

## MONTHLY SINCE 1999

### ISSUE # 107

### LIVING BY STARLIGHT

### AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2008

### AUTHOR'S NOTES:

I will be lecturing about the financial and political future of America:

**THURSDAY JANUARY 24TH (6 - 8 PM)**

**TRS PROFESSIONAL SUITES**

**44 EAST 32ND STREET**

**11TH FLOOR ROOM 6-7**

This is obviously a time of change in our society. You don't need an astrologer to tell you that. No matter who wins the White House this year we are witnessing the most amazing force we have seen since the 60's. Win or lose, Barack Obama represents the very essence of the American dream. His rise to political forefront shows just how strong our collective is, and what shapes it.

Our government was formed by perhaps the greatest collection of minds to ever gather in one place and time in history. Their enduring legacy is the very country we live in, with the cultural freedoms we take for granted. And their work is tested every four years.

But the spirit of modern America was forged by another group of brilliant innovators and thinkers we call Early Hollywood. In our collective hearts we still live in Frank Capra's America – with Jimmy Stewart's *everyman* holding a shameful mirror to the almighty congress. An America where anyone can have a chance. We watched Raymond Massey portray a poor boy from Illinois grow up to be president of the United States. And today we are watching another story unfold, so strangely parallel in many ways and so karmic in its implication. We obviously still believe in the dream. They say Americans are gullible, and I believe that is true. But gullibility isn't a sign of stupidity, but rather of an overly trusting heart. I would rather live among the gullible than the cynical. Every once in a while we get the gift to see ourselves in an unadorned mirror, where honesty can not be hidden, and we have a chance to make real, deep-rooted changes. In some bazaar ways we owe G.W. Bush a large debt. Like the bully who pushes some kid into acknowledging his own insecurities and finally learning to stand up for himself, Bush has pushed us so far off kilter that we have nothing left to lose by being honest with ourselves. Many planets are changing signs and there are a few extremely powerful aspects this year that will help us make those adjustments in our collective consciousness.

Oil has finally hit \$100 a barrel. For those of you familiar with my newsletter you know that I made this call several years ago, long before this commodity began its unprecedented rise, as Pluto, ruler of oil, began to travel through Sagittarius, sign of growth and expansion. Now as it enters restrictive Capricorn we are closely watching the indicators to see what this will mean to the price. I will further discuss this transit in my upcoming lecture.

The dissolving housing market was also predicted accurately. **Saturn, planet of structure, traveled through Cancer**, ruler of the home, for 2 ½ years laying down a foundation for growth and a sense of stability. The month it exited Cancer and entered Leo, July 2005, was the very top of the market. Its rapid decay was due to **Saturn** (ruler of real estate) **opposite Neptune** (the great dissolver). This aspect lasted more than a year and exposed the fraud behind the mask, creating the situation we now have. Every time that opposition occurs we have a recession. To read more about this aspect please go to my website [www.mitchastro.com](http://www.mitchastro.com) and view *Saturn opposite Neptune*.

**Jupiter, the largest and most expansive of the planets has entered Capricorn, the most restrictive of signs.** The results should be obvious. There will be a slowdown in the growth and expansion

of most things, especially the financial markets. Now the recession will really show itself. It should last at least through the year that Jupiter takes to transit this sign. While this transit continues the key to success in most things will be slow and steady growth. As long as you take your time and build a proper foundation, all things are possible. But rushing to judgment or action could result in overextending yourself to distraction.

**On January 21<sup>st</sup> Jupiter will trine Saturn for the last time.** We have seen this aspect three times over the past year, and it is somewhat responsible for much of the underlying support our economy and stock market have relied on. With all the bad news including the housing market, inflation, the weak dollar, etc., why have we not seen a worse result? The markets all run on psychology. This trine gives a strong sense of security and hope. Those born with this trine are usually quite capable of taking care of themselves, and rarely fear the future, (unless other aspects in the chart supersede this.) Now with this last pass completing I believe we will begin to see the cracks we have all been aware exist. If our collective psychological makeup loses more of its optimism it will shake the tree. Even a subtle bear market could do serious damage to our economy now. As the baby boomers begin to take their retirement funds to live on, much of which is heavily vested in the stocks, a dip in their equity would have tragic results. But a serious crash or precipitous drop in the markets would be catastrophic. The middle class in this country is so heavily reliant on their investment counselors that most would simply follow the lead, like lemmings off a cliff.

