MONTHLY SINCE 1999 ISSUE # 133

LIVING BY STARLIGHT AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2010

Okay, then. Welcome to 2010. The depression continues, our federal government is languishing in stagnation crippled by infighting between the two parties, Europe is about to topple, China's economy is either a raging bull, or raging bullshit, and the class war expands to the Supreme Court. And it's only February! Imagine what we have to look forward to in the coming months.

First of all, for any astrologers out there who still doubt that Mr. Obama began his administration under a void of course moon because he took the oath of office a second time should take my course: *Screwing with Fate; A lesson in futility.* In 1999 I predicted that the Republicans would hold the White House for 8 years, and then the Democrats would take over, having a largely ineffectual presidency for the next four years. I made this prediction in part because of the Void of course inauguration, but also because of the major aspects that would be active during this administration. Nothing is going right for Obama. Issues that should have been decided easily and implemented without difficulty have become bogged down in a quagmire, just what one would expect from something begun under a Void of Course Moon. I won't buy a pair of sneakers while the Moon is void, I certainly wouldn't want to buy a country. If Mr. Obama is reelected, his second term will actually fare better than his first. The country will be quite different in three years, and so will he. Furthermore, he won't be inaugurated under a Void Moon.

Let's get right to the chase:

It sure looks like we are going to have another stock market crash this year, as I have been predicting, probably in the summer. Frankly, I hope I'm wrong. I don't mind eating crow, especially when a prediction is so ominous. But I don't think I am.

The reason is this:

We are in the middle of the **Saturn – Uranus oppositions**. This world changing aspect will ultimately **complete 5 times**. **The first was on Election Day 2008** (this fact always gives me a chuckle). **The last pass is July 26th 2010**. On each pass we have seen incredible events. On the first pass, Obama was elected just as the stock market crashed, **when Saturn was conjunct Mars**

in the NYSE chart and Uranus was in opposition. On the second pass in February 2009, the stocks crashed again, making new lows. (The S&P's dropped to an ominous low of 666, by the way.) This time the opposition was in square to America's Mars. The third pass in September 2009 saw a reversal in the stocks, as they rallied back 50% from the bottom. (Saturn and Uranus were making positive aspects to America's Mercury at the time.) The next pass is April 26th 2010 on a Monday, leading up to a Scorpio Full Moon. Although there are positive aspects in both America and the NYSE charts, Pluto will be a 5 degrees Capricorn, in opposition to America's Jupiter, ruler of the chart. I'm not certain which energy will prevail at the moment, although I certainly wouldn't be long the markets on the close the Friday before. If I'm wrong you can always get back in a few days later. If I'm right you will very happy if you took my advice. But it is the last pass on July 26th 2010 that has caught my attention.

Historically, whenever Saturn is afflicted to Pluto the markets go down. Whenever Saturn is afflicted to Uranus the markets go down. Now Saturn is being plummeted by both. It's a gang-bang of cosmic proportions, and our financial and political way of life is being tested to its very core. This past few weeks alone we have seen a drop of 600 points in the DOW as the Saturn – Pluto square completes for the first time. The markets will undoubtedly end 2010 lower than they begin it.

We are looking at the probability of a "**W**" in the markets. That's when the stocks go down to test the bottom, creating a big "**W**" on the charts (thus the name...duh). It is looking more and more likely that this will be the case. I always advised being short or flat the markets by spring 2010. If the markets crash again, this would be a repeat of the last depression when the crash of '29 got all the attention, but the crash of '31 was the worst.

Saturn rules many things, including the housing market, the banking industry, and the financial stability each usually brings to our culture. When Saturn was in Cancer and opposite Neptune the housing market blew up in the biggest bubble ever seen. When it left Cancer in July 2005 and entered Leo the bubble popped. That month, by the way, was the very top of the housing market. Its collapse has had global repercussions some of which have only begun to show themselves. When Saturn entered Virgo in September 2007, the sign that rules auditors, the banks were found to be lacking any real substantial funds. During the next 2 ½ years as Saturn traveled through Virgo, the banks began to dissolve right before our eyes. We all remember that wonderful panic when there were actually a few runs on the banks? Then Saturn entered Libra, sign of its exaltation, in late October 2009, and the banks seemed to be stabilized once again (of

course, at the taxpayer's expense). But Saturn is in retrograde now and will reenter Virgo in April 2010 as it applies back to the fourth opposition to Uranus. The world banks are in for more scrutiny, and this may represent the shaky commercial real estate markets finally tumbling. The stock markets are moving sideways and seem to be putting in a new top, not a bottom. I believe they may come off hard in April, and then attempt a recovery, and get hit once more in July – August 2010. How hard that hit is will depend upon some decisions the collective and our governments make.

