



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera!

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

July 16, 2013

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NCGR in Philly, August 15-19

THE National Council for Geocosmic Research will hold its **national conference** in Philadelphia this year, at the Hilton Doubletree, at 237 South Broad Street. Over 50 speakers, seminars, banquet, etc. Downtown Philly. Early registration was \$195, but that closed on ~~Jan. 1~~ 2013, April 30. Now, and at the door, it's \$350 for the basic show, \$535 for the show, the seminars, workshop and banquet. Non-members pay \$405 and \$590, respectively.

I phoned the **hotel** and was told the rooms set aside for the show had already been taken. The standard rate, for a room with a king or two queens, was \$189/night, plus tax. With tax for the four days is \$873 and change, which is \$218.25 a night. Breakfast is \$20 a day extra. Hey! This is central Philly where you'll be staying. Not some dump. You can walk to the Liberty Bell from there. I thanked the woman who

gave me these details. She cautioned the hotel was nearly fully booked and urged I make a reservation. I tried to politely slide out and said I would get back to her. She insisted I tell her why I would not book. Whereupon I told her I planned to write a note in my weekly newsletter and that she might get some trade as a result. Only then did she let me go. I ask you, is that hotel mostly full or nearly empty? You tell me. I spoke with her at about 5:45 pm EDT on Thursday, July 11. The Moon was void.

Remember Mercury is retrograde. Never make plans during the retrograde beyond the retrograde itself as, *astrology is literal*, the hands of the clock are moving *backwards* at this time. Myself, I would second guess and head to Priceline and get Shatner himself to tell me the rate for this coming weekend and then plan accordingly.

Google tells me it's 90 minutes from me to Philly. Will I be there? Regrettably, no. There are a number of reasons.

First, there ain't no money. Not even for gas. That's an old story, so enuf.

Second, I don't know how to handle myself in public. Never did. I would do what I always do, which is wander around

continued, pg. 7

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

Notes

16	03:18	☉23♋46	1st Qtr/Void
	14:25	☽♌	
17	17:21	♄SR	
	17:33	♃♈♃	
18	00:17	♃♈♃	
	11:13	☽♈☉	Void
	17:55	☽♃	
19	13:29	♃♈♃	
20	15:01	☽♈♀	Void
	18:23	♀♄	
	18:40	☽♄	
	19:43	♂♈♃	
	21:35	♂♈♃	
21	15:54	☽♂♀	Void
22	07:35	♂♂♃	
	12:41	♀♌	
	15:56	☉♌	
	18:08	☽♄	
	18:16	☉00♋06	Full Moon

The English King is coming in loaded.

Extracted & adapted from [AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020](#). [Buy](#).

ASTRO MED A to Z

Teasing Habit is Mercurial, being in essence a manifestation of mental exuberance combined with animal-spirits, i.e. the fiery signs, and a certain amount of mild or pretended malice, which is usually Scorpionic. Account must, of course, be taken of the motive behind the teasing. It may in some cases arise from a subconscious desire to show one's power or superiority over the victim, in which case some of the characteristics of arrogance will appear, or it may be due to cruelty, in which instance afflictions of Mars and Saturn may be prominent. Where the sex element appears Venus and the 5th house may be involved.

Tenacity is traditionally associated with Cancer. This sign is certainly endowed with great application when its heart is in its work. On the other hand, it is so sensitive that it often abandons an undertaking at the first sight of "unpleasantness". In these respects it is typical of the feminine principle in nature, wherein great patience and endurance are united with great emotional capacities and sensitiveness.

—from [Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology](#), by Charles Carter. [Buy](#).

Vivian Robson's STAR OF THE WEEK

PROCYON alpha Canis Minoris 25 ♄ 58

Notes: A binary yellowish white and yellow star situated on the body of the Lesser Dog. From Prokuon, before the Dog, in allusion to rising before Sirius. **Influence:** According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Mercury and Mars. It gives activity, violence, sudden and violent malevolence, sudden preferment by exertion, elevation ending in disaster, danger of dog bites and hydrophobia and makes its natives petulant, saucy, giddy, weak-natured, timid, unfortunate, proud, easily angered, careless and violent. Two cases are on record of death or injury by dog bite in which Procyon and Sirius are involved. **If rising:** Artful, crafty, dissembling, wealth by violence and rapine, lust, dissipation, waste and ruin, military preferment, quarrels, loss in trade or by servants.