**On January 25<sup>th</sup> Pluto enters Capricorn.** The last time this planet of regeneration was in this Saturn-ruled sign was 1762. That was an ear of great change, although it wasn't evident for a number of years. I will be discussing this long-term transit at the lecture. The implications require more than a paragraph to cover.

**Mercury retrogrades on January 28<sup>th</sup> in the sign of Aquarius.** That sign rules many things, including technology of all sorts, especially computers. I suggest that everyone back up whatever is on their computer that they would like to see again once this planet changes direction in February. Expect trouble with all systems; personal and corporate. The fact that this election may be decided under retrograde Mercury is interesting. We can expect reversals, delays, confusion and surprises during the bulk of this primary season.

**On Election Day, November 4<sup>th</sup>, Saturn, rules of stability, foundation, old school, and the past, will oppose Uranus, ruler of innovation, and all things new and revolutionary. This aspect will be discussed throughout the coming year as it gets closer to completion. There will be some tests of our foundation and some difficult times.** Earthquakes and volcanoes may be prominent this year. And psychologically **we really are about to see a revolution in this country's way of thinking;** a Uranian break from the past. For the next year this aspect will be present and active in the collective and it could be heralded by one or more event of some magnitude that will test our sense of security. Because **Saturn rules stability and structure, and Uranus rules sudden unexpected events,** there are several real possibilities during the coming year, including a market crash or an explosion that rocks our very foundation.

### **NEW MOON:**

**The New Moon falls on Tuesday January 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:37 A.M. EST at 17 degrees Capricorn 33 minutes.** This Saturn ruled sign is the most restrictive and conservative of the zodiac. Issues this month will have to do with reality, not illusions. There is a feeling of heaviness and constraint when Capricorn is the prevailing energy, so use this time to catch up on your work, make careful plans for the future and secure your foundation. Don't plan a lot of parties. Have patience with this energy and you will receive all you have worked for in the near future. Rush things and you will see the structure you have been building on collapse. With Jupiter traveling through this sign it is even more important than usual that we take small steps and make sure everything is in order.

### **VENUS SQUARES URANUS:**

**On Saturday January 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:23 P.M. EST** we will all seek the unusual in romance and entertainment. The same old routine will feel quite stale today. This is an erratic and fickle aspect under which people will be moody and apt to change their minds rather suddenly. Be careful of your money. This is an easy-come easy-go type of energy and you could see fluctuations in your resources. If an expensive item catches your eye I would wait until this passes before reaching for the plastic. If you still can't live without it tomorrow go ahead and buy it.

### **VENUS SEXTILES NEPTUNE:**

**On Wednesday January 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:36 P.M. EST** this creative aspect completes. This is a terrific transit for the artist in us all. Inspiration will come from many sources. Because this is really a spiritual aspect and not too concerned with what we call reality, financial matters will take a back seat. As such it will be less affective for the businessperson. Take a moment out to look at your world. Maybe spend your lunch hour in a park or a museum. Anything that bring beauty and enlightenment into your life will have a powerful affect.

### **VENUS OPPOSES MARS:**

**On Saturday January 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:10 P.M. EST** this opposition completes. There could be disagreements between the sexes, but in many cases it is probably unspoken attraction being misrepresented. The push-pull relationship between men and women will be exaggerated whenever these two planets are in conflict. Because the opposition can either be a difficult or an easy transit, depending upon the individual relationship, some of us will experience this in one way and some in the other. But it will be very hard to avoid dealing with each other in any case.

### **THE SUN ENTERS AQUARIUS:**

**On Sunday January 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:44 A.M. EST** we enter the fixed part of winter. The same way that Leo, another fixed sign, represents the most summer-like month this is the most winter-like period so bundle up. Aquarians are known for their inspiration and their erratic behavior as well as for having the most radical of ideas. We will all feel a bit like that as the Sun, Mercury and Neptune transit here. Seek your muse and insights in the least likely places. You'll be surprised what you may find.

### **JUPITER TRINES SATURN:**

**On Monday January 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:15 A.M. EST** this last trine between these sister planets completes. During the past year expansive Jupiter has been in trine with stabilizing Saturn three other times. This has represented a period of stability in our stock markets and the economy in general. Despite some very bad news things have not fallen apart – yet. Once this trine completes today for the last time for several years, it may be like the remnants of the Confederate army rushing ahead of Sherman's march and leaving Atlanta to the hoodlums and scoundrels. With out the Saturn support underneath Jupiter's growth we may not have enough structure to sustain much more.

