



This Month's Speaker

KENNETH D. MILLER

Friday, April 18, 2008
Registration begins at 6:45 PM

7:00 – 9:30 PM
Admission is \$5 for members and \$10
for non-members.

Saturday, April 19, 2008
Registration begins at 12:45 PM

1:00 – 4:30 PM
Admission is \$10 for members and \$15
for non-members.

Both meetings will be held at the Granite Reef Community Center, 1700 N. Granite Reef, Scottsdale, AZ 85257.

FRIDAY Lecture - Pluto's Weird History: Dumb Luck, Dumb Note, Dumbbell - An Astrological Rags to Riches Story!

How did little Pluto go from being a difficult-to-detect chart influence to being the most feared planet in the solar system? There are many strange stories in astrology, but Pluto's may be the weirdest. And no, this will not be another lecture on Plutonian myths; we will do some myth-busting as we study this "real life" rags-to-riches story. Pluto is keeping secrets even from you! Find

out just what the skeletons are in Pluto's closet!

SATURDAY Seminar - Remediating Planetary Afflictions

How to remediate astrological problems with traditional, inexpensive methods from the Indian astrological tradition. Learn the processes by which the Indian astrologer "diagnose" problems in the chart and the surprising variety of "prescriptions" available to reduce the suffering in your life. We will focus on

the charts of people present, if they want to share their details.

Getting to Know Kenneth D. Miller

Kenneth D. Miller took a very early interest in Western astrology, casting his first charts by hand at age 13. By college, he was an amateur astrologer, seeing the occasional client, teaching the occasional class, and for years practicing astrology as an avocation.

Then in 1996 he had his first Indian (jyotish) astrology reading and was so impressed with it that he decided to pursue its education and training. Now, more than a decade later, Kenneth is a professional astrologer and approved tutor, having passed the American College of Vedic Astrology's level I and II certifications, the highest available in the Jyotish world. Kenneth has also studied in India, where he earned the title of Fellow of the Institute of Vedic Astrology (FIVA). In addition, he is a Lifetime member of the Council of Vedic Astrology, AFAN, and NCGR.

He is a Masters candidate at Kepler College, where he is now working on his thesis. Kenneth has studied Hellenistic Astrology with Demetra George and Robert Schmidt, Medieval astrology with Robert Zoller, and Renaissance astrology with Lee Lehman. He is one of the few professional astrologers with a working knowledge of all of these traditions.

His website is celestialintelligencer.net.

THE ARIZONA ASTROLOGER is published monthly by the Arizona Society of Astrologers, a non-profit organization founded on September 7, 1973 at 8:20 PM in Phoenix, Arizona and incorporated on September 20, 1974 at 4:30 PM.

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ASA Liaison Found

Gabriella von Elekes has volunteered to serve as ASA's liaison to the City of Scottsdale, thus ensuring we can continue to meet at the Granite Reef Senior Center. Thanks, Gabriella!

Last month at the ASA Paul Reeder

By Marta Morris, ASA Scribe

Friday Lecture: Astrology for Folks Who Think

In 800 BC Lao Tse stated that the Tao that can be told is not the Eternal Tao. To this, Mr. Reeder added that he who knows does not speak and he who speaks does not know. Thus he began this evening's talk on a light note.

Astrology is the language of time and the cosmic language. It is a language of symbols. Written language is linear and only exists in the human mind.

Whenever you learn a new language, new synapses are formed in the brain. Astrology is a divine language of the gods. The Sun is a symbol which radiates vitality, energy into a broad spectrum. The planets are repeating that energy. There is a "solar wind" and the planets produce a "wake" as they move (orbit) perpendicular to the Sun's motion. It is The Music of the Spheres, and our nervous system responds to the sounds.

The astrology that we practice is conditioned by our nervous systems. Let go. Listen.

Webster's Dictionary defines language as "(a) the expression or communication of thoughts and feelings by means of vocal sounds, and combinations of such sounds, to which meaning is attributed; human speech; (b) the ability to express or communicate by this means; (c) the vocal sounds so used, or the written symbols for them."

Then there is arithmetic. Does arithmetic make us smart? No, but it allows us to access knowledge of the brain (which is already there). The electrical patterns in our brain already exist and learning arithmetic makes them conscious. What happens within us as we practice astrology? It is a system of divination, similar to the Tarot, the I-Ching, Numerology. There are only 3 symbols. The Circle – Spirit, Life Force; the Cross – Material Density; and the semi-circle – Consciousness. In combination, they form all of the symbols in astrology.