Saturn will oppose Uranus for the fifth and last time July 26th 2010 at zero degrees Aries, known by many names including; the *World point*. Pluto will be at three degrees Capricorn creating a *T-square* to that opposition, which will be filled out by America's Venus at three degrees and Jupiter at 5 degrees Cancer. This is the cupcake, kids, and if the markets hold at his bottom it may be the buying opportunity of a lifetime. If they don't hold, then all bets are off.

So what happened in Massachusetts?

As I said above, Saturn is in opposition to Uranus and in square to Pluto. Each of these represents a power struggle on a major scale. When Saturn opposes Uranus there is a massive change in the power structure, which is why it was fairly obvious that Obama would be elected, reversing the power structure in D.C. But this opposition completes a total of 5 times within 18 months, and that means we will see a reversal of power several times. Massachusetts is one prime example of how this aspect works. The collective wants to rebel, and really doesn't care against whom. That's why Massachusetts, of all places, voted in a Republican Senator. It was this way in 1965-7, the last time this opposition occurred. But we had much clearer definitions and you knew if you were in the hippie camp or the establishment. Now it's not so easy. You can't just grow your hair and give the world the finger. There are forces out there who are stealing everything: All the money, the land, the power and your personal freedom. There is a struggle for the survival of the American way of life, and nobody can sit on the sidelines. "You can't be neutral on a moving train."

Saturn in square to Pluto shows the intensity of the power struggle, and just how much is at stake. They were in opposition shortly before 9/11, and the same tension has returned, and may herald another major terrorist attack. The Uranus – Pluto square is in some ways the most intense of them all. Uranus' desire to make sweeping changes is coupled with Pluto's compulsive nature. This is the energy that has allowed the Supreme Court to reverse a century of tradition and allow corporations free reign in our elections. This T-square involving Saturn, Uranus and Pluto, is very rare and it is extremely active in America's chart, afflicting our Venus, ruler of the 10th

house of career and status, and our Jupiter, ruler of the ascendant. Basically, America is in a battle for its soul.

For those of you who missed it, democracy in America was seriously eroded last week with the decision by this always wonderful and insightful reactionary Supreme Court to remove all limits from campaign spending by special interest groups. In other words, the lobbyists (mostly Republican) now completely control Washington. You thought you hated political commercials before? You ain't seen nothin' yet.

The founding fathers decided to make the Supreme Court a lifetime appointment, thus attempting to prevent political interference as times and ideals changed. That has backfired terribly. Long after the presidency that appointed these men and women has past, they are still there, often with the ideology of a distant era, unchanging, unaware and only answerable, if at all, to the congress. When that congress becomes Republican controlled again, their power combined with that of the highest court in the land will simply try to crush what is left of the left. As long as this Supreme Court sits we are ostensibly still living in the Bush era. Baring some unforeseen circumstance, the 5-4 split should stay this way for several decades. By the time one or more of the conservative judges retires there may not even be a Democratic Party anymore. We are rapidly approaching ultimate *globalization*; a world government run by corporate CEO's who are elected by shareholders, not voters.

Certain factions in the Republican Party obviously want a class war; because they believe they can not lose. Winning often has much to do with what you are willing to do to succeed. They have blocked every initiative Obama has put forth, denied him a staff until a few days ago, crippled his agendas and are holding the country hostage for the second time in recent history; the first was Newt Gingrich's congressional revolution in 1995, when he held congress prisoner to try and bend Bill Clinton's will. (If Hillary couldn't, what made him think he could?) This party has no intentions of giving up power, even if it means destroying the very nation they wish to rule. The Republican map of the future of American seems to be a landscape of gated communities, complete with megachurches surrounded by the mass wasteland of the lower classes. Detroit has been virtually abandoned. The poor side of New Orleans is still waiting to be repaired 5 years after Katrina. Tell them not to bother; nobody is coming to their rescue. These are considered tactical losses in the class war. The Republican Party is on an all out effort to control everything worth owning. They are consolidating power and have no intentions of ever letting go of it. It would take a violent revolution in this country to shake the old, corporate money from the tree.