With Sun: Great help from friends, gifts and legacies if not afflicted, military preferment after great struggle and expense. —from [Fixed Stars](#), by Vivian Robson. [Buy](#).



Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990



IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

PLANETS

PLANETS standing alone, especially the Sun, Moon or the planet ruling the Sign on the Ascendant show that you work best alone & can forge your own way in life, independent of others, particularly in the matters ruled by the house they are in. This is a passing clue, also, to your early life – disclosing that you were left largely to your own devices as a child, denied ordinary cooperation & companionship. You got along well by yourself then & you do now.

Planets in pairs show reliance on another person & it will bear fruit if in good aspect zodiacally to the Ascendant or mundanely to the 1st house – as from any house but the 6th, 7th or 8th which are in mundane quincunx or opposition to the 1st. You get no cooperation from an opposition: the other person pulls away or holds back & you are fully aware of his disinterest because this is a Full Moon type of aspect: it makes everything as clear as day to you.

The quincunx forces you to reorganize your aim & settle for less, or assume unwanted responsibility. Any good aspect makes you expect great things – but if opposition or quincunx by HOUSE you accept less.

Planets in groups of three or more give related, attainable goals; interests that can be reached & easily if in good zodiacal or mundane aspect to the 1st house. The square means great self-application with ultimate success; the opposition baffles you & the quincunx attains in part but also exacts a tax.

— **The Way of Astrology**, 1967. **Buy**

July 16:

622–Islamic calendar begins

1769 – Junipero Sierra first mission, CA

1790–District of Columbia established

What time does the day begin?

THE BEATLES, part 2

Paul McCartney

IHAVE heard that McCartney's family looked down on Lennon's as being working class, which tells me that McCartney is gentleman, whereas the rest of the Beatles were yeomen at best. Or maybe it was a Catholic thing. You never know when the Middle Ages will rear its head. One too many power interruptions and it might return, full force.

AstroDataBank at the moment is giving McCartney both 2 am and 2 pm birth times. Which would seem to support my idea about a muddled beginning of the day, noon or midnight. Born June 18, 1942, Liverpool.

Of the two possibilities, I am going to discard 2:00 pm out of hand. It gives a Virgo rising, which seems unlikely on the face of it, with significant planets in the 9th, 10th and 11th. McCartney has had five children and three wives and has been compulsively creative. So I am going to focus first on the 5th and the 7th and see what turns up.

At 2:00 am McCartney has Pisces rising. Which I could agree with. His face has that sort of soft, watery quality. But 2:00 am gives us significant placements in the 2nd, 4th and 6th. Reading further **AstroDataBank**, I note other suggested times as 2:30 am as "recorded," also 1:25 am. The time of 2:05 am is close enough to 2:00 am as to not be significant at this stage. Note that as we do not have first-hand reports of the birth itself we are so far unable to determine if the ams and pms are actually valid.

Another way of rectifying McCartney's chart is to use John Lennon's to help us. Lennon and McCartney formed a unique pairing. Each of them needed the other in order to make their music sing. When they were together they were superstars. When they split they were each very good, but a long way from wonderful.

If we say that John Lennon was qualified by a dysfunctional Mars in Libra on his ascendant and as a result had a harsh edge to his music, we might speculate that Paul McCartney compensated for this by a well-placed Venus, his music being sweeter. Venus and Mars being not only complimentary, but strongly magnetic.

Which means we might expect McCartney's chart to have a strong Venus in it. Venus rising, Taurus rising, Libra rising,

maybe Pisces rising. Or maybe one of these on the MC.

Unfortunately I will discard all of these, so far as the ascendant goes, for none of them will give me clusters in the 5th or 7. Strictly speaking I do not need anything in the 7th. The urge to mate is so fundamental that we compulsively do it even without planets in the 7th, as witness myself. But we must have a 5th.

Putting 15 Libra on the MC gives us clusters in the 6th, 7th and 8th, with Venus in Taurus in the 5th and Sagittarius rising. Paul's face has a horsey appearance, we could go with that. Ruler of the 7th in the 7th, the man needs a partner and is rarely without one. Ruler of the 1st wanting to be in the 8th is exploiting others for one's own benefit. Which, to be fair, is not Paul. There was no replacement for John. Mars, Pluto and Moon intercepted in Leo in the 8th, he will be cut off from his feelings, which will not make a performer, but a recluse. That's a 9:20 pm birth, which is not remotely like any of the suggested times. I will set that aside and see what else I can find.

