



January 2007

THIS MONTH AT THE ASA

ARIELLE GUTTMAN

Friday Lecture, January 19, 2007. Time: 7:00 – 9:30 PM.

Registration begins at 6:45 PM. Admission is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members.

Saturday Workshop, January 20, 2007. Time: 1:00 – 4:30 PM

Registration begins at 12:45 PM. Admission is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members.

Both meetings will be held at the Granite Reef Senior Center. The address is: 1700 N. Granite Reef Rd. at the NW corner of Granite Reef and McDowell. For a map to the Senior Center, visit our website at www.azastrologers.org.

FRIDAY NIGHT Lecture - Mythic Astrology

SATURDAY Seminar - Mythic Astrology Applied

Also known as archetypal astrology, Mythic Astrology is in large part based upon the themes of the stories told in mythology about the deities of Greece and Rome, who gave our planets and many of the asteroids their names. When the archetypal nature of the planet is revealed through its character and story, we gain a richer understanding of how that theme presents itself in a person's life, and through their birth chart. In this lecture and workshop, we will look at the mythological nature of some of the planets, asteroids, and Chiron in terms of how they work in a chart. In **Mythic Astrology**, Friday's lecture, the archetypes are introduced via their

themes and astrological significance. In Saturday's workshop, **Mythic Astrology Applied**, we delve into example charts and see how family patterns and relationships are colored by these placements.

Getting to Know Arielle Guttman

Arielle began her formal studies in astrology in 1974 in San Diego. In 1980 she founded Astro Originals, a consulting firm utilizing astrological teaching tools. Based in Santa Fe since 1986, Arielle primarily focuses on private one-to-one client sessions, group seminars and mythological tours to Greece. She has published four books in astrology: *Astro-compatibility* (1986), the *Astro*Carto*Graphy Book of Maps* (1989), *Mythic Astrology* (1993), and *Mythic Astrology*



Applied (2004). She is President of The Sophia Center, a non-profit organization dedicated to the education and research of archetypal studies and cosmological patterns.

Renewal Time

It's that time again. Please pay your annual dues at the January meeting or mail them to ASA at P.O. Box 9340, Scottsdale, AZ 85252-9340.

Dues are \$36 for one person, \$54 for a couple, and \$24 for people who have not yet experienced their first Saturn Return.

If you want the newsletter mailed to your home, add \$18 to your subscription. The emailed newsletter comes with your membership and is no extra charge. You can always find the newsletter free on our website.

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Articles

Please send all articles via e-mail to Sarah Laurent at asanews@cox.net. The editor reserves the right to edit text for size and content or to reject submissions. All articles reflect the views of their authors. The ASA assumes no responsibility for articles or material contained herein, or for goods or services advertised.

There is no writeup for December's solstice party, but we have two articles by our talented members.

Project Hindsight's Conclave 2006

By Doug Noblehorse

I've lived most of my life in the American West, in places that had shallow historical roots. I was born and raised in a small desert town whose past reached back to the World War II era at best. Even Phoenix's civic history only began shortly after the end of the American Civil War in 1865. So, to travel to the forested East Coast, where my Shawnee Indian ancestors decisively defeated English intruders, and to be introduced to an ancient astrology that measures its age in astrological ages was indeed a unique experience!

The 2006 Project Hindsight Conclave took place in picturesque Cumberland, Maryland. With its rolling hills steeped in the early history of the United States when people from many countries were settling the

region, it seemed the perfect place to introduce an even more ancient astrological history to people from countries around the world. Canadians, Japanese, Australians, English and Serbians all made their way to this small American town - some literally travelling by a succession of "planes, trains and automobiles!"

Project Hindsight's panel of speakers, including Robert Schmidt, Demetra George, Bill Johnston, Alan White, Curt Manwaring and others, presented the latest translations and understandings of Hellenistic astrology. This presentation covered Hellenistic history, theory, techniques and underlying philosophy. Supplementing this material was a guest panel including Ken Johnson, Ken Bowser, Ben Dykes, and Robert Corre who offered supporting, though sometimes contrasting viewpoints from the Jyotish, Siderealist, Medieval and Early Modern schools of astrological thought.