Those of you who see a conspiracy around every corner, in some ways you are right, and it's really much simpler than you think. The way the dominoes fell into place is really quite remarkable, if you think about it. The Florida Supreme Court, mostly appointed by Republican governors, makes a decision on the "hanging chads" (you all remember those, don't you?), which the United States Supreme Court upholds. This elects a Republican president, who appoints several Supreme Court justices pulling the court even further to the right. Years later this court then decides that corporations, almost completely Republican in their political slant, can spend whatever they want to buy or destroy any political candidate that stands in their way, without recourse. This is called a plan. This is a conspiracy, nothing less. Yet it was done out in the open, using the very laws of our nation that were created to protect the individual, to usurp power and control. And the people sit quietly playing with their cell phones. The election of a Democrat president may be nothing more than a momentary glitch in a much larger scheme. Those who announced the death of the Republican Party last November were not seeing this correctly. It's almost as if it was set up so that the aftermath of the economic collapse would coincide with this presidency and create fear, which would drive the people into the other camp – whatever camp it offered. And it's working.

The real question is: Why didn't the Democratic Party filibuster Chief Justice Robert's appointment, as the Republican are sure to do with anybody Obama puts up to replace Justice Stevens? They surely knew what this man was capable of and what he intended to do with this court. Why don't they have any continuity, and balls? The Democrats have a thousand splinter groups each with its own agendas. One group wants gay right, another wants homeless rights, right for whales, chipmunks and countless others, all good causes, and all jockeying for position against each other. The Republicans have one agenda; money and power, absolute, if possible. Unless the Democrats start to realize that they are in a dirty fight with no rules, with the same kids who beat them up behind the school so many years ago, they don't stand a chance in hell of holding on to power for more than a few moments. Most of those tormentors grew up to run corporations and vote Republican. If you don't face up to the bullies they are going to take your lunch money for the rest of your life.

As Pluto continues to oppose America's Venus and Jupiter there will be defections between the two parties, internal power struggles, and a period of destructive stagnation. I can not overstate the potential results of the coming aspects to America's chart over the next several years. The midterm elections could further deteriorate the power of the Democratic Party. Pluto represents power struggles, and with it's incredible influence these next few years, America is heading for an all out

struggle for its survival. Some of this will manifest as terrorist attacks (yes, we will be hit again, and soon). Other manifestations include the fight for our definition as a nation. The Religious Right has increased its power a thousand fold over the past few decades. You should all read this week's New York Times Sunday Magazine. There is an enlightening article about how text books being compiled in Texas will include such popular topics as creationism, and the theory that the founding fathers meant to make America a "Christian Nation". They do know their core audience, that's for sure. Teach your children well.

The second Obama took office they began to hammer away at him, turning things around so that Bush's mistakes could be blamed on Obama. We have become a backwater country. Europe has become the progressive ones, China the manufacturing giant America once was. And our great democracy is becoming the laughing stock of the world. During the Bush – Gore debacle several countries offered to send observers to oversee our election, as they would in a third world African or Asian nation just climbing out of tribal rule. And the continued stress on our nation's chart could easily push us into some hitherto unfathomable reactions.

One of the greatest American historians, Howard Zinn, died this past week. I knew Howard, peripherally. He was a friend, and in years gone by, a frequent tennis opponent of my brother, David. By now I assume you have all read about Professor Zinn and his works. The People's History of America is perhaps the most important book ever written about our country. It strips away all the glory, the swelling music, the Irving Berlin songs, the pledge of allegiance to a corporate run military-industrial complex, and leaves us with the stories of those who are the true Americans. It was a dangerous book to write, even in the 60's. It has since sold over 2 million copies, selling about 128,000 per year, according to the newspapers.

Howard's death couldn't have come at a more peculiar time in our history. We are on the verge of revolution, whether it is violent or cultural only time will tell. We have never been more on edge since the 2nd World War, and the lack of trust in our government is astounding. But it takes times like these before people will make any changes at all, let alone those that will shake up a society. We are heading down the path of total destruction, and running faster than ever. If we don't act now there may not be a second chance.

We are at a point in history where our nation is capable of exploding. I would say it is an American Revolution, but it may be more accurate to call it a Civil War. America has split right down the middle. You can see it in the political chasm that exists between the two parties. This powerful t-

square is demanding change. It is time for America to rediscover its soul and purpose. There is a revolution going on. Do you want to be a part of it or not? "You can't be neutral on a moving train."