Going whole hog and sticking 5 Aquarius on the ascendant, a birth at 12:50 am gives a 5th house Sun and a 7th house Moon. Venus in Taurus turns up in his 3rd, along with Uranus and Saturn, both in Gemini. At this point we flip back to **Wiki**, which tells us Paul was an outstanding student. A birth at 12:50 am is fairly close to the 1:25 suggestion.

But more reading of Wiki and I find Paul is a simple man with women and has only really had one. So that's not a 7th house Moon in Leo. He has been decided Mercurial with his romances and his music, which would be a 5th house Gemini, but Gemini is notably not fertile. So let's try again.

Notice that I am sliding pieces around until a picture comes into focus. I won't really know where I am going until I get there. So what if we put McCartney's Mars-Moon-Pluto in the 5th? That would give Paul an Aries rising at, say, 2:50 am. Cancer turns up on the 5th, which is hugely fertile. One problem here is that Cancer on the 5th won't wait until it is 27 years old to have its first child and I don't think the Moon in Leo, as the ruler of Cancer, will slow it down much, especially as it will fall in the 5th itself. And

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This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's *A Student's Text-Book of Astrology*.

Part 25:

The Alphabet of Astrology *continued*:—

The various matters ruled by each house are given in the following list and should be thoroughly memorized.

First House. The "native" or subject of the horoscope, his personal appearance, body, outlook on life, etc. It rules the head and corresponds to the sign Aries.

Second House. Money and possessions. Rules the throat and corresponds to Taurus.

Third House. Short journeys, letters, writings, papers, brothers and sisters, contemporary relatives, neighbors, and the lower mind. Rules the arms and shoulders and corresponds to Gemini.

Fourth House. The home, early life and also the end of life, the grave, houses and land, mines, places under the earth, the inner aspirations, and basis of character, and one of the parents. Opinions differ as to which parent is represented by this house, the western astrologers assign it to the father, and the eastern astrologers to the mother. It has also been suggested that the fourth house represents that parent of opposite sex to the native, or alternatively the parent who has the least influence over the native. Rules the breast and stomach, and corresponds to Cancer.

Fifth House. Pleasures, love affairs outside marriage, places of amusement, such as theatres, etc., holidays, speculation, children and schools. Rules the heart and back, and corresponds to Leo.

Sixth House. Health and sickness, servants, employees, aunts and uncles on the side of the parent represented by the fourth house, food and clothing, small animals [pets—*Dave*] and the subconscious mind. Rules the intestines and corresponds to Virgo. — *A Student's Text-Book of Astrology*, by Vivian Robson. Price \$25.95. **Buy.**

THE BROTHER'S WEEKLY REMEDY



ABSCESSSES. Since abscesses are the result of some kind of illness, one should try to diagnose and cure the illness; the abscesses will then disappear.

- 1) Anyone who is severely plagued by abscesses should boil stinging nettles in milk and drink this decoction throughout the day.
- 2) A daily cup of sassafras tea is also a good remedy.
- 3) Two hay-shirts and four whole washes are highly recommended; depurative tea should also be taken.
- 4) Soak white bread in hot milk, add a little saffron and apply this poultice.

ABSCESSSES AND ULCERS.

- 1) If there is burning, apply a poultice of white bread and milk; if there is much pain, add a little nightshade (belladonna); this quickly alleviates the pain.
- 2) A plaster of fenugreek is always one of the best remedies for ulcers or abscesses.
- 3) Thoroughly mix together 1 tablespoon rapeseed oil, 1 egg yolk and 1 tablespoon of wheat flour. Apply this mixture to the ulcers and renew when it begins to dry. This stills the pain, brings it quickly to a head and heals it.
- 4) The application of grated or scraped comfrey is a very potent remedy.
- 5) Anyone who suffers greatly from ulcers should drink stinging nettles boiled in milk throughout the day until the ulcers have gone. A daily cup of sassafras tea can also be taken.
- 6) A plaster of Mother Ointment can be applied twice daily. This ointment is prepared by slowly melting the following ingredients in a double boiler: ¼ cup unsalted butter, 2 tablespoons lard, 1/3 cup mutton fat, ½ cup olive oil. When everything has melted, slowly add 2 ounces lead oxide [**this is poisonous, not for internal use!**], stirring continually. Mix well, keep stirring until the ointment turns brown and remove from the fire. — **Comfort to the Sick.** *Next week:* Anxiety, Arteriosclerosis.

