



THIS MONTH AT THE ASA

KEN JOHNSON

Friday, September 21, 2007. Time: 7:00 – 9:30 PM.

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

Saturday, September 22, 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, Scottsdale, AZ 85257

FRIDAY NIGHT: Chasing the Dragon: The Moon's Nodes in Hindu Astrology

In Hindu astrology, the Moon's Nodes are fully personified as characters in the celestial drama. The story of the Eclipse Dragon is an ancient and powerful one in the mythology of India, and forms the basis for astrological interpretation of the Nodes. Rahu, the North Node, is the head of the dragon, ferocious and stormy and sometimes fabulously talented. Ketu is the dragon's tail, dreamlike and sometimes treacherous, but capable of transcendent vision and true spiritual compassion. Just as certain planets may form controlling factors in an individual's horoscope in Western astrology, so may the Nodes form the dominant factor in a Hindu chart. Some people even have "nodal personalities"!

This lecture is an introduction to the lore and meaning of the Moon's Nodes in Hindu astrology.

SATURDAY SEMINAR: The Dragon in Your Chart

Ken invites you to bring your own chart and see how the nodes are working for you. Those who do not have a Jyotish chart are welcome to e-mail Ken at northstar7@comcast.net before the beginning of September. For those who still don't have a chart by Friday night and decide to come to the workshop, Ken can give you keystroke-by-keystroke instructions as to how to run a simple Vedic chart on Solar Fire.

Getting to Know Ken Johnson



Kenneth Johnson holds a B.A. in Comparative Religions from California State University Fullerton and an MA in Eastern Classics from St. John's College.

His best-known work, *Mythic Astrology*, has recently been reprinted by Llewellyn Publications, along with its companion volume, *Mythic Astrology Applied: Personal Healing through the Planets* (both co-authored with Arielle Guttman). Ken has also written *Mansions of the Moon: The Lost Zodiac of the Goddess*, a study of the nakshatras of Hindu astrology, as well as numerous other books and magazine articles. He currently lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and divides his time between writing, teaching, and practicing astrology. Ken can be reached at (505) 983-6380 or by e-mail at northstar7@comcast.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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Member News

Charlotte Benson honored.

Charlotte Benson has been named to the faculty at UAC. Congratulations, Charlotte!

!!!Needed – room for rent!!!

Ken Hopkins has had a heart valve replacement and everything went well. He has been transferred to a recovery center in central Phoenix and will be there another 3-4 weeks. Ken has a job and health insurance, but needs a place to live beginning around Sept. 21. If you have a room to rent, or just want to wish him well, call Ken at 480-516-1960.

Anne Vick

Anne has been in the hospital but is home now and doing well.

Food donations

THANK YOU to everyone who donated food and money to our refreshments table last month. Donations are always welcome and GREATLY APPRECIATED!!

~Correction to last month's newsletter~

Some of Marta's notes on Noel Tyl's Saturday Seminar didn't make it through cyberspace to my email. The 6 keys listed for Friday night are correct. The 7 keys for Saturday are as follows:

1. Houses
2. Planets in mutual reception
3. Peregrination
4. Unaspected planets
5. Aries points
6. Quindecile
7. Sun/Moon midpoints

There were 13 keys in all, not 15.

The corrected article can be found in the August 2007 newsletter on our website.

Last Month at the ASA . . .

Amanda Owen

By Marta Morris, ASA Scribe

Friday night: The Traveling Landscape: How Major Transiting Planetary Patterns Meet the Individual

Ms. Owens mentioned her first book, *Lucky Stars*, which she wrote for teenagers. It is a basic Sun Sign book that puts a positive spin on each Sun Sign. The Sun is the Center around which all the other planets revolve, and this book helps the reader to learn to love who they are—their Sun Sign.

Currently, Amanda writes a column on the transits of the planets and the aspects they make to each other, calling it the Traveling Landscape. You can see this landscape in the headlines, which represent those

aspects, and relate them to what is happening in your own life as well. Amanda illustrated her point with a simple chart for 7:00 p.m. in Scottsdale. The Sun, Venus, Mercury and Saturn were all in Leo, with Saturn as the “head honcho.” With Saturn in late Leo, we’ve been hearing about some of our “celebrities” going to jail.