The Conclave spanned a full seven-day week, with informal gatherings starting at 7 am, and formal presentations beginning at 9 am and generally lasting until 10 pm - sometimes even until midnight. This Conclave was not for the faint of heart! Attending (let alone absorbing) all the presentations offered was possible only for the most tireless of students. I found it necessary to forego several of the evening sessions in an effort to get enough sleep. Fortunately, the Conclave was recorded and videotaped - which should help me decipher my written notes!

The first day, Monday, was given over to a presentation of the earliest origins of astrology, including the Babylonian astrology that preceded the Hellenistic world. Our earliest tangible evidence of astrological divination dates from 2028 BCE, but astrological study is thought to have even earlier origins. Early Egyptian astrology was also discussed - and there was even time to touch on the beginnings of Hellenistic astrology, which began around 200 BCE with its earliest architects, Hermes Trismegistus and his successors, Nechepso and Petosirus.

On Tuesday, the audience was treated to explanations of basic Hellenistic astrological concepts and

the philosophies behind them, such as sect classifications, planetary meanings, the Greek Lots, and chart rulers to name just a few. We quickly learned that many modern astrological terms are not wholly accurate; Robert Schmidt took great pains to explain why this was so and introduced more accurate translations. For instance, the Arabic Parts, which were actually Greek in origin, are more accurately termed as the Lots. They represent the power of the planet involved as it relates to a specific nativity; in other words the specific allotment handed out to the native. As astrology eventually passed through the Persian world into the Arabic empire, Lots were unevenly translated into Parts. In doing so, however, the subtle distinctions in the terms used were lost. Schmidt was painstakingly effective in explaining the complex differences in terminologies.

As a result, the audience had to unlearn accepted language and definitions, and relearn new terminology - a process repeated throughout the week. The advantage to this is that the new terms carry a clearer conceptual meaning and application of the technique. Houses become Domiciles or Places, Rulers become Lords, Terms become Bounds, Triplicities become Trigrams, etc. Over these two days and into Wednesday as I looked around the room I could see focused attention in the audience, along with the usual amount of note-taking one sees at astrological gatherings. This would soon change as the Hellenistic astrological system, or System of Hermes, began to emerge into a coherent whole.

Wednesday began as a continuation of the techniques discussion from Tuesday. There was a discussion of the Places (Houses) configured to the Ascendant, which are those Places (Houses) that are in a classical aspect relationship to the Ascendant (i.e. 0, 60, 90, 120 and 180 degrees). Places unconfigured are the 30 and 150 degree Places, and are said to be in aversion. We were exposed to the Places (Houses) wherein the planets find their Joy. We were treated to an astronomical discussion of the inferior and superior synodic cycles, along with definitions of heliacal rising and setting, orientality/occidentality and being under the Sun's beams.

These are not unfamiliar concepts in modern times (especially to those who practice Medieval and Jyotish astrology), but neither are they extensively used by Modern astrology.

And then Schmidt launched into his exposition of Hellenistic universal techniques - in particular the Preliminary Natal Analysis. This is an interconnected grouping of planetary considerations, each one adding a piece to the puzzle of planetary condition. Each planet's condition is made up of Fitness, Ability and Completion, along with Favorability and Rejoicing qualities. And each one of these is referenced to three spheres of influence, the Zodiac, the Lights and the Horizon. In my opinion, this matrix forms the core of Hellenistic natal study, and seemed to me to be the centerpiece of the weeklong Conclave. As I looked around the room I noticed people were furiously intent on their note-taking - even those who hadn't taken notes before. Everyone was focused on not missing any of the material that Schmidt was presenting - including panel members! People were even standing and jockeying for position in an effort to see the overhead projection more clearly, all the while scribbling away!

