



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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ARCHIVE

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Skeet Shooting for Astrologers!

Blagrave's Astrological Practice of Physick is really, really, (really) almost done. The text was finished in December. The various Appendices, including the Glossary, are now done. The Index is laid out and does not need much further work. My introductory notes need to be rewritten, and a cover designed. (If you're going to publish a book, do a decent job of it, that's my opinion.) With the end of an 18 month project in sight, I'd be working feverishly on it right now, except that I have to write the newsletter that you're reading now. So I'm feverish on the this instead.

Enthused about what's coming next: My first book of essays, the compilation of what I've been writing in the newsletter over the last two years. I wasn't compiling them

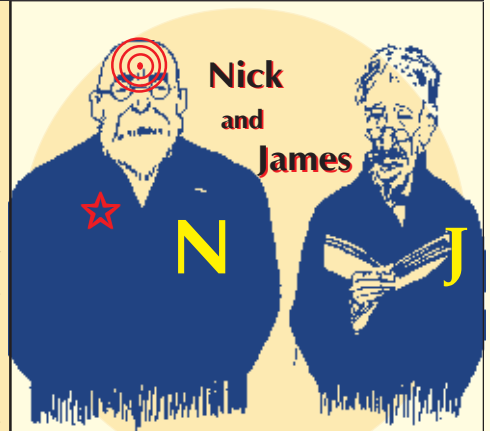
because of ego, or at least I didn't think I was, but because, as a publisher, I need as many books in print as I can get, and after the first twenty-five or so, it's getting hard to find good material.

But then the thought of revisiting my work & putting it in front of the community looked to be a lot of fun. A title suggested itself a few days ago, and along with it, a wicked, wicked cover.

And then I thought, what about all the emails I write? Will take a bit of search & sorting, as there's a dozen years worth (or what's left of them), hiding on the hard drive. **Duels at Dawn**, I think I'll call it. Dress up both books with some old college photos.

You haven't had one of **Carter's Green Pills** in a while. Here's one:

The worst bores are born under Sagittarius, owing to their addiction to crazes and sudden enthusiasms, often in directions that appear to others quite unworthy of such absorbing interest. The sign is also naturally verbose and excitable and as a rule rather slow at "sensing" the attitude of others. Astrology can perform few more useful functions, socially at least, than in bringing home to the natives of Sagittarius their liability to develop this painful characteristic.



Nick and James

DUELING DICTIONARIES

HOUSES

James Wilson, 1819: A figure may be erected by ascensions, without having recourse to a table of houses. Thus, if the Sun's place be found, as before, in 15° of Aries, look at the table of the Sun's right ascension in the Ephemeris, opposite 15° of ♈, where will be found 0h 55m 14s; to this must be added the time from noon, 3h 55m, making as before, 4h 50m 14s. . .

Nicholas deVore, 1947: In any event one should at all times bear in mind that the Signs are divisions of an annual cycle, beginning with the Spring Equinox; while the Houses are divisions of a daily cycle of apparent motions resulting from the Earth's own daily rotation on its axis. Some modern authorities employ the term Heliarc.

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

			Notes
16	14:33	☾♂♄	Void
17	00:31	☾♁	
	02:15	♀♂♃	
	07:40	☾♁♄	
18	01:26	☾♄♃	
	09:37	♀♄♃	
	10:38	☾♄☉	
	18:36	☉♁	Pisces !
19	03:53	☾♁♄	Void
	10:56	☾♁	
20	00:14	♀♄♄	
21	12:16	☾♁♄	Void
	18:47	☾♄	
22	00:42	☉♁♄♄	First Quarter
23	16:30	☉♁♄	
	17:30	☾♁♄	Void
	23:29	☾♁	

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

February 18

3102 BC — Kali Yuga starts!

1841 — The first Senate filibuster begins

1957 — Vanna White born.



STAR OF THE WEEK



FOMALHAUT alpha Piscis Australis 4 ♂ 00

Notes: A reddish star in the mouth of the Southern Fish. From Fomal Hut, the Fish's Mouth. It was one of the four Royal Stars of Persia in 3000 BC, when as Watcher of the South it marked the Winter Solstice.

Influence: According to Ptolemy, it is of the nature of Venus and Mercury; and, to Alvidas, of Jupiter in square to Saturn from Pisces and Sagittarius. It is said to be very fortunate and powerful and yet to cause malevolence of sublime scope and character, and change from a material to a spiritual form of expression. **Cardan** stated that together with the stars rising with 12 ♄ it gives an immortal name.

If rising or culminating: Great and lasting honours.