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Saturday February 13th at 9:51 P.M. EST at 25 degree Aquarius 18 minutes. This is an exciting New Moon that wants unusual and adventurous relationships, ideas and things. Because it falls in mid-winter for many of us, we must seek the unusual within ourselves or our circle, not in the great outdoors, unless you are a skier. This is not a time to go gallivanting around the countryside, so experimentation must be found in confined spaces. This forces us to use our imaginations and allow the higher mind, ruled by Aquarius, some freedom to explore. Expect the unexpected and keep your eyes open for any adventures life offers.

THE SUN CONJUNCTS NEPTUNE:

On Sunday February 14th at 6:20 P.M. EST this confusing and deflating aspect comes along. Try to be very clear with others. Miscommunications and even deception is quite common, and you may be the victim or the perpetrator of deceit or mistakes. Double check all important facts, decisions and communications. This is usually a very bad transit for the stock markets, but since it falls on Sunday when trading is closed world wide, its effect may be deflected. Coming so close after the New Moon, and with the Sun about to enter Pisces, this will be a few weeks of Neptunian energy, so don't take everything at face value. Question anything that seems askew, and if you are confused and don't know what to do, do nothing. Clarity will come in time.

VENUS CONJUNCTS JUPITER:

On Tuesday February 16th at 9:14 P.M. EST this extremely pleasant and optimistic transit completes. This is a sociable and enjoyable energy, and we should all try to experience a little of its exuberance. Spend time with people you like and take in some form of entertainment. You will appreciate the arts and all creative ventures very much tonight. There will be a tendency to overindulge in rich or sweet foods, alcohol and all other physically engaging activities. As long as you keep things in perspective (a problem with all Jupiter transits, but especially this one), you can avoid difficulties.

THE SUN ENTERS PISCES:

On Thursday February 18th at 1:36 P.M. EST we enter the mutable part of winter. Now there will be good days and bad, with the temperature fluctuating more as the month progresses. This is

what we mean by mutable. It is the same in the individual as in the collective. Those who have a lot of mutable energy in their charts can fluctuate their temperatures, so to speak, much like the mutable part of each season. Changeability is an important a lesson to learn in life. To be able to bend with the wind can save you during the worst of storms. Pisces can do just that, so learn from them. This is also the last sign of the zodiac, and it represents the end of the year as we prepare for a New Year. (I know, I've heard about January 1st. That's the taxman's New Year.) The first day of Aries is the first day of spring, and that is also New Year's Day. The next month is the time to finish up any left over business and clear the decks for a new beginning.

THE SUN SEXTILES PLUTO:

On Tuesday February 23rd at 11:27 A.M. EST this useful energy comes along. It is a day when you can get to the bottom of things and see more readily what is working out and what is decaying. Because this is a sextile, it is an opportunity to use these two energies in tandem and make some changes in your plans and relationships without the usual power struggles. This only lasts a day, so don't expect miracles.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS NEPTUNE:

On Saturday February 27th at 9:04 A.M. EST this most confusing and stressful aspect will complete. The hours leading up to this will be fraught with miscommunications and accidents. It's a good thing this isn't taking place on a workday when rush hour would be an unholy mess. If you are traveling this morning, use extra caution and double check your plans before starting out. A missed exit or some such error could become a real problem. This is not a good time to have an important conversation. It will be quite difficult to understand each other.

THE SUN CONJUNCTS JUPITER:

On Sunday February 28th at 5:44 A.M. EST this wonderfully optimistic transit completes. People will be outgoing and generous. It completes early in the morning, but there may be some hangover for a few hours. Probably the bars will be full the night before with revelers unwilling to go home. If you throw a party you may want to announce the time it ends at the beginning. The Full Moon in Virgo completes later this morning, and that will take precedent over this aspect.

FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak occurs on Sunday February 28th at 11:38 A.M. EST at 9 degrees Virgo 59 minutes. Be careful not to be too critical or demanding today. It is easy to get caught up

the detail of something and nitpick so much that you miss the point entirely. This may be a significant Full Moon for the financial markets. Virgo is the sign of the auditor. When Saturn, ruler of the banking industry, entered Virgo the banks were audited and found lacking. Because our markets are so precariously perched at the moment, any bad news could topple them.

