRobbins@aol.com), 612-615-2604, [www.mnstars.com](http://www.mnstars.com). Mtgs. Usually 4th Sunday. 2:30-5:30 pm. Lund's Community Room, 1450 W. Lake St; or Twin Cities Friends Meeting House, 1725 and Ave., St. Paul. \$5 members, \$8 non-members.

### NEVADA.

**Las Vegas Stargazers Chapter.** Gayle Kirk, President, [lasvegasstargazers@yahoo.com](mailto:lasvegasstargazers@yahoo.com), 702.558.6594, Mark Wargin, 702 812-4866, [www.ncgrlasvegas.org](http://www.ncgrlasvegas.org), [www.facebook.com/NcgrLasVegasStar-gazers](http://www.facebook.com/NcgrLasVegasStar-gazers). We meet on the last Tuesday of the month except August and December, 6:30-8:30 pm, East Las Vegas Community Center, Conference Room 1, 250 North Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89101. Please check out our website and Facebook page for the most up to date information about our meetings and workshops. If you're interested in speaking or just going to be in Las Vegas and would like to attend one of our meetings, we'd love to hear from you.

### NEW JERSEY.

**Northern New Jersey Chapter.** Joanne Castro, President, PO Box 244, Lebanon, NJ 08833, 908-418-0365, [Jocat0413@aol.com](mailto:Jocat0413@aol.com), Jackie Slevin, 973-7445347, [jcslevin@verizon.net](mailto:jcslevin@verizon.net). Mtgs. Friday eves 7:30 PM at various locations. Fees: Members \$20, Seniors \$10, Non-members \$20. Contact Joanne for information regarding NCGR-PAA testing. 12/13. 7:00 PM. Holiday Party. Home of Jackie Smith, 268 Ivy Place, Ridgewood, NJ. Potluck. 1/17. Meira Epstein. Topic TBA. Home of Jackie Slevin. Email or phone for address.

### NEW MEXICO.

**New Mexico "Enchantment" Chapter.** Sandy Bryan, President. 505-255-5001; [nmncgr@swcp.com](mailto:nmncgr@swcp.com), [www.swcp.com/~nmncgr](http://www.swcp.com/~nmncgr).



Mtgs. 1st Wed. at 7 PM. 721 Jefferson NE, Albuquerque, NM. 11/6. John Clinton. *An Examination of the Sibly vs. Broughton (Gemini Rising) U.S. Charts.*

## NEW YORK.

**Long Island Chapter.** Bonnie Simms, President, 302 Sycamore Ave, Merrick, NY 11566, bringlite@aol.com, Angelita De Christopher, Secretary, Astro1Angel@aol.com, www.lincgr.com. Mtgs. 2nd Friday. 7:30-9:30 PM, 302 Sycamore Ave, Merrick, NY; Members \$10, Non-members \$15. 11/8. Meira B. Epstein. *Everything you wanted to know about Uranian Astrology but were afraid to ask.* 1/10. Anne Ortelee. *Planetary Returns.* 2/7. Ronnie Gale Dreyer. *Astro\*Carto\*Graphy and Your Heart.*

**Mid Hudson Upstate Chapter.** Susan Campbell, President, 48 Elm Street, Saugerties, NY 12477, campbellsusan077@gmail.com, 845-246-2062, www.midhudsonupstatencgr.net. Mtgs. Mondays. Home of Susan Campbell, Saugerties NY.

**New York City Chapter.** Eileen McCabe, President, 212-431-9834, eileenmccabe@msn.com; John Marchesella (classes and workshops), astrojohn@earthlink.net; NCGR Hotline: 212-255-3236. www.astrologynyc.org, Mtgs. Monday 6:30 PM, Joanna Shannon Library, 39 5th Avenue, 1B, New York City. \$5 members/\$10 non-members. Go to website for schedule. Sat. 11/16-Sun. 11/17. NCGR Education Conference. FIT, W. 27th St. and 7th Avenue, NYC.

## NORTH CAROLINA.

**Queen Charlotte Chapter.** Co-Presidents. Hazel Isaac, President. 704-795-5890, HazelHIsaac@yahoo.com. Mtgs held 3rd Sunday 2-5 PM at Earth Fare, Pineville, NC. One hour of basic natal instruction and one hour of current transit discussion. Fees: \$5 for members; \$10 for non-members. Out to dinner afterwards.