Thursday continued the discussion of Universal Techniques with a presentation of how the Hellenistic astrologers determined chart rulers - and yes, that's plural! Unlike Medieval astrologers who use a weighting system of essential and accidental dignities, or Modern astrologers who simply see the ruler of the Ascendant as chart ruler, the Hellenistic determination of chart rulerships is based on an underlying paradigm that characterized Greek life, namely a seafaring or nautical paradigm. This paradigm (and at least one other) offers a deeper understanding of astrological technique and application that was lost as astrology made its way through the Persian and Arabic periods into India, and eventually back into Europe. In effect, the "letter" of astrological "law" survived more or less, but the "spirit" did not.

As Thursday wore on, Topical Inquiries were discussed, but were not so difficult for the audience to grasp as they resemble techniques employed

today, with the possible exception of including the study of the appropriate Lot. Just as we do, the Hellenistic astrologers would study a particular issue by analyzing the suitable Place (House) involved along with its Lord (Ruler), the appropriate Lot (i.e. Part of Mother, Part of Siblings, etc.), and the planetary significator. Some Hellenistic astrologers, such as Dorotheus, would also consider the Trigon (Triplicity) Lord of the significator to determine motive.

By Friday, many of us felt like we were running a marathon. Fortunately many of us were catching our second wind as well! We would need it, as on Friday we were introduced to Hellenistic aspect doctrine. It was this doctrine that had been one of the most stubborn of problems for Schmidt and Project Hindsight - and was responsible for delays in their translation effort. Ultimately the dilemma was resolved to their satisfaction, and on this day we were provided with the results. Modern aspect doctrine is filled with disputes over orbs, aspects to be used (major only, or all mathematical aspects) - even debates over the names of aspects. The Hellenistic astrologers saw these matters a bit differently. Planets either aspect or stand with one another, or they are in aversion and do not relate to one another (unless mitigated by some special factors). Many ancient techniques do not use orbs - aspects are sign-based. The few aspects recognized were the sextile, square, trine and opposition, along with the conjunction, which was not technically defined as an aspect. These are the so-called Ptolemaic aspects, which is somewhat of a misnomer as I feel they would be better defined as Hellenistic aspects.

However, in some cases orbs were in fact used. In most cases the orb used was 3 degrees. Planets aspecting within this 3 degree orb were delineated in much the same manner as we do today - planetary influences were combined. However, there was a special within-orb case, and that was when the faster of the two planets was separating from the slower planet. In these special cases, the slower planet acted upon the faster planet, melding and

modifying their significations as opposed to mixing significations if the aspect was only applying. We had Friday evening off, as the weekly downtown celebration in Cumberland was in full swing. And by this point, we all needed it!

Saturday brought the subject of Time Lords, which was the primary predictive method employed by the Hellenistic astrologers. Secondary progressions are briefly mentioned, but not developed in the surviving Hellenistic texts. Transits were used, but they were the last technique employed, often as a confirming technique. The first thing we in the audience had to learn was that the classical astrologers looked at time a bit differently than we moderns do. In general we're used to correlating specific astrological timing indicators, either progressions or transits, to specific points in time, which should then in turn correlate to specific events. The Hellenistic astrologers approached planetary timing influences as correlating to spans of time over which they were Lord (or Ruler). This span of time in turn was the period in which the planet released or demonstrated its significations. These spans of time were further divided into smaller and smaller periods of time, with subsequent sub-Time Lords, which taken together gave the astrologer clues as to what would happen to the native. There are several different Time Lord systems, each used for a specific kind of inquiry, each with its own technique of determining the proper Time Lord. I can't imagine the time spent by the average classical astrologer in doing the calculations for these procedures - in an age before computers, calculators, even pencil and paper!

Sunday was a wind-down day. The panel was joined by Michael Erlewine as they discussed the future of astrology, and just how Hellenistic principles could be brought forward and integrated into modern astrological practice. After all, we now know the existence of Uranus, Neptune and Pluto (and so many more!), as well as their demonstrated influences. While they cannot figure or be shoe-horned into the Hellenistic astrological system, they certainly can be utilized as transcendental, modifying (or perhaps distorting) influences in their own right.