Where is that stellium in your chart? This can describe drama and creativity. Some people in the audience had natal Saturn and Pluto in Leo—hence in addition to a second Saturn Return, they have also been experiencing Saturn in Leo conjunct their natal Pluto. Transiting Pluto in Sagittarius trines that natal Pluto. Look to see where in your chart that trine occurred.

Amanda drew a series of stacked circles, representing the earth plane, the natal chart, the progressed chart and the transiting planets. The current Saturn/Neptune opposition is uncertainty. As a transit in people's charts this manifested as first Saturn following Neptune, and then some getting both transits at the same time, and now Saturn moving ahead of Neptune only to have the Neptune aspect trailing.

The Personal Planets = Personal trends
 Jupiter and Saturn = Social trends
 Jupiter and Saturn aspecting the personal planets = social trends that affect you personally
 Outer Planets = Collective trends
 Outer Planets to Social Planets = Collective trends that intersect with and affect social trends
 Outer Planets to Personal Planets = Collective trends that affect you on a more personal level

Newsworthy events affect our mood – that's the Moon. The Moon rules the public and represents public events by its declination. Watch those northern and southern extremes.

A quote from futurist John Schaar: “The future is not some place we are going but one we are creating.”

The Neptune/Saturn opposition (with a square from

Mars) gives us images of a steam explosion in New York. The bridge coming apart in Minnesota. Rescuers digging into a mountain.

Events can be glimpsed before an outer planet actually enters a new sign. Back when Saturn opposed Pluto (from Gemini to Sagittarius), there was a re-writing of “the rules.” When Pluto entered Scorpio, AIDS was named. Pluto in Sagittarius describes morality and ethics. Pluto in Capricorn describes building and achievement. It demands responsibility. When it enters Capricorn, Pluto will not make any aspects to other transiting outer planets until 2010, when Saturn is in Libra.

Saturn is about to enter Virgo, just as the nodes are leaving the Virgo/Pisces axis. There will be health issues, food contaminations, air pollution, etc. North node in Pisces removes the secret. There will be a conjunction of Saturn with the south node in October/November: Reap the past. Regulations and repetitive injuries. The north node enters Aquarius in December, 2007.

After the break, Amanda listed the upcoming transits of Mars:

Mars enters Gemini – August 6
 *Mars oppose Pluto – September 21 at 26° Gemini
 Mars enters Cancer – 9/28
 Mars retrograde 11/15 at 12° Cancer
 Mars retrogrades back into Gemini 12/31
 *Mars oppose Pluto 1/1/08 at 29° of Gemini
 Pluto enters Capricorn 1/25/08
 Mars SD – 1/30/08 at 24° Gemini
 Mars in Cancer – March 3
 *Mars oppose Pluto – 3/6/08 at 0° Cancer/
 Capricorn

*The “conversation” lasts almost 6 months. A war of words or more.

Venus and Neptune will be in opposition during part of this time, so how do illusion and romanticism figure into the equation?

The members of the audience were given a form to complete with individual planetary degrees starting from the lowest degree up. This establishes a pattern of transiting planets as they enter signs. One member of the audience had a line-up of Uranus at 1°, Sun at 1°, and Neptune at 2°. So when Pluto enters Capricorn, it will inconjunct Uranus, conjunct the Sun, and square Neptune. This pattern will repeat, with appropriate aspects, each time a planet enters a new sign.

Saturday afternoon: Neptune—The Key to Attraction

Henry Miller: “Confusion is a word we have invented for an order which is not understood.”

DailyGuru.com: “A sure sign of living in fantasy is to imagine one possesses a massive quantity of unappreciated virtues.”

“Expecting the world to treat you fairly because you are a good person is like expecting a bull not to attack you because you are a vegetarian.”

