



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera!

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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ARCHIVE

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Time for AstroAmerica's Retrograde Technology Roundup:

Fios Arrives

EARLY August, there were Verizon cable-laying trucks all through town. When I saw a truck parked half a block down from my desk here at AstroCentral, I strolled over. "Is it Fios?" "Yep!" "When?" "Last week of August, maybe first week in September." "Sign up on-line?" "Nah! Wait for the college kids to come 'round."

Heck, jobs are hard to get. Who was I to cheat someone out of honest work? So I waited & while I waited, I cheated & went on-line anyway. It was indecipherable gibberish. Like everything Verizon.

The Verizon team showed up the evening of Monday, September 14. Was

Mercury retrograde? Sure was, but Verizon has never talked straight in their entire existence. Retrograde, everything they said curled back on itself like oodles of tiny little donuts. I plucked a few out of the air, sliced them open & had a good look.

And wasn't that the week — yep. You guessed. Saturn-Uranus duking it out from the corners. **New Lamps for Old**, anyone?

Installation was on Wednesday, 16 September. And was quick & painless, even though it was two computers, two phone lines & three TV sets.

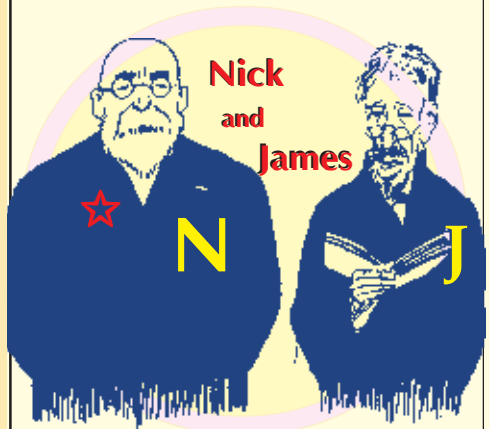
So how's it compare? We had Comcast for internet & TV. Comcast gave 16 mb down. **Fios is 25**. Which in practice is not significant. The basic Fios TV package gave a few new channels & maybe a better guide (it's clunky). Lack of subscribers means that Fios Weather isn't as good as Comcast, but that may change as more sign up. Fios picture is fabulous, but that only matters if you're fussy, and if you can find anything much to watch. (Old **Hee Haw** on **RFD** is a hit.) Price? Fios replaces about \$200 in other services. The rep gave a price of \$168. His phone rep gave me \$113. I said to the reps, You all look like Three Stooges to me. — Did you know Moe & Larry were grinding it out up to 1970? Hey! It's a job!!

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

			Notes
29	12:19	♀ ♃	
	13:15	♀ ♄	Hooray!
	22:27	♃ ♀ ♃	
30	11:35	♃ ♀ ♀	Void
	18:13	♃ ♃	
	23:27	♃ ♃	
01	00:08	♃ ♃ ♃	
	06:00	♀ ✕ ♀	
02	00:05	♃ ♃	
	03:09	♃ ♀ ♀	
	07:56	♃ ♃ ♃	
	08:13	♀ ♃ ♃	
	19:09	♃ ♀ ♀	
	22:03	♃ ♀ ♃	
03	03:30	♃ ♀ ♃	Void
	09:18	♃ ♃ ♃	
	09:21	♃ ♃	
04	06:10	♃ ♃ ♃	Harvest Moon
	11:37	♀ ✕ ♀	
	21:06	♀ ♀ ♃	
05	01:38	♀ ♃ ♃	
	05:47	♃ ♃ ♀	Void
	16:34	♃ ♃	

Extracted from **AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020**. Get yours!



DUELING DICTIONARIES

FIGURE

James Wilson, 1819: The true method of dividing the heavens is by oblique ascension, and this was evidently the method recommended by Ptolemy & observed by Placidus: thus, supposing the globe so fixed as to have 0°29' of ♄ on the cusp of the horoscope, in our latitude 25° of ♃ will be found to culminate...

Nicholas deVore, 1947: If now these 12 divisions of the circle are to be based on the diurnal rotation of the Earth on its axis, the 12 arcs must represent subdivisions of the Equator instead of the Ecliptic. Furthermore, this involves the question of time of day, and Latitude as well as Longitude of place. Such arcs are measured from the degree of the horizon.



STAR OF THE WEEK



VINDEMIATRIX, epsilon Virginis, 10 ♍ 04

Legend: Vindemiatrix, or as it was originally called, Vindemiator, the Gatherer of Grapes, represents Ampelos, the son of a satyr & a nymph, to whom Bacchus, in token of his fondness, gave a vine planted at the foot of an elm. While gathering grapes Ampelos fell & broke his neck, whereupon Bacchus placed him among the stars as a memorial of his former affection.