**Raleigh-Durham. Network of Triangle Astrologers.** Elizabeth Wilson, President, 919-602-6507, TWilson851@aol.com, Nancy Dimitrios, VP & Membership Director, www.ntastrology.org. Mtgs. 3rd Thurs. Sept.-May, 7 PM. The Dancing Moon Bookstore, 1840 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh NC, 919-833-8081. \$8 members/\$10 non-members. Thurs. 12/19. 7:00 pm Annual Winter Holiday Party. 213 Council Gap Court Cary, NC 27513. Special Candle Lighting for Peace & Joy at 7:30 PM. Graciously hosted by the NTA and Donna Gill and Tom Riley. RSVP by 12/15. contact@ntastrology.org or Beth: 919.602.6507 or Donna: 919.377.1150. 1/16. George Ward, Elizabeth C. Wilson, Nancy Dimitrios. *2014 Panel*; 2/20. Olivia Woodford. *Mythic Astrology*: Educational Book Club (EBC) will be reviewing: 12/3. *Key Words for Astrology* by Hajó Banzhaf & Anna Haebler; 1/7. *The Inner Sky* by Steven Forrest. Meetings at 7:00pm Login instructions sent prior to meeting. If you would like to participate, contact Dorothy Taylor, CH at 180dorothy@gmail.com or at 919-889-0457 to be added to the contact list.

## OHIO.

**Ohio Valley Chapter.** Sandie Friedrich, President, beachie347@yahoo.com, www.ncgr-ohiovalley.org, Mtgs., 4th Fri. 7-9 pm, Maderia Municipal Bldg, Euclid & Miami Rd, Cincinnati, OH.

## OREGON.

**Southern Oregon Chapter (SONCGR).** Mary

Plumb, President, 141 Crocker St., Ashland OR 97520, 541-488-3048, mary@maryplumb.com, Doug Kellogg at 541-482-8988, www.astrologyinashland.org; Mtgs. 3rd Monday, 7 pm. September-May. eadwaters Environmental Center (now called GEOS). This is at the corner of Fourth Street and 'C' Street in Ashland just down the street from the Fire Station and across from the Unitarian Center. \$6 General, \$5 Seniors 62+, \$4 NCGR Members. To get on email list of announcements sign up on our website. We are now broadcasting some of our lectures free on the web! Visit www.Ustream.tv and search for the show "Astrology in Ashland." Now anyone anywhere in the world can join us on the web to watch our lectures.

**PENNSYLVANIA. Philadelphia Chapter.** Frank Piechoski, President, proastrologer@comcast.net. The Philadelphia NCGR Chapter meets on the second Sunday of each month at 3:30 p.m. in Philadelphia. Location: Mt Airy Café, 7165 Germantown Ave. Philadelphia.

**TEXAS. Gulf Coast Chapter.** For information, email John Marchesella, Chair@geocosmic.org or Leigh Westin, chapters@geocosmic.org. Anyone who has joined or renewed in the past few months, please contact one of the above.

**VIRGINIA. Richmond Chapter.** Edna Matthews, President, PO Box 8412, Richmond VA 23226, edna.matthews@doe.virginia.gov, or Ruth Barrett, planetwise@verizon.net, 804-740-1133. Mtgs. Sat. 2:00 PM. at the Weinstein Jewish Community Center, 5403 Monument Ave., Richmond. Sat. 12/7. 11:30 AM- 4:00 PM. Jeanne Mozier. *Oracles 2014* and our annual holiday celebration. 11:30 - 4:00 PM. \$10 + a Covered Dish for NCGR members and guests registered by December 5. \$15 at the door. Please pre-register & coordinate dishes with Ruth

**WISCONSIN. Milwaukee Chapter.** Nancy K. Simpson, President. 8707 N 52nd Street, Brown Deer, WI 53223, nksimpson@wi.rr.com, 414-339-5428. Mtgs. 7:15 pm. Fritz's Pub, 3086 S. 20th Street, Milwaukee, WI. Fee: Members \$10, Non-members \$15.

