



# NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

October 25, 2011

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## I am Facebooked!

**J**UST in time for Trick or Treats, I am now on Facebook. FW, on an island in Washington state, convinced me to join, as I am the curmudgeonly type who avoids these things. Which is why I have not been on Facebook before now. I have no idea how it works, but this curmudgeon is now ready to be your friend. So **Friend Me!**

There's an **AstroAmerica** page that you can like as well. I fussed with these a bit last week but I confess I do not know what to do with them. FW tried to help, but my skull is excessively thick sometimes.

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## ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

			Notes
25	10:16	☉ # ♃	
26	02:03	☾    ☉	
	09:39	♂ ✖ ♃	
	11:14	♀    ♀	
	12:19	☾ Δ ♀	Void
	15:09	☾ ♃	
	19:56	● 03♃.03	New Moon
	22:24	♀ □ ♂	
27	02:36	☉    ♀	
28	11:49	☾ □ ♀	Void
	14:46	☾ ✖	
	15:08	♀ □ ♂	
	16:46	♃ Δ ♀	
29	01:42	☉ ♂ ♃	
	03:09	☉ ✖ ♀	
	15:14	♀    ♀	
30	13:30	☾ ✖ ♀	Void
	16:39	☾ ♃	
31	05:34	☾ ✖ ☉	
	21:20	♀ □ ♀	

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

## Celebrities and Astrology

**I**'VE run out of interest in Republicans and so far there are no Democrats wanting to play the **Eugene McCarthy** role, so am moving on to celebrities in general.

It seems to me that any celebrity that you're attracted to is someone whom you already know well-enough to set up a chart and rectify it. You simply take that "thing" you like about them and translate it into one of the 12 houses. You set up the chart and then put one or another planet in that house until the chart snaps into focus.

There's a couple of hazards. One, that you don't so idolize them as to invariably put things in their 10th. The other, which I learned in art class many years ago, that you don't accidentally replicate your own chart via their birth data. Beginning artists in life drawing class, and beginning sculpture class, invariably draw or sculpt themselves instead of the subject in front of them. Making a quick tour of the studio, a teacher can easily see this. Which gives me a great idea for an astro class: The teacher sets a celebrity, and then each person in the class does his own rectification, independently of the others. Comparing the results would be revealing.



## STAR OF THE WEEK



**PRINCEPS** delta Bootis 3 ♃, 19

**Notes:** A pale yellow star situated in the spear-shaft of Bootes.

**Influence:** Of the nature of Mercury and Saturn. It gives a keen, studious and profound mind, with the ability for research.

**If rising:** Good fortune, but troubles, discontent and fear occasioned by own temerity rather than circumstances.

**KHAMBALIA** lambda Virginis 7 ♃, 07

**Notes:** A small star situated on the left foot of Virgo. From the Coptic meaning Crooked clawed.

**Influence:** Of the nature of Mercury and Mars. It causes swift violence, unreliability, changeability, and an argumentative nature.

— from **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990

## IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

### The Parallel Aspect

**T**HE parallel is based on declination as given in the ephemeris for the planets along with longitude, and is marked either North or South. Two planets within one degree of being the same in declination are in parallel aspect, the greatest magnetic force in astrology, attracting the one to the other. The parallel holds or lets go according to whether they are both in the same declination-direction North or South which acts like a conjunction that is lasting, or whether one is North and the other South so that the attraction ends in separation, as an opposition.

In questions judging the inquirer and another person as in marriage, partnership, friendship, buying and selling, etc.; or the inquirer and something lost; or the inquirer and whether he will accomplish whatever he is asking about (as a job, a trip, an education, etc.) if the Moon or the ruler of the house representing whatever is asked about, there will be action between them and they will attract each other. Whether that attraction holds or lets go depends on whether they are in the same declination-direction, which holds – or opposite, leading to a separation. In this chart, the Moon is parallel all the planets in the 9th House by opposite declination-direction, attracting for the sale, letting go for the carpet.

If the Moon's final aspect is parallel a direct planet it means "The thing is a good as done now." — **The Way of Astrology**, 1967

# MYTHBUSTERS

## Adam Savage

**A**DAM Savage is co-host of *Mythbusters*, which is very likely my daughter's favorite TV show. *Mythbusters* is a science show on the **Discovery** channel.

**Adam Whitney Savage was born on July 15, 1967, in New York.** As I have no idea what time he was born, I am going to discover it as I write these notes which you are now reading. Just as I discovered Stephen Colbert's birth time last week.

Merely being clever with his hands, as Savage is, can be explained by good aspects between Mars and the Sun, or Mars and Mercury, etc. These planets may end up tagged in the third house (a favorite of mine), or perhaps the 6th or maybe even the 5th or 12th, depending on the overall personality.

In Savage's case, this is not the entire story. Reading his Wiki page, it turns out that Savage has a specific ideology that guides him. As a result it seems he has confused his *mechanical ability* with a *belief system*. According to Wiki, Savage is an atheist who believes that he can, in his own words, *prove natural selection on the show* [Mythbusters]. He continues, *I'm sick of fifty percent of this country thinking creationism is reasonable. It's appalling.*

While I wish Mr. Savage every success in his project, I know his effort will end in failure. The world, in fact, has a metaphysical component. I myself have made use of it very nearly every day of my life. While this component is subtle and while it passes most people by and while we can all get along perfectly well without it, attempts to prove the existence of the physical world, as an entity in itself, will always fail, and for the very simple reason that the visible, physical world is the product of an invisible one.

