



THIS MONTH AT THE ASA

JUNE 17-18, 2005

LEIGH WESTIN

FRIDAY LECTURE: Crash Course in Basic Declination

SATURDAY WORKSHOP: Practical Application of the Life Map

On Friday night, speaker Leigh Westin will tell us everything we have ever wanted to know about declinations and many other things we didn't know to ask - such as fascinating facts about the Presidents' Death Cycle; the 2005-2006 Great Parallel; and Lunar Standstills.

On Saturday, she will teach novices and professionals alike how to apply the dynamic, telling LifeMap. You will learn through discussion of a multitude of charts how to decipher declination's drama of the 28-year Lunar Seasons™.

Unravel life's turning points and the 'season' of any chart. Apply a simple technique using transiting declination and - lo - a life is laid out before your eyes.

"The Declination Progressed Graph is one of the most powerful techniques available to our craft today. Exact timing and dates of many major events in our lives are vividly visual and not just to astrologers, but to anyone with or without astrological knowledge." ~ Leigh Westin

In Memoriam

Darrell Harris, astrologer, teacher, and long-time ASA member, died on June 2. Many ASA members knew Darrell and valued her friendship and her astrological expertise. Joan Star has forwarded an email from Darrell's children, who will hold a memorial celebration of her life this coming Saturday, June 11 at 2 pm at the Highlands Church, across the street from where she lived. The address is 9050 E. Pinnacle Peak Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Church phone: 480-348-9191.
<http://www.highlandchurch.org>

If you wish to attend, please RSVP by phone to 949-525-0816 so they may get a count of those who attend for refreshments afterwards. Also, if you want to send any thoughts that you would like for them to share during the celebration you may bring them with you.

Getting to Know Leigh Westin

A vibrant and enthusiastic instructor, Leigh Westin, C.A. NCGR Level IV, is one of our foremost experts in declination application. Leigh's interest in astronomy brought her to geocosmic studies in the '60s. In 1972, she earned the Diploma of the Faculty of Astrological Studies (Britain) under the tutelage of Jeff Mayo. Her traditional education includes a B.S. in Education, and Masters Degrees in Management and Counseling. Leigh has served as faculty at conferences (NCGR, UAC, AFA), and seminars and has published in NCGR's memberletter, Geocosmic Magazine, Today's Astrologer, Realta, Considerations, International Journal of Cosmobiology, Horoscope Magazine and The Other Dimension. Her first book, *Beyond the Solstice by Declination* (2000), is one of the few that zeros on the significance of declination. Currently Leigh is NCGR's Director of Chapter Affairs and Development and the editor of the popular Declination SIG quarterly publication, *The Other Dimension*. She teaches advanced declination for the OnLine College of Astrology and continues to research declination and publish her results.

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Articles

Please send all articles via e-mail to Sarah Laurent at the ASA e-mail address: Newsletter@azastrologers.org. 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.

Letter from the President

Happy Birthday to all born in June!

On June 2nd, Darrell Harris, a long-time, well known astrologer in the Valley, passed away. God bless you, Darrell.

Some of our members are achieving outstanding successes, and I think they deserve to be mentioned:

Ken Hopkins was interviewed on Channel 3 last month, doing sports predictions.

Brenda Black is doing lots of teaching, consultations, and spiritual group work.

David Campbell, owner of The Astrology Store in Glendale, has relocated to a bigger and much nicer location just at the corner of 57th Avenue and Glendale Avenue. The address is 5731 W. Glendale Avenue, and the phone is 623-463-6286. The store is absolutely beautiful! It's spacious, nicely decorated and has everything: books on astrology, tarot, spirituality, wicca; candles; posters; you name it and he has it. And most of all, the store reflects his love and respect for all things spiritual. Congratulations, Dave, for a job well done!

Kathryn Yunt, astrologer, lecturer, psychic (she has been tested many times by ASU scientists) is giving successful seminars all over the Valley on how to awaken your spirituality.

Tim Brown, the creator of all the cartoons in The Mountain Astrologer, is one of our members.

I collaborated with the Rumanian publishing house, Teora, to have Steven Forrest's *The Inner Sky* translated. I edited the book and wrote the Foreword. It became available to Rumanians all over the world in April. The importance of this book is the introduction of humanitarian astrology to the Rumanian public.