## INTERNATIONAL CHAPTERS

### JAPAN.

**Tokyo Chapter.** Terumi Kondo, President. JANet Inc./JANet School of Astrology, 2-2-6-1101, Minami-Aoyama, Minato-Ward, Tokyo, 107-0062: ncgr-tokyo@astrology.jp, tel. 81-90-7823-6159. Fax: 03-3406-8608; www.astrology.jp; discussion group: http://groups.yahoo.co.jp/group/ncgr\_tokyo. blog: http://blog.goo.ne.jp/ncgrtokyo. 1st Saturday. Monthly Astrology Cluster, 2:00-4:00 PM at *Café Tapiros*. Members: ¥2,000 (JPY) / Non-Members: 2,500 (JPY); Includes Tea/Coffee with Sweets. Participation is open to everyone, so feel free to join us. Every month meeting includes Uruanna Hohkyu's short lecture about above theme.

### MEXICO.

**AstroMéxico Chapter.** Mónica Escalante-Ochoa, President, Cerrada de Miguel Noreña # 23 casa 2, Col. San José Insurgentes, CP 03900 México DF, México, Tel. 525 651-6598,

astromonica@yahoo.com; www.astromexico. 11/10. *Aniversario de Astromexico (Astromexico Anniversary)*. C.A. Luz María Lazcano. *Eclipses*; 11/29-12/1. Komilla Suttton. *Astrología Védica (Vedic Astrology)*; 12/8. Eurídice Aguirre Lazcano. *Planetas retrógrados (Retrograde Planets)*.

**Mexico City Chapter.** Cecilia Ortiz Bullé Goyri, President. San Francisco # 1212, Col. Del Valle C.P. 03100, (55) 5536 6196, cecilia.ortiz56@gmail.com.

**THAILAND. Thailand Chapter.** Winai Ouypornprasert, President, UACT (Uranian Astrologers Club, Thailand) 28/27 Soi Nakhaniwas 48 Yak 18 Nakhaniwas Road, Ladphrao, Bangkok 10230 Thailand, Tel./Fax. +662-935-4252; buddhaluck2002@yahoo.com; rasamichanpbphen.com. Bimonthly members meeting, 2:00-4:00 P.M. at UACT.

**TURKEY. Turkey Chapter.** Baris Ilhan, Av.Sureyya Agaoglu Sok. 12/5 Tesvikiye, Istanbul 80200, barisilhan@superonline.com, www.ncgr-turkey.com. 12/12. Baris Ilhan. Seminar: *The Phases of the Moon*; 12/27. *Chapter's Elections and New Year Party*

## SIGS (Special Interest Groups)

**AST SIG (Asteroids).** For information, contributions to newsletter (GAIA) and sample copies for \$1.50: Nona Gwynn Press, 77-35 113th St. Apt.4A, Forest Hills, NY 11375; 718-263-8084, synona@earthlink.net; www.geocosmic.org/astsig. Membership send dues \$15; \$24 overseas to: Richard Wright, P.O. Box 1993, Hartford, CT 06144, phoenix\_us5@hotmail.com, 203-982-1653, For asteroid positions or ephemerides: Dave Campbell, Vice President, astrologystore@aol.com, 623-463-6286.

**DECL SIG (Declination).** Nelda L. Tanner, President, PO Box 153, Chino Valley, AZ 86323. r\_l\_graphics@hotmail.com, or Lois Hannan, Corresponding Secretary, CHannan844@aol.com, www.declination.org. Dedicated to declination application and research, it publishes *The Other Dimension*, a 16-page quarterly journal. To subscribe, send check or money order made out to Declination SIG, \$18 U.S./\$20 Canada and Mexico, \$25 elsewhere (all in US\$) to Treasurer, Martha Ramsey, 400 Avenue D, Roswell NM 88203. Send author contributions to Leigh Westin, Editor, declsig@sbcglobal.net.

**URANIAN SOCIETY SIG. (Uranian/Cosmobiology).** For information, back issues and contributions to the *Urania Journal*, Liane Thomas Wade, President and Editor, 531 Main St., #1612, New York, NY 10044. 917-855-8824, liane@panix.com, www.uradiansociety.com. For membership, send \$25 U.S./\$35 others to Chiemi Matsumoto, 68 Garden St., #7L, Brooklyn, NY 11206.