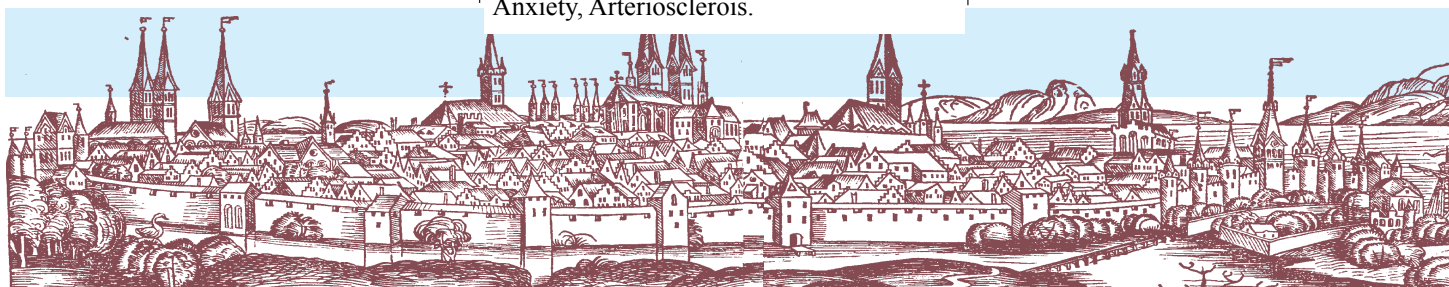
3 days this week in La Volasfera

Tuesday 24 Cancer: *A strong castle on a high rock, and upon the battlements of the castle a flag with a crown upon it is seen extended in the wind.* It denotes a strong, masterly character, of great endurance, stability and daring; ambitious of honour and capable of withstanding his enemies while achieving greatness and fame for himself. It is a degree of MASTERY.

Wednesday 25 Cancer: *A horseman armed, moving across a desert towards some woody hills.* It indicates a person of much independence of spirit, self-willed and daring. Such is capable of carrying out designs conceived by himself without the aid or companionship of others. He may be a pioneer; it is certain that he is venturesome and self-reliant; and where such qualities may have influence, he will succeed and be singular in honour as in action. The native will be somewhat estranged from his kindred; taciturn and self-contained; but will make his mark in some field of work requiring independence of spirit, courage and perseverance. It is a degree of SELF-RELIANCE.

Thursday, 26 Cancer: *A meteor, or falling star.* It denotes a person of somewhat poetical or aesthetic nature, but wholly unsuited to the routine of daily life in its sterner and more prosaic aspects. Like the meteor, he has an eccentric path, and his appearances are spasmodic and evanescent, although bright. His position in life will be always subject to reversals and changes and his success will not be lasting. If he should attain to eminence he will be in danger of a fall. It is a degree of UNCERTAINTY.

—**Degrees of the Zodiac Symbolized**, as translated by Sepharial. **Buy**



McCartney does not look like an Aries rising.

But I am starting to get the smell of it. What if we put an early degree of Taurus on the ascendant? I know I said I did not like that, but the illustration in [Anrias](#) has a sweet face, like Paul's. I always associate Taurus rising with stocky and bull-necked, which Paul is not. The best guess for his height, which he shares with two of his former colleagues (John and George) is roughly 5 foot, 9 or 10 inches. Which makes him of average height for his era and too tall to be Taurus. Mars and Pluto are on his 5th house cusp, which means his first two children (at least) would be lost. There is in fact one known miscarriage, in 1962.

But Mars-Pluto on the 5th would explain the birth of McCartney's second daughter, [Stella Nina](#), as a Caesarian. Which means McCartney's only son, James Louis, born last, is most likely also a Caesarian, as it is generally believed a weakened uterine wall will not withstand the stress of a vaginal birth. Since a woman who has given birth vaginally will generally be able to repeat it, this suggests that all of Paul's children were Cesareans. Which tends to confirm Mars-Pluto on his 5th cusp and gives him a Taurus rising. Let's go with that. The time is roughly 3:25 am.

When you are chasing your tail like this you will often end up biting yourself in the butt. Though I have twice rejected it, an early degree of Taurus rising explains McCartney better than any other rising sign. What were the immortal words of the Secretary of Defense? You go with the chart you've got and not the chart you wish you had? Something like that.