### **FULL MOON:**

**This month's lunar peak occurs on Tuesday January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:35 A.M. EST at 1 degree Leo 54 minutes.** Leo is the sign that rules the stage. Many actors display a great deal of Leo force in their charts, and you can expect lots of people to be putting on a show today. Because this Full Moon is not in Cancer, the sign opposite where the New Moon was, the next two weeks may feel a bit off kilter to many of us. The inconjunct that Capricorn and Leo create can produce a feeling of frustration as the Leo energy tries to show itself but is held back by the restrictive force of Capricorn. But if you take your time and pay attention to details you can actually use this aspect to make a more powerful presentation. Energy is just that. It is what we do with it that decides whether we call it positive or negative.

### **MERCURY CONJUNCTS NEPTUNE:**

**Also on Tuesday January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:16 P.M. EST** this very confusing aspect will complete. We should all be

exceptionally careful today. Mercury rules communication and short journeys. The confusion this creates coupled with the energy of the Full Moon may bring about misunderstandings and some potentially very dangerous situations. Make certain you are understood, and that others understand you. It is easy to get lost in Neptune's fog, but you could also gain some enlightening insights and reach a spiritual understanding with someone. Use extra caution while traveling, especially if you are driving. Neptune doesn't care about what we call reality. And behind the wheel of a car one should not be meditating.

### **VENUS CONJUNCTS PLUTO:**

**On Thursday January 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:57 A.M. EST** this rather compulsive energy occurs. If you are in a relationship you may have to deal with uncovering some truths or just have a deep conversation. If you are single you may feel compulsive about getting hooked up and could obsess over someone. It is the night before that this will have the most effect, so try not to let the compulsive side have too much free reign. Any relationship begun now will have a feeling of fate about it and one of you could become obsessive about the other. But it may also be fraught with conflict and disagreements – as though you two are still working out a past-life connection. Maybe you are; who knows?

### **VENUS ENTERS CAPRICORN:**

**Also on Thursday January 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:06 A.M. EST** the planet of love and possessions enters this stoic sign. Love will take a more realistic turn. Most of us will be conservative and cautious in romance. A relationship begun with this placement usually doesn't have the flair and excitement that some have, but it will have staying power. In financial matters people will tend to be more conservative as well.

### **PLUTO ENTERS CAPRICORN:**

**On Friday January 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:44 P.M. EST** this event occurs. But don't expect bells and whistles, it will most likely not be a day different from many others. The outer planets work on a much deeper and subtler level. We will see the changes in the long-term actions that will occur. The coming election will be a sort of barometer of what's to come from now until 2024 when Pluto finally moves on to Aquarius. Pluto has much to do with change, and change is what is on everyone's lips. No matter what happens our world is changing. Either the people will take back their own leadership or we will succumb to a world of autonomous corporate sheep, led around by our snouts until all sense of individuality is either out of bred or genetically removed from our makeup.

### **MERCURY RETROGRADES:**

**On Monday January 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:31 P.M. EST until February 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:57 P.M. EST** our old mischievous friend makes its backward appearance in the sign of Aquarius, ruler of all things electronic. Won't this be fun! As always, leave extra time for travel and double check plans. Try not to buy a new cell phone, computer, ipod, sail boat or any other product associated with communications or travel. And don't sign any important document unless you simply have no choice. In that case you must scrutinize it to the absolute best of your ability and make sure it says what you think it says. Even still, once Mercury goes direct you probably will not be satisfied with the results.

We could see some serious computer problems in the world. Almost every industry is susceptible to this type of problem. The stories of such incidents are many and well documented. With many of the election primaries taking place during this retrograde you can be sure of two things. One, there will be screw up all over the place, miscommunications, mistakes and upsets, etc., and two, once Mercury goes direct once again, the race will change, and things will not be as they seem. There may be reversals and recounts, or just major upsets.

### **VENUS TRINES SATURN:**

**On Tuesday January 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:19 P.M. EST** this mostly sobering aspect will put romantic and financial matters into a realistic perspective. This is a good day to create a budget or go shopping. Any relationship

that begins now will not be terribly exciting, but it will have a good shot at longevity; and that can be exciting in its own way.