To form a study Group, chapter, or SIG, send proposals to **Leigh Westin, chapters@geocosmic.org**. Send chapter events and contact listings for *memberletter* to: **Ronnie Dreyer, memberletter@geocosmic.org**, and for electronic *Around the World with NCGR* to **Liane Thomas Wade, execsec@geocosmic.org**



### NCGR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of NCGR shall be to provide an environment to foster and publish research of a geocosmic nature and to pursue educational programs in various interdisciplinary fields related to geocosmic studies with a view to granting certification recognizing individual achievement in such fields. The term "geocosmic" is defined as "of or pertaining to the study of correspondences and cycles involving earthly phenomena and cosmic (celestial) events." This purpose is implemented by

- disseminating information through NCGR publications, including journals, newsletters, books, monographs, and website;
- providing financial and technical assistance, guidance, or professional help to individuals or groups for approved research projects;
- formulating a curriculum and the essentials of a course of study leading to competency in geocosmic studies, sponsoring appropriate educational programs;
- educating students and researchers to various levels of competency, chartering regional, semi-autonomous chapters of NCGR having the same goals and purposes;
- promoting and encouraging the highest professional standard and ethical behavior among its membership.

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**Publication Guidelines:** Please query with outline or article proposal by emailing editor, [memberletter@geocosmic.org](mailto:memberletter@geocosmic.org). Once accepted, articles must be sent electronically in MS Word, or text file according to writer's guidelines, which will be provided. No hard copy or CDs. Send complete references, bibliography, and birth data (no actual charts) with data source. We reserve the right to edit all material for sense and space..

### NCGR DUES STRUCTURE

- Basic Membership: \$55/year; \$150/3-year
- Couples Membership (one set of publications): \$75/year; \$210/3-year
- Canada/Mexico Membership: \$60/year; \$165/3-year; Couples: \$80/year; \$225/3-year
- International Membership: (except Canada and Mexico) \$65/year; \$180/3-year; Couples: \$85/year; \$240/3-year

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Over 300 lectures from NCGR2013 and past NCGR conferences (including *Planetary Revolution, Boston 2010, and Geocosmic Alchemy, Baltimore 2007*) are now available as downloadable MP3 recordings in our website store. You can order online at [www.geocosmic.org/lectures](http://www.geocosmic.org/lectures) where you will find complete catalogue. 212-838-NCGR, [execsec@geocosmic.org](mailto:execsec@geocosmic.org).

### PUBLICATIONS AND ADVERTISING DEADLINES

**Deadlines for article submissions and advertising copy:**

<b>December 1.</b>	<b>Jan.-February issue</b>
<b>February 1.</b>	<b>March-April issue</b>
<b>April 1.</b>	<b>May-June issue</b>
<b>June 1.</b>	<b>July-August issue</b>
<b>August 1.</b>	<b>Sept.-October issue</b>
<b>October 1.</b>	<b>Nov.-December issue</b>

**To submit an article,** please query before the deadline to Ronnie Dreyer, Editor, at [memberletter@geocosmic.org](mailto:memberletter@geocosmic.org). Please see left for publications guidelines, and topics of interest.

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- *Research Compendium (from Geocosmic Alchemy Conference).* \$20.00
- *Essentials of Intermediate Astrology.* \$15.00.
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We invite all NCGR members to contribute articles, and let us know which topics you want to see covered in future issues. Please query first before sending a full-length article. Short pieces, letters to the editor, and interesting facts are also welcome. If you are interested contact [memberletter@geocosmic.org](mailto:memberletter@geocosmic.org). See left for submission guidelines.

**Patricia Buckley**, Publications Director, is always looking for longer contributions to the *Geocosmic Journal* that may be too lengthy for *memberletter*. Articles can tackle any astrological or related subject, including chart analysis, techniques, research, or anything that suits a magazine format. Contact us for submission guidelines at [journal@geocosmic.org](mailto:journal@geocosmic.org). Remember, NCGR publications reach over 2000 astrologers. It's a great way to get exposure. To advertise in the *Geocosmic Journal*, contact Arlene Nimark at 718-377-0482, [arlenima@aol.com](mailto:arlenima@aol.com).