HOW does 3:25 am relate to 1:25 am and 2:00 am? Notice that double summer time, or Churchill's war time, was in effect. 3:25 am double summer is 1:25 am GMT, which matches one of the suggested times. Here in the US, until July 1, 1959, Illinois required all births to be recorded in standard time (Central). It made an exception for War time during WWII, but not otherwise. As the years went on it was increasingly ignored, which made summer births in Cook County (Chicago) a mess as a result. It may be that Walton Hospital, in Liverpool, was recording births in GMT at the time. As most of the city had been destroyed by German bombs, they might not have had much choice about it. The city may have been relying on sundials for its basic time settings.

SO let's read it. Taurus rising, Venus in the first house and in Taurus as well, McCartney is pretty. Not handsome

Paul McCartney

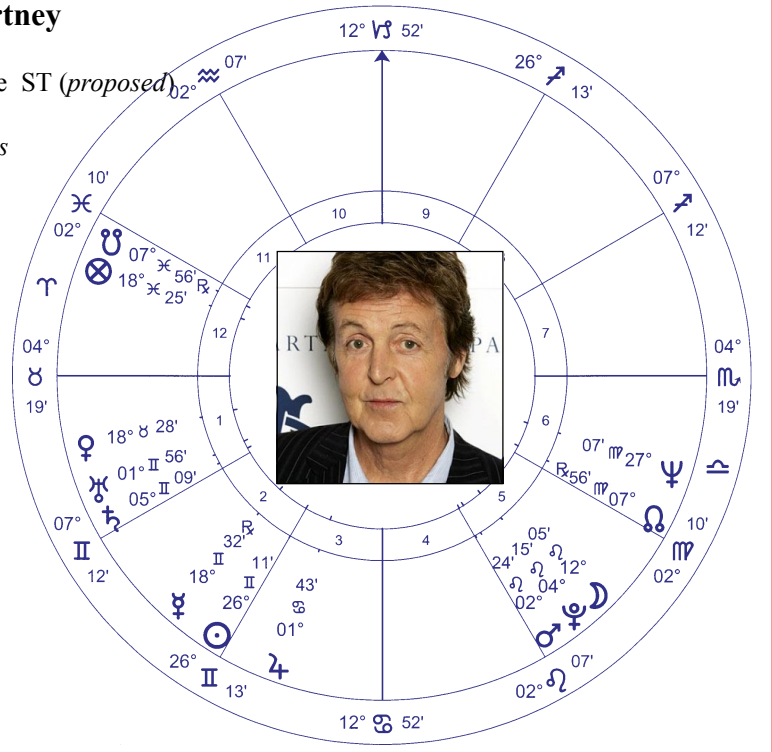
June 18, 1942

3:25 am Double ST (proposed)

Liverpool

Placidus houses

Mean node



per se, as somehow I want some element of Jupiter or Mars for a handsome man, not Venus. Of the first decanate of Taurus when it rises, Anrias says, *cow eyes*. I don't know what cow eyes are, but McCartney's got something like that. [Borden's Elsie the Cow? A Laughing Cow?](#) Ever wonder why Hershey's is located in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania? Ever see the cows on Amish farms there? They're *very happy*. It ain't just Hershey. Every town around there has a chocolate manufacturer. The milk is just that good. *Is this silly?* Yes it is, but that's how we learn. Free association.

Uranus and Saturn in Gemini both want to be in the 2nd. McCartney would start poor and pull himself up and be his own man. He would *earn money* through *communication*.

Sun in Gemini in the 3rd, McCartney was an outstanding student. Jupiter in Cancer made him more so. As Gemini is on both the 2nd and 3rd house cusps, Mercury can go either way. Mercury has a strong affinity with the 3rd, so I put it there, but bashfully, as Mercury is retrograde. We might say that Paul is not really a speaker, as that would be Mercury in Gemini in 3. Mercury's rulership of the 3rd, both the house itself and the sign on the cusp, but in the 2nd, would lead Paul to *travel* (3rd house) for *money* (2nd). Isn't the kind of world-wide travels Paul has done greater than the 3rd house permits?

Yes, they are, but Paul did not tour the world to see or experience it. Paul toured the world to make money. He was, as it were,

an *errand boy* for his career. If it's Tuesday it must be Dallas. On Wednesday we're due in Mexico City, etc. When international travel is undertaken for reasons of employment, the third house *trivializes* it.