Also, on June 27th, I will do a presentation for TEENAGERS at the Glendale Public library. It seems that astrology is an in-demand subject with that age group.

If anybody would like to share their accomplishments, please let me know.

See you at the meeting!
Gabriella

Last month at the ASA....Robert Corre Friday lecture: On the Primacy of the Ascendant

By Sarah Laurent

Jean-Baptiste Morin de Villefranche (1583-1656) was a French astrologer, physician, and mathematician. He taught mathematics on the university level and developed a system for calculating longitude while at sea. In his lifetime, he was renowned as an astrologer, and for 20 years was in the exclusive service of Cardinal Richelieu who, as advisor to King Louis XIII, consolidated the power of the monarchy against the French nobility and expanded France's power against its enemies in Europe.

From Morin's writings, it does not seem that he enjoyed being at Richelieu's beck and call, but he had no choice. Morin had Venus, Sun, Jupiter, Saturn and the Moon in Pisces in the 12th; and Pluto in Aries also falls in his 12th. As a young man he many times risked imprisonment and even death, but thanks to Venus and Jupiter, always escaped.

Morin taught astrology as a rational discipline. His greatest contribution was to show us how to see the horoscope as an integrated unit.

According to Morin, the Ascendant is the single most important component of a horoscope, making up 80 percent of the chart's meaning. Everything must be viewed through its lens. Robert's teacher, Zoltan Mason, made a practice of always keeping his forefinger on the Ascendant as he went through a chart to remind himself of whom he was talking about.

Why is the Ascendant so important? If you believe in reincarnation, the Ascendant represents the problem you have been given to solve. How well you do during this lifetime depends on the condition of the Ascendant. When the Bible states, "A sign has been given," it is referring to the rising sign.

Astrology is an art. You can go through the chart in a rational, systematic way, but in the end, your interpretation is based on your instincts, skill, and

temperament. The horoscope is a mirror of the soul. It makes the invisible visible through the use of symbols.

What is the Ascendant?

- Our first impression of a person.
- Its sign shows the house affairs that are most important to the person.
- The physical body and the mental and moral disposition.
- Health (not sickness). The old astrologers called the First the House of Life.

Judging a horoscope is a structured exercise. You can measure the quality and quantity of a given planetary influence. Quantity is the strength of the chart, as seen in terms of survival. Problems with survival are linked to the Ascendant. For this reason, quantity is more important than quality.

Everything can be measured as you go through the horoscope systematically. Analyze: break the chart down into its components. Then synthesize: reassemble it into a meaningful whole. Eventually, doing this becomes a habit. Then you gain speed – images merge – you come to reality. Synthesis makes the chart come alive.

Quantity and Quality

We measure quantity through house position and quality through sign position. If a planet is angular, its impact on your life is tremendous. Whether the angular planet is helpful or harmful to you depends on its quality. A planet in a succedent house has about 50 percent of the impact of an angular planet, and a cadent planet has only about 25 percent of the total impact. This can be good if the planet is a malefic or poorly aspected. Interceptions also detract from planetary power.

If a horoscope is powerful and the person has gone nowhere in life, something is interfering to weaken the person or block his success. Some horoscopes are just weak; for instance, a mutable Ascendant, with its ruler in a mutable sign and in the 3rd house would need some strong mitigating factors to give it strength.

We measure quality through the dignities: domicile, detriment, exaltation, and fall. Whether a planet is in good or bad state, it will realize the affairs of the house. If it's in good state, it will do so in an ethical way with fortunate results. If in a bad state, it can do so with reprehensible methods, poor timing, or with no happiness. Judging quality is subtle and difficult because many factors come into play. The influence of a planet in detriment can be mitigated by good aspects or other considerations.

Claire

Robert illustrated his point with the horoscope of Claire, a fine-furniture saleswoman. He began with a blank horoscope, with only the rising sign, 19 degrees of Libra. This is the sign she was given to work with in this life.

At this point, all we know about Claire is that 7th house matters are important to her. Her life will revolve around relationships in some way.

Robert then added a chart showing the Ascendant ruler, Venus, in the 8th house. Now the sign has been given direction and quantity. Venus is determined toward 8th house matters (its direction) and has a moderate impact (succedent house).