We have a perception of good vs. bad. Instead we should think in terms of a whole person rather than a good person. Neptune is known to be spiritual and yet by transit or in aspect in the natal chart, we say it brings things like confusion, deception or dreams. What are your dreams? This is easier to answer than “What do you want?” Neptune is also Unity. We are all one—to be included in the big circle. Anything outside the big circle (the small circle) is something you are not accepting and thus will run or rule you. Venus is the lower octave—personal love. Neptune is spiritual love. Venus is yin.

Receiving: How can you receive something that you really want if you are not clear about what it is that you want?

Neptune can be a porthole of manifestation. Distinguish between fantasy and a dream you are willing to work for. Neptune with Saturn can manifest or delude.

Get realistic about your goal. What is your goal and what does your goal require from you?

Amanda asked for input on some personal ways the recent Neptune/Saturn opposition was experienced by members of the group. There was a pattern of responsibility and sacrifice to achieve balance.

Is it unseemly to want something because others are worse off? In the Cinderella story, things changed for the better when the heroine asked for something she wanted.

Some receptive words:

Meditating
 Allowing
 Noticing
 Including
 Appreciating
 Letting be
 Listening
 Opening
 Observing
 Gratitude
 Feeling
 Contemplating
 Yielding
 Watching
 Surrendering—

Yin states can be very productive. Being quiet and doing nothing can be a very receptive state, and every time you put yourself into a receptive state, you increase your ability to manifest.

A receptive state is the present rather than a suffering past or a fantasy future. Living in that state puts you into a vulnerable state.

Three steps to receiving:

1. Accept all compliments. For every doer, there is a taker, and for every giver there is a receiver.
2. Gratitude—Count your blessings.
3. Be spiritually naked—self-revealing, include it all. Experience all the feelings that exist so that you

don't project them instead. Whatever you don't "own," you marry, work for, or give birth to. The subconscious runs the show. What we banish runs us.

Neptune through the houses: ("This is where I want to be to be a fabulous receiver.")

1. Giving, empathetic, self-awareness, idealized sense of giving—include yourself.
2. Money—can have money problems; being cheated by giving; include rich people and poor people in the "big circle." Treat it with respect.
3. Siblings, transportation/communication—how do you communicate? Be a listener. People in helping professions often have Neptune here. Can feel drained, burned out. Or, it can be creative and imaginative. Sacrifice concept vs. being happy.
4. Family, home—may feel that family hasn't given. Accept and receive in one's family as it is. Appreciate. Dream home? Or not so organized?
5. Concept of what motherhood is. Ideal. Sacrifice? How do you receive? Role? Dream relationship with children? Embrace your creativity. Include yourself in the love relationship.
6. Co-workers, service people. Giving to your co-workers. Sensitive health. Abnormal reaction to medications.
7. Relationships. The only match for a person who does not know how to receive is someone who doesn't know how to give.
8. Sharing and merging. The old astrology books say it means celibacy. With Neptune here you can be conned or cheated, lose out in divorce.
9. Religion, law, teachers, foreigners, in-laws. Seeker. Dysfunctional—looking for a savior. Blind obedience.
10. Receive from boss, authority figures, parents. Don't be a martyr in your career.
11. Organizations, friends; reciprocity? Is your giving out of balance?
12. Relationship with God. You may ask, "After all I've done for you, could you save the world?"

Summation of this workshop: If you know how to work with it, Neptune can be your best friend.

The Karmic Ascendant **By Virginia Reyer**

Finding the karmic ascendant in a male chart:

- Use the midpoint between the Sun and Moon.
- The Sun has to fall above the horizon; the Moon below.

Finding the karmic ascendant in a female chart:

- Use the midpoint between the Moon and Sun.
- The Moon has to fall above the horizon and the Sun below.

Use an equal house system. The only aspects you use are to the ASC and the MC. Judge the 2nd, 6th and 12th houses: occupied or unoccupied?

1st house: the real ego, the personality, the personal effect on other people.

2nd house: the spiritual attitude toward the material. The 2nd cusp is the spiritual security blanket.

3rd house: the type of mental attitude from the past life; how we used communication in the past, how we use the mind.

4th house: how the soul used the Earth as its home. It is the soul's attitude as to why we are on Earth.