BY contrast, McCartney, Lennon, and Starr all accompanied Harrison to India, which was a 9th house affair. Note that McCartney's 9th is empty, but note the sign on the cusp, Sagittarius, ruled by Jupiter, exalted in Cancer in the 3rd. Jupiter and Sagittarius lets McCartney go anywhere he likes and enjoy what he does, but he will always return home in the end. So far as I can tell, he has always lived in the UK.

The fourth house has Cancer on the cusp. The house is empty. It is ruled by the Moon, in Leo in the 5th. We already know this is a musician's chart. We would presume he learned, practiced or created music in the home. Which we find is true. He first learned how to play at home. He had an upright piano growing up. He wrote songs while living with Jane Asher in the mid-1960's. I believe he has a recording studio in his country estate, etc.

The 5th house I have already covered.

The sixth has Virgo on the cusp and the north node there. Ruled by Mercury retrograde in Gemini, McCartney was ruthless, it was said, in drilling Harrison, among others, in guitar fingering, fingers being ruled by Gemini, Virgo being a perfectionist, the 6th being the house of work — yes, music is work — the north node giving him both the

energy and the sense of purpose.

Neptune in Virgo in the 6th describes his drug taking. The 6th is the house of drugs as well as medicines. Neptune is addiction. Mercury ruling it from Gemini, an air sign, McCartney had a weakness for airborne stimulants: Marijuana and cocaine, for the most part. Note that LSD is taken orally, Mercury ruling the mouth, and that McCartney declined heroin, which is commonly *injected*, i.e., not taken by mouth. McCartney would do booze if the cusp of the 6th, or Neptune itself, was in a *water sign*. Astrology is literal.

McCartney has been repeatedly arrested for transporting drugs, even though he has been an international celebrity for many years and even though every customs agent in every country knows he brings the stuff with him and is therefore an easy target.

Why does he pack it with him? Note that Mercury rules the 3rd, which is travel, so of course he takes it with him. Note that Mercury is also in the 2nd, of values, so he insists on his right to have drugs, any drug, all the time.

And he keeps getting caught and never learns. Why? Mercury is *retrograde*. McCartney is *stupid*. It would be simple enough to send someone ahead with what he needed, it would be just as simple to use local contacts to get what he wants while on the road. McCartney knows this. He would rather get arrested and make a scene. Whereupon a customs agent gets to cut a notch on his belt. *I nailed McCartney*. There must be a club for such men, there have been so many of them. *Hey McCartney! Me and the boys will let you go if you sing us a song or two!* Don't think he hasn't heard that. Mercury retrograde, I expect he refuses.

WITH LENNON

NOTE that both men have Venus ruling their ascendants. Both are pleasing, but note that McCartney, with Venus in Taurus in the ascendant itself, is only pleasing, while John Lennon (**last week**, if you are reading the archives) has his Venus hidden in Virgo, with a debilitated Mars on the ascendant. Of the two men, Lennon was always going to be the complicated one, McCartney the simpler one.

John's Mars falls in Paul's 6th. John would be a disruptive influence in Paul's work, but, in Libra, John would try to work things out, and, ruled by Paul's Venus in the first house, they would be known (Paul's ascendant) for working (6th house/Mars) together (Libra).

Note John's Saturn, Jupiter and Uranus

all in Paul's first house. To Paul, John would be a weight (Saturn), he would make Paul grow up fast (Saturn) he would keep him from becoming lazy (Taurus), he would expand his life in many ways (Jupiter), he would be magnetic (Uranus).

But all these planets being retrograde, what started off with such hopes would eventually tend to drag and wear. It was *Paul* who dissolved the Beatles, it was *Paul* who wanted rid of John, in part as John had betrayed him by taking Yoko as his partner, over him.

John's Moon in Aquarius, opposite Paul's Moon in Leo, on fundamental levels the two men did not like each other and gave each other a wide berth.

There is sign-by-sign synastry, there is also mundane, house-by-house synastry. Learn it. Mars and Venus both in their first houses, there was an electric magnetism between them. Mercurys both in 2nd and 3rds, they shared the same values (2nd, a broader view of "money") and they enjoyed traveling together. Which is critically important if you're on the road for weeks at a time. Trust me on this one. Relationships fall apart faster on the road than anywhere else. If you can stand to look at each other after two weeks out there, you can put up with anything.