Here is the problem. Before interpretation of the signs, what did we do? We looked up at the Sky! We put human stories into the stars. What is going on in the story we are enacting right now? We are using a mind-set that is rationally dominated, ignoring the devastation we are creating. So, imbalances are created by an over-rational mind.

As you practice astrology, you are cultivating the strength of your intuitive intelligence. Divination is an amazing thing. Why does it work? Astrology is the technical language of holistic philosophy. Everything, everywhere are One – the Interconnected.

What is a Whole? It is the Sum-total of all its parts plus the interaction of the parts. The Small and the Large are the same. There is Oneness, then Twoness – Yin/Yang. Yin is receptive and Yang is Expressive.

The Power of Creation is expressed by the mantra, “Om.” In Christianity this translates to Logos. The Word is the Most Powerful. As Astrologers we need to “work it” for the sake of the Whole.

Mercury is the symbol maker. It is rote, repeating, memorization. You have to memorize the symbols and then feed your mind with experience. Astrology is a system of observation. It is your clients who will advance your knowledge, rather than a book. Growing old will also add to your wisdom.

The Sun is the life force, and the planets reflect that life force. In the language of astrology, planets are the verbs, words of action. They create impulse. Our energy leaves the body and is in the space/time continuum. Our life force is in a feedback loop.

Houses are nouns. The house is the direct object of the sentence. I am the actor. What if I am unaware? The energy still goes where it leads. Projection? Astrology can raise our awareness.

The signs modify the house or planet involved. On a house cusp, a sign acts like an adjective; with a planet it acts like an adverb. You can make sentences out of charts. The planet, sign and house make up a complete symbolic sentence in the language of astrology. The aspects are links.

Clients hear what they are ready to hear. The knowledge comes from their own experience. We can predict because we are the “pattern.” When a pattern changes it is because some experiences have made us ready to change the pattern.

What is a moment? One member of the audience replied, “6 seconds,” which was close. According to some gurus, the answer is 24 moments per second. But it could even be more. Every moment of your life is interactive.

Someone asked about the elements, and Paul briefly delineated them as follows:

Fire = Motivated by vision

Air = Auditory, communal, social urge

Earth = Kinesthetic, tactile, sensuous

Water = Feeling, has no patterns, sentimental, maintains connections, has access to memory

Forgiveness is an important part of changing patterns. Which planet is involved in forgiveness. Surprisingly, the answer was not Neptune, but Pluto!

How do humans fragment? By not having integrity. We need to integrate hot, cold, wet and dry. And with that we were urged to attend the Saturday Workshop on the Spiritual Path and the Yoga of Intimacy.

Saturday Seminar

I. Astrology & the Spiritual Path

I. What is the Spiritual Path? It’s the path of Karma. Eating? Starving? No.

Progress = ever-growing freedom. Jesus at age 5 witnessed his father healing. And he wanted to do that, so he was taken to the Essenes to learn.

Tampas is disciplining, fasting and rules. Once you have mastered the rules, they no longer apply. What is the path to happiness? Define happiness: Sun: a circle focused in space and time. Developmental process. Potential. What we came here to become. Moving toward what we are becoming makes us happy.

How many people do you know who are happy? Karma is the path, but not the walking. Karma is the law that governs everything. Who is not on a spiritual path? Everyone is.

As you sow, so shall you reap. What goes around comes around. Chakras are like antennae. The chakras are not all equal in consciousness.

Conscious functioning = I know what I want.

Semi-consciousness = I know what I want, but I am satisfied with the psychological resources:

1. Behavior/motor functions: respiration; digestion, reproduction, ambulation and manipulations
2. Thought/idea: by repetition they solidify.
3. Feelings: intuition; what kind of interaction we have
4. Choice
5. Introspection/Awareness

Sub-consciousness = functions on its own. What we do automatically. Assists the conscious mind.

Deep Subconscious = every creative impulse that has not yet developed acceptable psychological resources.

Unconscious: Personal and collective: Things we cannot get to in one lifetime.

Personal: creative impulses linked to past-life or early life pain. Trauma. Hypnotic spell. Like a cast on a broken arm. Unusable until it heals. Pain upon removal. The bone at the break, however, is now stronger.

To access the Superconscious: The rational/and intuitive must be in balance. Sun (conscious/integral) and Moon (subconscious/ fragmentation) in balance = superconscious. Data streaming from the five senses is overwhelming and prevents us from accessing the superconscious.

The Book of Revelation is the explosive psychological process of the individual.

There are 5 elements. In addition to Earth, Water, Air, Fire, the 5th element is Ether.

II. Astrology & the Yoga of Intimacy: Compatibility & Commitment

Kriyaman First principal: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. How about, "Thou shalt not kill?" How does that apply to killing cockroaches?