Notes: A bright yellow star situated on the right wing of Virgo. Its name is said to have been given because it rises in the morning just before the time of vintage. Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Saturn & Mercury; to Simmonite of Saturn & Venus, which is probably a misprint; to Wilson & Pearce, of Saturn, Venus & Mercury, and, to Alvidas, of Saturn & Mercury in evil aspect. It gives falsity, disgrace, stealing, wanton folly.... — from **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson



Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990

IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

The DIURNAL Chart

THE Diurnal Chart is a one-day TRANSIT chart set for a person as though he were born that day, therefore we combine his original birth time, latitude & longitude, with the date from the CURRENT ephemeris. Work only the Moon & any fast planet changing Signs, and use the original Constant Log.

During those years in which the regular progressions signify activity confirmed by the month-by-month Moon, we want to narrow down the probable day of the activity to a specific date or diurnal transit. That specific date will usually coincide approximately with a strong lunation (New or Full Moon) that aspects the Ascendant in the natal chart – but it must also conjunct a natal or progressed planet to cause an event. In this work, the Full Moon is apparently the more potent one.

Using Chart #13, pg. 71, this man's regular progressed year 1956 brought Mercury to 13 Pisces square to Venus. It would be important because Mercury rules an angle – the family-4th: it would be unfortunate because of his Sign position (in his fall in Pisces): it would be unhappy and a loss because of the square to Venus, and as she is in the 6th it would involve an illness – but not his own, since the progressed Mercury does not afflict the Ascendant. It affects someone in the family because he rules the family-4th, and that is the house to read in the Diurnal Chart. This is our method of reasoning. — from **Foundation of the Astrological Chart**, 1959

BACK IN PRINT:

Pluto Volume 2: The Soul's Evolution Through Relationships - Jeffrey Wolf Green.

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The 5000 year-old theory of the Sun

continued over here

IN its natural state, uranium is mildly radioactive. Find a good ore (“yellowcake”), turn it into a gas, send that gas through a thousand cascading centrifuges, precipitate the result back into a solid, and, if you can get enough of it & shape it just right, the resulting enhanced radiation makes the substance naturally explosive. In other words, matter becomes energy at the speed of light.

One of the parlour tricks that has been done with this substance is to shape it into a hollow sphere & then put things inside which, when the uranium explodes, will be superheated & super compressed.

Such as hydrogen. **Edward Teller**, an insane Hungarian scientist with a pathological hatred of everything Russian, insisted the US develop the hydrogen bomb, where a nuclear bomb serves as a trigger to a much more powerful hydrogen core.

This was of interest to astronomers. It solved, or seemed to solve, a long-standing problem: From where does the Sun get its light & heat? From spectroscopic analysis, astronomers knew the Sun was a giant hydrogen gas bag but how that made the sun a Sun & kept us warm & toasty they had not a clue.

For centuries astronomers had played a guessing game. Is the Sun like a glowing coal? Coal would be put in a brazier & observed. X amount of coal burned for Y amount of time. If the Sun were coal, then as the Sun has a mass of X^Z, then the Sun would burn for Y^Z period of time. (We'll pretend that we, like **Edison**, know nothing of oxidation.) Unfortunately, when the numbers were crunched, coal wasn't it.

But the Sun is big & massive & so at its very center there was certainly enough pressure to make the hydrogen fuse. So that was it. Problem solved.

EXCEPT it wasn't. Nuclear furnaces have certain characteristics & it was darn hard, harder by the year, to make the Sun behave as scientists knew it to be. I won't trouble you with tales of missing radiation, of impossible temperature gradients, of winds & particles that the Sun produces in abundance but that nuclear fusion does not. You'll have to look that up for yourself.

In 1981 in London, I bought a book of science essays & was amusing myself reading a nearly incomprehensible (to me) story of the electrical properties of the Sun, when

I was amazed to read,

“It seems astonishing that in the course of half a century of studies of the sun in context with the thermonuclear theory, very few professional astrophysicists have ever expressed the slightest discomfort over discrepancies between observation and theory, or even over the fact that an *ad hoc* extra theory has had to be devised to explain practically every individual feature of the solar atmosphere.’...

I can find no way to state this diplomatically, so let me be blunt: *The modern astrophysical concept that ascribes the sun's energy to thermonuclear reactions deep in the solar interior is contradicted by nearly every observable aspect of the sun.*

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Apparently with a steady hand, **Fred Hoyle** wrote some years ago: ‘We should expect on the basis of a straightforward calculation that the Sun would “end” itself in a simple and rather prosaic way; that with increasing height above the photosphere the density of the solar material would decrease quite rapidly, until it became pretty well negligible only two or three kilometres up

... Instead, the atmosphere is a huge bloated envelope (15).’ And today we know that this “bloated envelope” extends out among the planets.