With Sun: Dissipated, easily influenced by low companions, gain through inheritance — from **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990



IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

One Touch of Will-Power

Or, How to Know if You Have a Mission
in Life — Dave

THE plain and simple truth however is that “where there is a will there is a way”. For will-power in the person there must be two things in his chart: a square to the Ascendant or to a planet in the First House to give him the will to do, and emphasis on a Fixed Sign or decanate to assure fixity of purpose, the staying power to keep him on the beam so to say. Squares have the dynamic power to push us onward, and fixity establishes our purpose. If the square to the Ascendant is also in Fixed Signs the person cannot be turned aside; he knows early in life what he wants to do and he does it sooner or later. If the square is in Cardinal or Common Signs but there is fixity elsewhere, he can be thwarted and frustrated temporarily but he bides his time and succeeds later.

If the planet ruling the 10th House of the career is retrograde it signifies delayed awareness of the life work or delays in being able to return to what was followed for awhile and put aside for a reason. If intercepted the work is interfered-with until by progression the planet changes Signs and leaves the enclosing bars. If the planet is in mutual reception (two planets in each other's natural Sign) the person has two chosen careers he follows — and also if the 10th or its ruler is in the dual Sign Gemini. — **The Way of Astrology**, 1967.

February 18
1884 — Huckleberry Finn published.

George Washington's Birthday

IF you asked **George** himself, he would have told you he was born February 11, 1731. Tell him he's mistaken, that the date was really February 22, 1732, and he will Tut,Tut and remind you of the great change of 1750.

And it's the same for all the other Founding Fathers. Thomas Jefferson, born April 13, 1743? Not according to the clock on his wall. It read April 2nd. Ben Franklin? History says he was born on January 17, 1706. Benjamin, an almanac maker (which means he knew time) would correct you & give the actual date as January 6. Samuel Adams never drank the beer named in his honor, which is to say he was sane & sober in saying his birthday was September 16, 1722. Not September 27.

Astute readers will know where I'm going with this, but wasn't the change from **Julian to Gregorian** calendars, wasn't that in, like, 1582 or something?

Well, yes it was, but in England the Gregorian reform was seen as an **Evil Papist Plot**. Which is to say there's nothing especially modern about being blinded by ideology. England spent 182 years blinded by just this one idiocy. If a generation is 20 years, that's nine generations of not too terribly brite. England changed from Julian to Gregorian in 1750. At which point they added eleven days to their daily life.

As for George's year of birth, a further reform in 1751 changed the first day of the year from March 25 to January 1. Which was already the custom in many other countries. Prior to that, the English gave dates in March using both years, such as, March 15, 1743/4.

WELL, this was all a long time ago & we don't have to worry about it anymore, right? WRONG.

Consider the curious case of Ehrich Weiss, better known under his stage name of **Harry Houdini**. He has two birthdays. His real one, in Budapest on March 24, 1874, and the one he himself claimed, which was April 6, in Wisconsin. You look at this & think, Aha! Was Budapest a secret Julian hangout? But then you do the math & discover that in the 19th century the Julian & Gregorian differed by 12 days & Houdini has 13. And then it dawns on you that Ehrich was a very clever boy & accounted for his birth in Hungary early on the morning of the 24th by factoring in the actual time in Wisconsin (the

previous day), thereby accounting for the 13th day. He “relocated his chart,” in other words.

Nicola Tesla was Serbian. He was born July 10, 1856, but when you set up the chart it looks like nothing at all. Add twelve days to get July 22, and the chart will knock your socks off. Run it for, say, 4:00 am and you will get Moon/Neptune as well as Sun/Venus conjunctions, the four planets/two conjunctions in trine to each other. Effortless electro-magic, you can't do better than that.

Mother Teresa, another Serbian, was born August 26, 1910, and, again, if you calculate the chart, you get nothing much. Add 13 days (the Julian slipped another day behind when it marked the non-existent February 29, 1900), and you get September 6. Run that chart and you get the Sun applying to a conjunction of Mars, both in Virgo (good for abrasive hard work), and a new Moon sandwiched between Venus and Jupiter, all in Libra. Which is darn good for divinity.

WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?

WAS the Austro-Hungarian empire so decayed and corrupt that it was running TWO calendars? How could any bureaucrat possibly keep track? I learned the answer while on a train in 2002.

I was travelling from Baltimore to New York, which at the time was home to the **World Headquarters and Chief Administrative Offices of The Astrology Center of America**, and found myself sitting next to a recent Russian immigrant. And I asked him, Was Eastern Europe crazy enough to use both calendars?