The Conclave came to a conclusion with an evening open house at the residence of Robert Schmidt and Ellen Black, where the Project Hindsight work is done. This was a chance to relax and exchange ideas and observations with panel participants and new-found friends (otherwise known as fellow Conclave survivors!) At the beginning of the week as I looked around the audience I saw small groups of people, friendly in nature but interacting only with known friends and acquaintances. By the end of the week every break was filled with furious and intense discussion between people who not long before had been complete strangers. This, along with the astrological material and techniques presented, will be the greatest legacy of this Conclave!

Chiron to Natal Aspects

By Virginia Reyer

Chiron, like any other planet, is strengthened or weakened by its house position and contacts to other planets. Chiron has a connection with consciousness-expanding teachings and initiation into higher consciousness.

Chiron-Sun: the native struggles to rebuild his identity, as the sense of self is impaired or wounded. It will take time to feel real again. By helping others, the native is better able to understand his own pain. This aspect is affected by the expression of individual power potential and will show how and where the native makes his mark through the creative expression and application of his will. It gives a dynamic attitude toward life and challenges fate. One receives as one gives. This is a superior position, is likely to give assistance to others.

Chiron-Moon manifests the feelings and unconscious habits. Family life tends to be an important factor, as the Moon rules the mother, females, the home and the public. The native may suffer an impaired relationship, especially early in life. Can show a lack of proper connection to either parent. Native is not able to express emotion, being very sensitive to others or susceptible to outside influences. Can

become more aware of the collective unconscious. It ensures sympathetic understanding and generosity by helping others.

Chiron-Mercury gives important clues to what influences the mind and how to make decisions. Adaptability is a striking feature. Can be an excellent speaker, communicator and writer. Can be impatient or have a sensitive nervous system and become sidetracked. Can gain popularity and acceptance for themselves and win support of brethren, neighbors and others. We are assisted by the process of memory and by the acquisition of knowledge.

Chiron-Venus has deep-seated feelings, strong personal power of attraction, and an urge to lean on others. Gives the power to wish. Gives sexual aberration and fear of being hurt. Capable of great sensitivity to the feelings and sufferings of others. Can draw on deep resources for artistic and social opportunities. Can be subjected to emotional and sexual difficulties with occasional lack of self-control. Gives quick contact with others.

Chiron-Mars learns to fight for what the native believes in. Gives information about one's characteristic modes of action influenced by the desire principle as to how to take action to avoid conflicts, disagreements, and stubbornness. Mars is more psychological than physical, and inner stamina can be stronger, directing the energies toward spiritual unfoldment. Can teach others to be less self-centered and more adaptable.

Chiron-Jupiter is where the native is creative, expressive and expansive. This connection reacts strongly to spiritual, psychic and healing abilities and to higher education. It indicates where the native expresses expansiveness, where he does things on a large scale. It also indicates where a person shares what has been given to him, thereby receiving help and benefit from others in return. Also indicates where the person thinks positively and listens optimistically to his higher voice.

Chiron-Saturn shows how the individual shoulders responsibility and develops maturity and discipline. It

indicates how we all share realities and are more likely to experience difficulties and limitations to develop spirituality, status and recognition. This is a rare and "generational" aspect. Individuals are experiencing unstable or unusual family structures, lack of stability trying to build their own alternatives. They feel rejected, have difficulty trusting, are pessimistic. Shows how to build structures into these areas of life that lack it. Practical ambition to help self and others.

Chiron-Uranus shows how we establish an intuitive link with the Universal Mind that enables us to receive original ideas and inspiration. It points to the type of friends or persons we are seeking. Gives us the urge to reform our own methods in the interest of others. It encourages restlessness, gives a desire for constant change and excitement. These people lead adventuresome, unusual lives and may suffer a great deal of nervous tension, especially when afflicted. Magnetic quality inspires confidence.