### **MARS GOES DIRECT:**

**On Wednesday January 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:33 P.M. EST** the god of war turns around after two months of retrograde action. There has been a lot of repressed energy in the world recently, and this will release some of the pent up force. Of course this will have positive and negative results. But be prepared for people and situations to have a renewed sense of urgency and ego-driven ideals. There may be a lot of aggressive energy as this planet makes its turnaround, so be careful for a few days. Avoid confrontation and try to hold the reigns on your own enthusiasm, making sure it isn't misinterpreted under this retrograde Mercury..

### **VENUS SQUARES JUPITER:**

**On Friday February 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:34 A.M. EST** this most indulgent and enjoyable square will occur. Quite simply this is excess waiting to happen in any area of human pleasure it can. Love, money, things and restrictions are sure to be discarded. This will affect most of us the night before, and those who work in the vampire businesses, such as restaurants and clubs, should be particularly careful not to overdo things as this aspect approaches.

### **MERCURY CONJUNCTS NEPTUNE:**

**On Saturday February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:55 P.M. EST** another complication adds to the excitement of this retrograding Mercury. Because of the backward motion of Mercury we experienced this aspect on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. This repeat performance will further muddy the waters and confuse things. You can be sure this day will be fraught with miscommunications and errors. Accidents, especially in cars or on foot, are very possible. Use extra caution. The indicators are that there may not be a clear primary winner, and the nominee in at least one party if not both, will be picked at the convention.

### **VENUS SEXTILES URANUS:**

**On Wednesday February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:23 P.M. EST** this quirky bit of business presents itself. If you ever wanted to try something kinky, now is the time. We may all feel a bit bored with the same old things, so try to experience something new. Any unusual art form could give you a great deal of pleasure.

### **DARK OF THE MOON:**

**The next New Moon falls on Wednesday February 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:44 P.M. EST at 17 degrees Aquarius 44 minutes. The day or two leading up to it will be a particularly low energy period. If you tend to be emotional this may be a very trying time each month.** I have found that people with prominent moons or a Cancer Sun, Moon or ascendant respond to the cycles of the moon more intensely than others. Spend this time finishing up anything that is incomplete, don't try to initiate new projects on a waning moon, it just won't work out. Once the New Moon hits you begin new projects or attempt a new approach to an existing problem. If you have been living in a situation or involved in a relationship that is intolerable or has outlived its usefulness this would be the proper time to move on with your life. If you have been working on a project that is almost complete but you seem to lack the energy for the finality, you must push during these low energy days to end the matter once and for all. If you don't, when the New Moon arrives it will bring this "dead" energy along with it and conflict with the newer force being presented. Each month we are offered a chance to clean house, so to speak.

**Note: All aspects are most powerful and effective as they apply. Once the transit has completed, its force is lessened.**

**The further it separates the weaker it becomes.**

Below is a list of times this month when the Moon is Void of Course and neither important decisions nor purchases should be made during these periods. The Void of Course Moon is a time when we should try to center ourselves and deal with spiritual matters not materialistic ones. Any decisions made on the VC Moon will not turn out the way we had expected.

The Moon is Void of Course from the time it makes its last major aspect in a sign until it enters the next sign. For example, if the Moon squares Mars at 27 degrees Aries and then has no more aspects until it enters Taurus it will be Void of Course for three degrees or about 6 hours. The aspects used are the conjunction, sextile, square, trine, and opposition.

All times are Eastern Daylight:

January 8<sup>th</sup> 6:37 A.M. – January 9<sup>th</sup> 6:13 A.M.

January 11<sup>th</sup> 12:52 P.M. – 1:44 P.M.

January 13<sup>th</sup> 6:41 P.M. – 7:23 P.M.

January 15<sup>th</sup> 10:39 P.M. – 11:13 P.M.

January 17<sup>th</sup> 9:05 P.M. – January 18<sup>th</sup> 1:30 A.M.

January 20<sup>th</sup> 2:46 A.M. – 3:05 A.M.

January 21<sup>st</sup> 5:56 A.M. – January 22<sup>nd</sup> 5:20 A.M.

January 24<sup>th</sup> 9:43 A.M. – 9:48 A.M.

January 26<sup>th</sup> 6:32 A.M. – 5:35 P.M.

January 28<sup>th</sup> 4:48 P.M. – January 29<sup>th</sup> 4:35 A.M.

January 31<sup>st</sup> 3:34 A.M. – 5:08 P.M.

February 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:21 P.M. – February 3<sup>rd</sup> 4:52 A.M.

February 4<sup>th</sup> 1:20 P.M. – February 5<sup>th</sup> 2:10 P.M.

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