And his answer was, yes, sort of. And it was quite simple. Even though the Communists had outlawed the **Orthodox Church** right from the start, citizens continued to baptize their children in the Church, which not only conferred Julian birthdates upon them, but, in fact, still does to this day. Because the Russian Orthodox Church, to this day, uses the Julian, not the Gregorian, calendar. So if the Church was solidly Julian, but the Party Gregorian, as well as widely reviled and despised, then the ONLY Gregorian births in the former Soviet block would have been the children of party apparachnicks. What this means to data collectors is obvious (hello **Lois!**). What it says about the ability of astrologers to read the charts in front of them is less flattering.

Why do you let me sit here, ignored? I slaughter other astrologers. Why don't you drag me out & make me teach? Offer me princely sums.

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WHY WHERE
WHAT WHO
WHEN

ELECTIONAL ASTROLOGY

Part 48: Hot Dates!

Gaining Love & Friendship

Fortify the Moon, the eleventh and its lord, placing both in trine and reception with Venus, and let Venus be also well-dignified, or else let her trine and received the lord of the ascendant and lord of the eleventh, the reception being by house or exaltation. If this cannot be done let them be trined and received by Jupiter in the same manner, and let the lord of the ascendant be well dignified. If the friendship is desired for the purpose of gain or profit let Fortuna be in the ascendant; if for gaining inheritance put Fortuna in the fourth, and so with other houses according to the purpose for which the friendship is desired.

For Friendship with Relatives and Neighbors

Fortify the lord of the radical ascendant and if possible let him apply to a good aspect of the lord of the third or vice-versa. Alternatively let the lord of the ascendant and third be in reception and well-placed.

Fortify the radical third house and its lord.
—**Electional Astrology**, by **Vivian Robson**

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Choosing the Wedding Date

from **Astrology & Sex**
by *Vivian Robson*

(This past week a most silly statement was published, that the upcoming new Moon at 21 Gemini, on June 12, will be a good day for a wedding. — *Dave*)

Summarizing these rules, we may assume that the best sign positions for the ascendant, Venus, and, above all, the Moon at the time of marriage are anywhere in Leo, Sagittarius and Pisces; in the first half of Gemini and Scorpio; in the first twenty degrees of Taurus; or in the last twenty degrees of Capricorn .

It is particularly important to see that the Moon and Venus are not afflicted. The Moon should be between the first quarter and the full if possible, and in any case should be passing from new to full, and not from full to new. It should be free from bad aspects, especially from Mars, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, and should be favourably aspected by Jupiter or Venus. Venus also should be free from affliction and in favourable aspect to Jupiter, an ideal position being for Venus, Jupiter and the Moon all to be in favourable aspect with each other and if possible, in signs of the watery triplicity

The Moon's aspects need particular care and on no account should a time be chosen when the Moon is applying to Mars, Saturn or Uranus even by a favourable aspect, for it is said to cause discord and destroy happiness. Nor should the Moon be in conjunction with the Sun for this denotes the death of the husband. — **Astrology & Sex**, by Vivian Robson, 1941

From Book Five of Ancient Astrology Theory & Practice

by *Julius Firmicus Maternus*

THOSE who have Saturn in Libra, aspected to benefic planets will have great resources. But if Saturn is bare of favorable influences they will have no livelihood; also they will lose whatever they inherit from parents. If Saturn is unfavorably aspected by a malefic planet, this indicates serious crises together with the aforesaid evils. If it is a seventh or ninth year, the dangers will be so much worse that they can escape them only with difficulty.

They will have such ill fortune and poverty that they will seek their daily bread from others. But if a benefic planet is in favorable position at the exact time the danger threatens, they will be released from all bad fortune. Still, whatever they accumulate in early age they lose, especially when Saturn has entered the sign of Cancer. For then they will suffer trouble, losses, accusations, illnesses, and prison.

When Saturn is found in a right square aspect, but also when he has entered the first angles, then he indicates all kinds of bad fortunes; proscriptions, loss of inheritance, beggary, grief to parents from accidents of children, poverty, anxieties, accusations, law suits. He indicates the same things when he has again entered his own house.

Saturn indicates the same in the charts of women. They will be intelligent, reserved, of good counsel, prudent, anxious for great learning, commanding, famous, glorious, involved in important affairs, in friendship with important men, holding high position in great states. They are quarrelsome, not easily deceived or cheated, study much and know much, quickly escape from danger. But they are seriously worn out from diseases of the nerves. — **Ancient Astrology Theory & Practice**, by Firmicus Maternus.