The ruler of the Ascendant goes toward the 8th house. Life goes toward the house of death. This is not particularly good. But Venus is a benefic – it isn't so bad. If Claire had had Aries rising, Mars in the 8th could have made her a soldier: fearless, unafraid of death, maybe subject to mood swings.

Venus in the 8th is very interested in the money of other people. But there's a weakness: Venus in the 8th is not connected to the Ascendant. Planets in the 6th, 8th, and 12th houses are called "inconjunct," as they do not make major aspects to the Ascendant. If the Ruler of the Ascendant isn't in aspect to either the Ascendant or to planets in the 1st, its impact is mediocre. The quality is the same, but the chart is weakened.

The 6th, 8th and 12th houses are also considered unfortunate houses, the 6th because it rules sick-

nesses; the 8th because it rules death; and the 12th because it rules institutionalization and imprisonment.

The sign Libra belongs to autumn. It's a ripe, mature sign. Venus in Taurus is a spring Venus. Therefore, Claire is a younger Libran. Contrast this with Britney Spears, who has Libra rising and Venus in Capricorn. Regardless of the image she projects, Britney is highly disciplined and works hard. She's older, riper.

At this point, Robert put up Claire's whole chart and told us a little more about her. Claire was raised in western Pennsylvania by her father, an undertaker and her mother, a housewife. Both were alcoholics. Claire is a fun person who drinks a lot. She never finished college, never married, and has no boyfriend and no pension. She grew up in a household where there was fine furniture, and knows the business.

Neptune is conjunct Claire's Ascendant from her 12th. How does this modify our image of Claire? With Venus ruling her Ascendant, automatically relationships are important. But Neptune interferes with her ability to have relationships by making her too sensitive. Neptunians can't take a harsh environment. Their homes are like wombs; everything is soft, no edges. Neptune people are out of tune; they don't see clearly. Is this a good Neptune?

Let's put it in context: (1) Where is it? On the Ascendant from the 12th. (2) Where does it come from? The 6th, where it rules. (3) Where does it go? The 8th, because its dispositor, Venus, is there.

Neptune connects two houses that are not connected to the Asc.: 8 and 12. These houses are unfortunate because they are connected with values that go against the building up of life.

Jupiter and Venus are in the 6th and 8th. Benefics in unfortunate houses are not great. They destroy through excess.

However, Claire's problem is Neptune. Capricorn on the 4th describes her childhood. Her father was an undertaker – a Saturnine profession. The 4th is

the soil from which you arise – the ruler of her 4th is in the 12th. Her childhood was lonely and unhappy. What about the men in her life? The ruler of her 7th is Mars in Aries in the 7th. They would be crude, coarse, and arrogant. Claire is very sensitive. Others overwhelm her: The Sun and Mars in Aries oppose her Ascendant. She may have come to see marriage as undesirable.

The context of astrology

Robert cautioned his audience that astrology is not the complete answer to all human behavior. Before doing any horoscope, we have to take 4 factors into account.

- 1- is the birth data correct?
- 2- the person's gender.
- 3- age of person. Generational issues.
- 4- social-cultural background. This conditions a person. Secular vs. religious, for example.

If the sign on the Ascendant goes against the person's gender, there's a built-in inferiority complex. The person feels out of sync.

If the modern planets are very strong, they take away from the person's ability to survive. The person goes against the norm, which works against survival. Uranus is out of the times: it deals with the far past or the far future. Neptune doesn't discriminate, it has no boundaries. Pluto goes to extremes. Whether good or bad, its first step is always to destroy. If good, a reconstruction follows. Either way, it is very destructive.

Seldom will people be able to respond in a constructive way to the finer energies of the modern planets.

The houses are more important than the signs because they are where we can make meaningful changes. Behavior is based on habit, and habits can be changed through the force of will.

The average person is evolving toward the outer world, from their head to their feet (Aries to Pisces). A person on the spiritual path is evolving toward the inner world, from Pisces to Aries. They are going

from the houses they were born with to the Archetype (the natural zodiac, the ideal).