Moon, Mars, Pluto and Moon all in the 5th, the two men instinctively understood (those two Moons) the kinds of music they were making. The more bold and brash McCartney became, the more John understood and liked it. John and Paul's Moons were *opposed* by signs, but *conjunct* by houses. It's a form of love-hate.

What broke up the Beatles? On the one hand, John had a compulsion about changing partners, shown by Aries, a cardinal sign, on his 7th. These partners defined who Lennon was, as the ruler of the 7th was in John's first. Once Paul made himself John's partner, it was a matter of time before John found another. Paul would see this as a betrayal, because Scorpio on the 7th will not take such things lightly. It's a fixed sign, the ruler, Mars, is in Leo, which is also fixed. Once Paul was married, he stayed married until Linda died. That's the way fixed signs on the 7th are.

Once Yoko had displaced Paul as John's partner, Paul found hauling around John's Taurus planets to be more than he could bear, and so got out.

THE END OF THE BEATLES

WHICH brings up the end of the Beatles as a test of rectification. April 10, 1970, Paul formally filed to end the Beatles. Saturn stood at 9 degrees Taurus. Saturn had first entered Tau-

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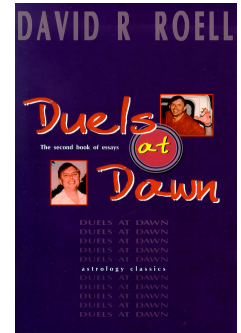
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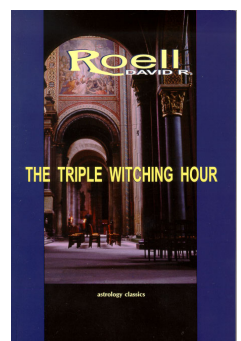
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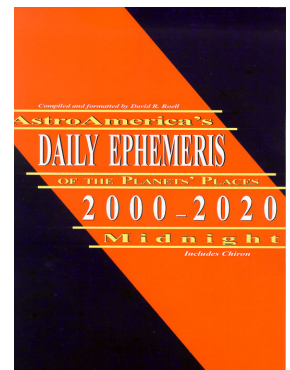
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rus on April 28, 1969 and as it progressed through the sign, relations between the men grew ever worse. In August Saturn formed a station just shy of 9 Taurus. It retrograded back to 2 Taurus in January and then went forward again. Saturn on the ascendant is normally isolating. At the time, which I remember vaguely, everyone was afraid John would leave. Paul's departure was a surprise. Both men were under heavy Saturn transits, but Paul's was worse and so Paul left.

I put 4 Taurus on Paul's ascendant. Anyone who wants to fiddle with the chart and fine-tune it is welcome to do so. I myself am starting to think the exact transit puts the

energy into the air, whereupon any trivial event may subsequently trigger it. On April 10, 1970, I note the Moon in mid-Gemini. It hit Paul's Uranus and Saturn the day before. It hit Mercury on that day, the Sun the next. Mercury was at 6 Taurus, which could well be McCartney's exact ascendant.

VENUS was at 8 Taurus, Mars at 24 Taurus, Jupiter at 2 Scorpio and retrograde, having just backed away from McCartney's 7th house and perhaps the real catalyst for the break-up. Uranus was at 6 Libra, on John's ascendant and the reason why we all thought he would be the one to "act out" and leave the group, but as Uranus

was retrograde at the time, he would not. Neptune had just crept up to make a station opposite McCartney's Uranus, which would make the breakup final and epochal, the way outer planets always are. (They are almost never personal, by the way.) Pluto was retrograde and coming off its station at 27 Virgo, where it had conjuncted both men's Neptune. Charles Carter, who had only died two years before, says Venus and Neptune are essential factors in music. I say that when Pluto conjuncted the Neptunes of a generation of 60's singer-songwriters, it was the end of an era, and so it was.

My thanks to Suzette S. for setting me straight on who Paul was married to. And what hits what.

by myself wishing I was back home.

Next, I have not been asked to speak. Well, no surprise there. I did not apply. I did not apply because I have never spoken in public. Efforts to get me before the public have all failed. Back in the 1980's and '90's, because I shyly declined. In 2006 or 7, Lynn Koiner visited for an afternoon and asked and I bravely agreed. Whereupon we set down to wrangle out a time and date. Only for our efforts to go sideways over the next month. Such is life with oppositions. Astrology is literal, but I already said that.

Well, the next thing is that I run a bookstore, the NCGR has a room full of hopeful vendors, I could pay my money, be a vendor, and sell some books?