MERCURY ENTERS PISCES:

On Monday March 1st at 8:28 A.M. EST the planet that rules the mind enters the most ethereal of signs. The world will be a bit more spiritual and open to "other consciousnesses", but remember that we still deal with the material world, and the two can be difficult to intertwine successfully. You can expect a certain amount of confusion and misunderstanding for the next few weeks. Make sure you are understood and that you understand what others are saying. Use your intuition; it works better than the intellect in this case.

VENUS CONJUNCTS URANUS:

On Wednesday March 3rd at 11:06 P.M. EST expect the unexpected and keep your eyes open for excitement. Anything unusual will appeal, and some very strange couplings could result. Keep an eye on your money. Venus rules wealth, and when these two get together it can be easy come, easy go. Windfalls are possible, but so is a lost wallet.

VENUS ENTERS ARIES:

On Sunday March 7th at 7:33 A.M. EST the planet of love enters this most assertive of signs. Women in particular will tend to take the initiative and be more direct in their approach to relationships for the next few weeks. This is a Mars ruled sign, and Venus can be somewhat crude here. There is a Venus – Mars trine today as well with Mars in Leo, so there may be some dramatics in the air.

VENUS TRINES MARS:

Also on Sunday March 7th at 2:15 P.M. EST this trine completes. Men and women will get along for a little while, so take advantage of it. Because Venus is in Aries, there will be a lot of Mars energy in all personal relationships, and you can expect things to be direct and somewhat forceful. At least you won't have to wonder what the other person is feeling.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS JUPITER:

Also on Sunday March 7th at 8:46 P.M. EST this very optimistic and outgoing aspect comes

along. There certainly won't be a lack of communication today. In fact, it may be difficult to get people to shut up. Ideas are expansive and far-reaching, and it's a good day to think about the future. You may not be very realistic, but you will have some good ideas and a strong belief in the future. Things could get blown out of proportion, so try to keep a clear head.

VENUS OPPOSES SATURN:

On Tuesday March 9th at 3:21 A.M. EST this rather dreary aspect completes. This is not a good day for any social gathering or a date. It is a good time to deal with obligations, making up a budget, or shopping. You will tend to be frugal and use common sense in your purchases. Relationships don't usually do that well under this combination, but you may only be seeing the negative side of things, so wait a little while until this passes before throwing the bum out.

MARS GOES DIRECT:

On Wednesday March 10th at 12:09 P.M. EST Mars finally turns around. There will be more energy in the air, and it will be easier for some issues to come to fruition. Projects that have stalled or seem to lack sufficient force will begin to move forward now. People will be a bit more assertive, and you should watch your temper for a few days as we get used to this. Sometimes there is a great jolt of ego power that is emitted when Mars reverses direction, and you should try to avoid becoming entangled in it. When Mars is in retrograde there is often a lull in any military actions in the world. Now that it is turning around, we may see escalation in the violence.

VENUS SQUARES PLUTO:

On Thursday March 11th at 12:35 P.M. EST this intense energy completes. Many of us will be viewing our relationships in a delving manner. Sometimes when these two are in conflict subconscious desires or hidden problems may emerge. Pluto does not care for the superficial in anything, and when it afflicts Venus its two main targets are your money and your relationships. Keep an eye on both.

THE SUN CONJUNCTS MERCURY:

On Sunday March 14th at 9:17 A.M. EST there will be a great deal of willfulness in the air, but this doesn't have to be a bad thing. After all, energy is just energy; it's what you do with it that decides whether it is negative or positive. This aspect affects the bonds and the agricultural markets, so look for a turn around in either.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Monday March 15th at 5:01 P.M. EST at 25 degrees Pisces 10 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:

February 13th 11:33 P.M. - February 14th 7:23 A.M.

February 16th 9:32 A.M. – 7:30 PM.

February 18th 10:53 P.M. – February 19th 5:55 A.M.

February 21st 7:16 A.M. – 1:47 P.M

February 23rd 12:29 P.M. – 6:29 P.M.

February 25th 12:48 P.M. – 8:08 P.M.

February 27th 3:15 P.M. – 7:52 P.M.

March 1st 12:36 P.M. – 7:31 P.M.

March 3rd 3:44 P.M. – 9:11 P.M.

March 5th 11:31 P.M. – March 6th 2:36 A.M.

March 8th 6:14 A.M. – 12:13 P.M.

March 10th 4:59 P.M. – March 11th 12:42 A.M.

March 13th 7:57 A.M. – 1:43 P.M.

Mitchell Scott Lewis February 2010 New York City (212) 726-3814

http://www.mitchastro.com

Copyright 2009

All Rights Reserved