Saturday: On Morin's Theory of Determinations

by Sarah Laurent

To determine is to delimit. We humans receive influences from the signs THROUGH the planets. Without the planets, the signs don't exist for us. Planets bring down the influences of the signs and direct them into our lives. The houses determine how we receive the signs. They are receptive (female) whereas the sky (zodiac) is active.

How do you receive the sky? Saturn square Mars is a lot different if your rising sign is Capricorn rising than if it's Gemini.

Elemental qualities. If your Ascendant is an air sign, you are an air person, regardless of the element of your Sun sign. Just by knowing the Ascendant, we know what is most important to an individual.

- Earth: our most basic drive – survival. If an earth sign is rising, security is always an issue.
- Water: our 2nd most basic drive – procreation, survival of the species.
- Air: knowledge and communications, social mores, do's and don'ts, what's commonly accepted.
- Fire: the drive to dominate, to lead.

Significator: each planet has an analogy to various things; for example, the Sun is analogous to honors,

the father, the king, gold. But it doesn't mean any one of these things more than any other unless something in the natal chart determines it toward one of these things. For a planet to be meaningful it must be specifically determined.

Gender is of crucial importance in Morin's view. With respect to signs (senders) planets are feminine – they react. With respect to houses, planets are masculine – they act.

Whether a planet functions optimally depends on whether or not its gender conforms to the gender of the sign in which it falls. Male signs want to express. In Gemini, the Moon may not listen and it may not learn. In a feminine sign you are willing to be impressed. A male sign is not.

Judging the impact of a planet on a house

A planet can only influence a house in one of four possible ways, in order of importance: (1) by being physically placed in a house; (2) by ruling over a house; (3) by sending an aspect to the cusp of the house or to a planet in it; or (4) by ricochet - the automatic influence of a planet on the opposite house.

If a planet is not connected to a house in one of these four ways, it does not influence the affairs of the house.

Robert used the example of a woman who recently died of cancer at the age of 47 after all remedies, from conventional to alternative, had failed. She was born in Quito, Ecuador, and became a successful businesswoman who owned two shoe factories, one in Miami and one in Houston.

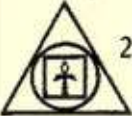
Saturn is in her 10th in Sagittarius. It is determined toward professional success. Saturn in 10 gives the drive to be above others. It sets goals and then tries to achieve them. It plans, works hard, and achieves. However, that same planet took away her life.

Saturn's dispositor is Jupiter in the 8th in Virgo. This is an excellent Jupiter in terms of business, enabling her to acquire the money of others. Its final

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dispositor is Mercury, planet of commerce, in the 7th. This is also excellent for business.

Capricorn is on the cusp of the 12th, so Saturn rules that house. At some point in her life, the 12th will be connected with her destiny. (Destiny is shown by the 10th house.) Her destiny involves two unfortunate houses: 8 and 12. There is also a connection with 6, as Mercury rules Virgo.

The final dispositor, Mercury, rules the 8th, house of death, and it is in a double approaching square to Saturn. The square takes place in angular houses, so it is quantitatively very important.

Robert also discussed quality, as determined by how well a planet works with the sign it is in. A planet in domicile is in its home sign. It's as if conjunct itself. Venus in Taurus is like having Venus twice. It achieves its goals in an ethical way, with good timing and fortunate results.

A planet in detriment is in the opposite sign from its rulership. It is not weak in its action. It achieves its goals, but in a less ethical way, or with poorer timing, and you may not be able to hold onto the goal. Its dispositor and the planets connected to it have a lot to do with how the planet in detriment will function.

For example, Jupiter in Virgo is in its detriment. Jupiter is ethics, Mercury is commerce. Jupiter in Virgo will take an opportunistic approach. Virgo is a dangerous place for Mercury; these are potentially ruthless business people. Mercury in Virgo is in domicile and exalted. Don't ask Virgo about ethics. It goes in for physical perfection.

The business owner died of cancer, which is associated with stress and the inability to eliminate toxins. There's no water in her chart; therefore, no relaxation. It's a very dry chart.

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7:00 - 9:30 PM
Admission: Members \$5
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SATURDAY WORKSHOP

June 18, 2005
1:00 - 4:30 PM
Admission: Members \$10
Non-members: \$15

Next month at the ASA....

Kris Brandt Riske

Friday - Predictive Astrology

Saturday - Weather Forecasting

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