Well, no, I can't, because the conference bookstore explicitly prohibits any one else, vendor or speaker, from selling books. As many speakers will confirm.

I MYSELF ran into this problem, right at the beginning of my business. I started this shop in August, 1993 (twenty years ago) and that fall signed on to be a vendor at the Southwest Astrology Conference in La Jolla, California, just north of San Diego. I paid my money and gave all the required information. I brought \$1000 in stock. Which was all I could afford.

To my surprise, the conference bookstore had no stock. Attendees would flock to it after each speaker, eagerly buying his book. Which they did have. I remember Theodor Landscheidt's **Sun-Earth-Man** being sold there, or a book very like it. The shop was run by a couple of teenage girls who I presumed were the daughters of one of the show's promoters. I put the lack of stock down to their inexperience. I presumed it was the way they wanted it.

First thing on Saturday I was visited by Mr. Hugh Martin, who at the time was a big, burly man with a red beard. He insisted I close my booth, remove my books, and leave immediately. He would refund the fee I had paid. This was how I learned of this restriction, I would not have been there if I had

known. He went on for the better part of an hour trying to impress me, but I refused to listen. Dear Mr. Hugh, if you should happen to read this, my refusal had to do with growing up in a large, dysfunctional family where this sort of thing was never ending. It was not personal.

Recently I learned that Martin's underlying problem, back in 1993, was the books he had ordered had not arrived in time and that my small display was an embarrassment.

With *brains*, Hugh would have realized that I was the man who could help him in the future. Instead of trying to throw me out, he would have said, *I see you have a very nice bookstore. We would really rather you were not here, but as you are, it seems we are in a mess with ours. Could you help us out?* I was the guilty party. He could use my guilt to his advantage. I would have been happy to help in any way I could.

Which brings up yet another way in which I could be a vendor at NCGR'S upcoming conference and you could meet me. Limit my booth to the *books I publish*. My special pleading is due to the fact that, to date, *not a single copy of any of the books I publish have been offered for sale by any astrological conference bookstore*. Not in ten years. I am the publisher. I know where the books have gone, and where they have not. No, I don't have an explanation for that and, yes, let's presume it's an innocent oversight.

WHICH leads me to my final observations on the upcoming NCGR show, which are these:

A conference bookstore without William Lilly, without Sepharial, Alan Leo, Charles Carter, Vivian Robson, George McCormack, Nicholas Culpeper, Claudius Ptolemy, Al Biruni, Firmicus Maternus, Nicholas deVore, Dorotheus of Sidon and H.L. Cornell — all authors that I publish — is kind of flabby and certain to be a disappointment to discerning buyers. Would any of these authors sell in large quantities? Probably not. They're old books, each and every one of them. Old is always last.

Which takes me back to the money. The

show is \$350. Room and breakfast is another \$950, with roughly \$80 a day in other expenses, which comes to, say, \$300. You might want \$100 to buy some books. Add another \$500 in airfare. Total: \$2200, give or take. That's a lot. Don't you think you at least deserve a better bookstore? For \$2200, you could stay home and buy, let me see, over 80 books. You could assemble an outstanding astrological library with fewer than 20. And that's presuming you wanted everything. Look at this:

I propose that in exchange for bending the rules and letting me have a booth, one limited to the books I publish (which the conference store does not want to stock anyway), I would be happy to lead daily tours of the conference store, giving my personal recommendations to individual buyers. There's a lot of good books that I don't happen to publish. I know virtually every astro book in print and I am just about the only man alive who does. I could move a lot of stock. That's a win-win.

Would I only pick my favorites? Not on your life. I have 30 years experience in sales. Which means listening to the person in front of me. I would be at pains to please not only individual attendees, but the conference itself. A gig at a conference is a nice thing to have. I'm not going to blow it if I get the chance. So if you want the best astropsychobabble, I know those books, too.

As for myself, it seems I have become one of the leading astrologers on the planet. I should be a headliner, shy or no. I have around 1800 weekly readers, a few of whom might want to attend if they knew I was coming. That I have no speaking experience, so what! I could just as well read my **Earth-Astrology** aloud, making comments and taking questions. You would be spellbound. If it is not to die with me, I am *required* to do that, whether I want to or not.

HAVE I been burning bridges? Well, no, not here at any rate. I would like to find a way to participate in future conferences. Let's do a better job than Hugh and I did.

Next week: The royal birth.