Reap what you sow? If you plant lettuce, you get lettuce in a few weeks, but you must plant it again soon. An apple seed takes years to grow, but will bear fruit for many years.

Sinchit Karma means leaving with unfinished business, and you have to come back here to finish. The fragmented soul is connected to the past; the spirit is connected to the future. Subset: pralabad karma. Our chart is a diagram of intent and possibilities.

The Structure of the Psyche:

Sun/Moon

Mercury

Mars/Venus

Jupiter/Saturn

Pluto/Uranus/Neptune

A planet's cycle is a clue to its developmental structure.

The Moon operates mostly in the first 5 years. Mercury takes over from 5-10 years of age. Venus dominates from 10-14; Sun is most influential at ages 15-23 with the need to differentiate. Mars is dominant during ages 23-35 - the battlefield; Jupiter comes in at 35; and Saturn takes over at 60 - mastery. This is also the Chaldean order.

Intimacy

Paul asked which planet we would connect with Intimacy. Neptune was the answer from the students. Neptune covers it all: illusion/confusion/poison/imagination/disconnection from reality.

Reality is an illusion, but the world really exists. We confuse reality with Actuality. This was discussed interactively.

Paul discussed chart comparison, beginning with synastry, or the direct comparison of two charts. With no conjunctions, it will not be a meaningful

relationship, whereas many ties between planets shows a significant relationship but they must be evaluated. Karma. It takes time and proximity to develop for better or worse. Many relationships break up at the moment when healing is possible. To heal the parts of you which are tied to painful experiences of the past, you must share them with someone.

Another method of comparison is the composite -- midpoint and Davison chart -- each a separate entity. These methods are more hypothetical. Most of the information at the beginning of a relationship can be received from or through synastry. Composite works better on an enduring relationship.

The remainder of the workshop was spent analyzing Paul Reeder's chart and comparing it with the charts of two audience members. There was lots of feedback and interaction between speaker and attendees.

NEWS NOTES

By Brenda Black, Astrologer

Pluto will turn retrograde at 1° 9' Capricorn on April 2, 2008 at 2:23 AM MST. During the period when Pluto is retrograde we have better powers of regeneration and most of us will feel better. In fact, if you are born with Pluto retrograde you have the power to overcome major illnesses in a faster, better way than most of your friends with natal Pluto direct.

When Pluto is retrograde we do an internal house cleaning. There is a drive to eliminate and release the old, outworn and outdated attitudes, relationships and things in our lives. This is a time to

draw upon our inner strength to deal with challenging outer circumstances.

Pluto will turn direct on September 8, 2008 at 28° 29' Sagittarius at 8:12 PM MST. Remember, Pluto was in Capricorn during the American Revolution in the 1700's. Pluto is back now bringing in another revolution, this time in the use of natural resources, and structure of government (and taxation), as well as a spiritual revolution for many.

According to Maurice Lavenand in the February/March 2008 issue of *The Mountain Astrologer*, humanity is undergoing a shift from an egocentric and ethnocentric consciousness to a world-centric mindset. During Pluto in Capricorn humans are raising their consciousness from the current 3rd chakra solar plexus level to the 4th chakra heart level. Maurice talks about a spectacular decrease in biodiversity, leading to severe disruption of the ecosystem. He says oil production will peak around 2009-2011, and by 2015 the oil-based economy may crumble and the trend will not be reversed. He mentions that there will be improved species of vegetables and breeds of animals for food; however, because of the petroleum crisis, communities will rely on local farming and manufacturing for their supplies. He comforts us with the fact that after a period of global frantic activity, there will be an equally long period of relative calm.

Pluto will enter Capricorn once again on November 26, 2008 and will remain in that sign until 2023.

April 5, 2008 – There will be a New Moon at 16° 44' Aries at 8:55 PM MST. This New Moon will make us feel more ambition and give us more physical energy. Venus will later go into Aries at 10:35 PM, giving us more confidence to take our love relationships to the next level. The Sabian Symbol for this New Moon is “Two dignified spinsters sitting in silence.” Create a plan to visit with a friend who likes you and agrees with your value system in the next couple weeks.

April 20, 2008 – There will be a Full Moon at 0° 43' of Scorpio at 3:25 AM MST. This full moon focuses on our bodies, our beauty and our cycles. Buy some catnip for your cat and take a lavender-scented bath. Clean up your house and dress up. Go out and socialize, attend a dance class or plan a nice dinner for your significant other. Bring out your black obsidian, jet and smoky quartz crystals and light a candle. Enjoy!

Coming in May Dave Campbell

Horary without the Horror; Asteroids