Even the photosphere, where theory would suggest the sun ought to “end,” fails miserably to conform with expectations. Its opacity almost conspires to prevent the sun from radiating away its internal energy, if that is indeed where the energy comes from. The granular structure of the photosphere is still attributed to “non-stationary convection,” even though **Minnaert** pointed out decades ago that the **Reynolds number** of the photospheric gas exceeds the critical value by eight powers of ten—which is to say, by a factor of 100 million—and therefore convection currents in the photosphere should be completely turbulent (16).”

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— Taken from **Reconciling Celestial Mechanics and Velikovskian Catastrophism**, by **Ralph E. Juergens**, 1972.

Juergens was a retired civil engineer who got interested in Velikovsky's theories late in life. **Velikovsky** is far too large a topic for these pages, but for an alternate reality (one that can be applied surprisingly well to astrology), I urge you to read Juergens's entire article. I will summarize, as best I understand:

The Sun is an electrified body. Its light & heat are generated at its surface by means of its relationship to the "empty" space around it. In other words, the Sun does not exist in a vacuum. The Sun & surrounding space are in relationship. They are interdependent. From this comes plasma, and with plasma, gigantic electric "sheaths" that enrobe the Sun & planets. Among other things, Juergens's electric theory easily explains the otherwise inexplicable **tails of comets**.

While this may or may not be The Answer, it is an **order of magnitude** better than the thermonuclear theory. It is, at the very least, a radical departure from the traditional theory, that the Sun's energy is a product of the biggest & hottest thing of which we know. In other words, a change from the Sun as Glowing Coal, or Swamp Gas, or Superheated Iron Bar or Thermonuclear Furnace or Whatever Important People Think is Hot This Week. Juergens's theory has actual observation to support it. Which is a novel thing! Do I

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have to tell you it met, not with sound scientific refutation, but rather, deafening silence?

But Juergens is still treating "space" as a nonentity, as something which has no existence apart from what is projected upon it. I want to go a step further. What if "space" is a substance in its own right? Consider this:

I have previously refuted the expanding cosmos by suggesting the **Red Shift** to be an optical illusion. Now, Juergens gives us a theory that puts stars & planets in relationship to the space around them. So, which came first? Space, or matter?

Suppose we look again at Einstein's famous equation of matter, energy & light. Suppose we add a fourth variable, for space? Suppose there is a way in which "empty" space suddenly produces, brings forth, if you will, energy and matter, which of themselves then produce light? Looking out at the non-Big Bang, relatively static cosmos, we see unimaginable expanses of "nothingness" with, here & there, a galaxy or two, appearing as of out of the darkness itself. Are galaxies like eddies in a stream? Why is modern science so flabby that such speculation as this even merits attention?!

Next time, **Finale**: A pseudoscientific mind looks at its scientific counterpart.



WHY WHO WHAT WHEN
ELECTIONAL
ASTROLOGY

Part 28: Let's Eat!

IN everyday matters of this kind the Moon is of primary importance. When the Moon is in Aries or Capricorn, especially if applying to Jupiter, it is a suitable time for buying or eating mutton & veal. In Taurus, especially if applying to Venus, it is good for beef & also for sugar & sweets. If in Gemini or other airy signs, and applying to Mercury it makes birds unsafe, while if the application is to Mars, all meats of a heating nature should be avoided. In Cancer, it is favourable for buying milk, butter, cheese, eggs, onions & tea. In Leo, or when applying to Mars from Virgo, venison should be avoided. In Virgo it is favourable for buying vegetables, cereals, flour, bread & cakes, but if it is afflicted by Mars it is best not to eat herbs, vegetables and fruit, especially apricots, peaches, plums & cherries. In Libra or Aquarius it is favourable for milk or foods made from milk such as custards, etc. and also for confectionery. In Scorpio it is good for buying medicines, but dangerous if afflicted by the malefics. In Sagittarius it is suitable for game. In Capricorn it is good for buying coffee, cocoa & hares or rabbits. In Pisces it is good for fish, especially if applying to Jupiter.

— **Electional Astrology**, 1937

— More on food next week —

goodies extracted from
Carter's Little Green Book

Epilepsy. Lilly gives the following indications of this disease:

Moon & Mercury not in aspect.

When they are in Capricorn or Pisces in convenient houses, or when they are in the 12th, 6th, or 8th, and neither of them aspect the ascendant.

When Saturn or Mars-Saturn in a nocturnal genesis; Mars in a diurnal-strong, out of an angle, afflicts both Mercury & the Moon.

When Saturn by day & Mars by night

dispose of Mercury & the Moon.

Further, Mercury opposite Saturn in angles, or Moon rising opp. Saturn & Mercury, predisposes to the disease.

These rules appear from my own observations to be not without a good basis, but I may further add:

In epileptic cases the Moon & Mercury rarely are in aspect, but it is, of course, not true, as Lilly seems to infer, that all in whose nativities this is the case are epileptic.