Chiron-Neptune: the native may seem to be living in a child's fantasy world. There can be blind spots or emotional and spiritual challenges. It gives a sympathetic understanding of others and strange powers of attraction. There is a search for soul-unions. The inner or psychic life is open to external influences. Craving for alcohol and nicotine can bring strange nervous disorders that are difficult to diagnose. Can also be affected by moods and uneasiness. Is prey to fears and mental confusion. It can bring spiritual healing. Gives a spiritual link with others and karmic ties.

Chiron-Pluto brings fundamental upheavals and drastic transformations in the areas of human life such as transplants. These changes can be regenerative or degenerative, and usually both effects are felt. Pluto gives a highly developed sense of personal problems that require serious work on improving health. Dishonesty can bring legal retribution. One needs to share initiative and responsibility easily. This aspect can lead to uprising. Gives conflict with authorities.

Chiron-Transpluto is charismatic and persuasive.

These individuals are intensely determined, with deep, intense feelings. According to Landscheid, Transpluto has the combined meanings of Uranus, Neptune and Pluto and is radioactive. It gives intense feelings of love and sex based on satisfaction. Has to do with visible and invisible forces. Gives great power and mends deep hurts.

Chiron-Nodes: the North Node pulls toward the future; the South Node comes from the past. Gives the desire to seek perfection with others in peace and love. The nodes show life's path. Planets with positive aspects to the nodes bring a rich, rewarding life. The native will be aided with help from others and will also be able to help others.

CHIRON IN THE SIGNS AND HOUSES ***Aries through Libra***

ARIES/1st has a tremendous psychological drive, brings courage after painful early experiences of rejection. It is the path of learning about oneself. The "I am" spirit of enterprise and the development of a strong personality. When relating to others, it likes to lead them.

TAURUS/2nd has purposeful determination and strong willpower. The native has his own methods of doing things, leading to an acquisitive nature. Has a rigid set of morals and values and personal rules for behavior which he expects others to understand and follow. May have bizarre sexual habits or experiences because they crave sensual and physical outlets for their emotional security.

GEMINI/3rd feels the impact of sibling rivalry. Difficulties and upsets during the school years lead to problems in self-expression that must be overcome. The mind is considered the reflector of the deep inner man. Mercury is the mirror or messenger, and this person can be very persuasive and draw attention easily to himself for his brilliance and ease of expression. Gives strong mental skills, easy dependency for early shortcomings and difficulties. May manifest as developmental challenges and strength of expression.

CANCER/4th could have had early childhood abuse or a distant and non-nurturing family life. Both parents are part of the picture, and natives often express a feeling of distance from them. It shows the relationship of the parental home and the relationship between the emotional state and the digestive organs. Cancer has awareness of the past, wants to feel nurtured by those around them. It symbolizes the need for support and thereby nurtures others and takes care of the needy.

LEO/5th is instinctive and intuitive creativeness, self-confidence and generosity. Their faith and loyalty to those they love is strong and they are strongly attached. With over-estimation of the self, they could have experienced trauma. As a result of neglect or poverty during childhood they may choose to have no children, as they do not wish to repeat the past. This native tends to play the game of love on an all or nothing basis, like all gamblers. A negative attitude gives rise to lack of determination and other difficulties.

VIRGO/6th represents duty, service, obligation, and a sense of indebtedness that the native owes to others, or others owe him. It is somewhat karmic in nature. Physical or emotional pain from childhood illness leads the native to seek out a career or vocation in the medical or in spiritual healing and teaching. Has to do with service, work and health. The state of mind has a direct bearing on health. Can have strong karmic ties with others. Can cause enmity through fault-finding and criticalness. Is constantly learning lessons of humble service and patience.

LIBRA/7th deals with other people. It also is the way others deal with the native or how the native sees others. Always tends to be involved in an intimate relationship. It also represents open enemies and obvious competitors. It is the sense of justice, the striving for harmony and public spirit. Gives a communal sense. It represents others' help or guidance, the balance of affection and concern about others. Craves peace and harmony and has a strong sense of justice.

The Arizona Society of Astrologers meets on
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***Coming in February ...
Michael Lutin***

***Pluto in Capricorn;
SunShines: The Astrology of
Happiness (the title of Michael's
new book)***

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