5th house: the direction and basis of the emotions, how we react emotionally.

6th house: the spiritual source of illness.

7th house: karmic links with partners and the public.

8th house: primarily psychic abilities, but secondarily our ability to teach others. If we find Mars, Saturn or Pluto in the karmic 8th, the person would be well advised not to go into psychic matters; he or she would have very little control and could get lost.

9th house: shows whatever we conceive of as a "high force" and shows how we can achieve a direct link with it.

10h house: the MC is what we must do to resolve our karmic lesson. It is separate, it shows what the whole world has put in our way in an effort to divert us from following our karmic pattern. The MC is the ideal to follow. With the Part of Fortune there, we get so involved with our own emotion that we won't have any left over to help other people. With Gemini there, you can talk for years without saying anything.

11th house: shows the ability to recognize spiritual links with other people. It also shows the type of friends we draw to us, not necessarily for our own advantage. We all draw people we could do without; we have no control over ourselves.

12th house: shows our situation in our next incarnation. Planets there mean that we have not resolved our karma in this particular incarnation. It is something that we should learn; our mission. If there are no planets in the 12th house, we have effectively locked ourselves in. We have said we were going to take care of it – if not in this lifetime, then next lifetime.

Part of confinement is where we are apt to fall down with our karmic mission. Formula: ASC + Part of Fortune – Neptune.

Part of Fortune: ASC + Moon – Sun. The ASC shows the mission we have chosen.

Aries is energy, it shows the proper use of energies and how to direct those energies.

Taurus is discrimination in wanting things not to accumulate. They have to learn what they are here to gather; they have to narrow down the choices.

Gemini is communication: stand up to be counted. They have to learn what to say and what not to say.

Cancer is emotion. They are swept by waves of emotion; they have to learn moderation and how to handle the emotions.

Leo is the humility to step back and let someone else

go forward. It is knowing who you are and what you are, so that you can afford a setback.

Virgo is service; they have to learn to give with joy, willingly.

Libra is acceptance; to love other people and learn to accept them as they are.

Scorpio is will. They have to learn to share things and not to dictate to others.

Sagittarius is truth. The search for truth is to find love. They should never accept second best, as it is a never-ending truth.

Capricorn is responsibility. Learning to accept responsibility. You are your brother's keeper, there is no turning back. Responsibility is a privilege, and if we avoid it, we have to start all over again.

Aquarius is tolerance. They have to learn Faith, Hope and Charity; real tolerance.

Pisces is integration. Blends the other 11 signs together into one. Has to learn how to wish. Should have all the cosmic qualities of the other signs and show the world what a complete human being is. They have extremely difficult experiences; something new is happening all the time. You have to have all the qualities of all the other signs combined. With Pisces you have to have the energy and strength of

an Aries. Determination of a Taurus. Communication of a Gemini. Emotional control of a Cancer. Assurance of a Leo. Dedication to service of a Virgo. Acceptance of other people of a Libra. The strength of a Scorpio. Dedication to truth of a Sagittarius. Willingness to accept responsibility of a Capricorn. Tolerance of an Aquarian. You have to blend them all together.

The planets in the karmic chart:

- The Sun is the ego, the Soul.
- The Moon is emotional remembrance.
- Mercury gives an ability to tap the universal mind.
- Venus is a spiral type of love, able to give without return.
- Mars shows how we can best tap the universal energies, to recharge ourselves at will.
- Jupiter is expansion; love is the ability to pull in our past experiences and to put them to use.
- Saturn is restriction, lessons to learn and to judge ourselves spiritually.
- Uranus is sudden happenings to fulfil our mission. Shows karmic ties from the past.
- Neptune is imagination, illusion, the ability to use our psychic awareness.
- Pluto is the underworld; the excuses we make to ourselves or what we don't want to do.
- Lillith is the spiritual door we have to go through to reach our goal. It is spiritual hell, what we go through to reach our heaven. With Lillith, things get bad; it causes delays and frustration, its sign shows what we have to do about it.

Next month at the ASA . . . Don McBroom

Midpoints ~ Simplified Interpretation and Practical Applications