When I got up this morning with no idea what I would write for my weekly feature and with a vague idea that I could "do a Mythbuster," I had no idea where that would lead me, or if I could delineate Savage's chart at all. But now I know. Adam Savage has a defective 9th house. As I mentioned a week or two ago, no one gives up his father's religion, no one becomes an atheist, no one becomes militantly religious or *not-religious* (or even agnostic), without some 9th house kicker behind it. In all such cases that 9th

house is never an empty house with a messed up ruler elsewhere in the chart. It's always a problem with planet(s) in the 9th itself. So now I will set up Savage's chart and walk me, as well as you, through it.

Looking at a chart drawn for noon on July 15, 1967 (New York), we see it will be tricky, as there is not one, but two good candidates for 9th house dysfunction.

The first is the Uranus-Pluto conjunction in Virgo. When that falls in the 9th, it's enough to power an entire generation of atheists, fundamentalists, and religious/scientific bigots of all shapes and sizes. Because the current religious/science conflict is really two sides of the same coin. Both are bigots. When bigots take the stage, those with more nuanced positions, such as myself, are blown off of it.

Which doesn't bother me (I am a superman in this department), but is a tragedy for many of you, who need answers that you will not get. Scientific bigots say the world is a cold, random place of Science, while religious bigots say there is a God that stands ready to punish, or reward, based on his personal whim. Both are simplistic, life-denying, cruel fantasies. I know the post-death state like the back of my hand. I can rip through the Tibetan **Bardos**, but there is no platform from which I can teach. You get the religion you pay for, and you're being cheated. If I were in front of an audience, I could dazzle. But I digress.

Uranus/Pluto in Virgo is a fascination with, and a belief in, details for their own sake. In Savage's case, Venus is also in Virgo, which gives a further love of details, which, given that Venus is debilitated in Virgo, Savage wants to apply universally, in other words, Venus wants to take those details and jump across the chart into its exalted sign of Pisces. Do you see how basic astrological fundamentals give you an essential grasp of the chart?

Given that the Uranus/Pluto conjunction is generational, then if they turn up in Savage's 9th house, they should connect him with others of like mind. In this regard we note that Savage is a regular speaker at **James Randi's** annual **Skeptics** conference. Randi is famous for his efforts to debunk what he

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This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's masterpiece, **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**. It is now in print.

**Part 62:**

# Rank and Position

If the majority of planets are in cardinal signs or angles the native works his way into prominence usually early in life; if in fixed signs and succedent houses progress is slower but more stable; and if in mutable signs or cadent houses the life is obscure, or passed in the service of others, and the native is frequently unstable or too versatile. Dignified planets increase the reputation or fame, but debilitated or retrograde ones cause obscurity and hindrances. Strong aspects, especially in cardinal signs and angles, cause fame or notoriety but if the aspects are unfavourable there is at the same time much criticism and an unfavourable ending.

Jupiter, Venus or the Sun, if well aspected, in the 10th raise the native above his birth position, and Saturn and Uranus have the same effect but in their case there is usually a corresponding fall or crash afterwards. The continuance of honour and rank depends on the strength and positions of the planets promising them. The house positions of these planets moreover, indicate the approximate age at which fame or notoriety may be expected, as already explained in connection with the significators of wealth, and the rank or position will be attained through the people and things ruled by the planets promising them. Planets in the 10th indicate position attained in middle life, and those in the 4th that at the end of life. The condition at these periods may be judged by the nature and aspects of the planets concerned or of the rulers of these houses. The Sun, Jupiter or Venus in the 4th promise success at the end of life, but Mars causes trouble and quarrels, Saturn loneliness and isolation, and Neptune confinement in some institution.

—**A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**, 1922

# Of the Profession, Magistry or Trade any one is capable of

From **Christian Astrology**, Book 2

Country people many times have not the time of their children's Nativities, yet being desirous to know what profession such or such a Son is fittest for, they may repair to the *Astrologian* for satisfaction herein: Upon the time of their demanding the Question, erect your Figure, and therein consider the ascendant and his Lord, the Lord of the 10<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> house, and especially the places of ♂ and ♀; for these Planets are the *Significators* of Magistry, Trade or Profession: take which of the two you find most powerful, and see in what Sign he is, if he be in ♄, consider the four angles, and whether you find a Planet in either of them, and if that Planet be in a fiery Sign, or of the nature of ♄, you may say, the Boy will prove a good Cart-maker, Coach-maker, Shepherd, Grasier or Drover to deal in Cattle, a good Groom, or Master of Horse, or Farrier, successful to deal in four-footed Beasts, or a good Butcher, Brick-maker, Smith, &c. but if ♂ have any dignity in the place of the

*Significator*, or the ☉, he will prove excellent in any Profession where fire is used, or of its nature: if the *Significator* be in his Exaltation, it's pity the Child should be of any servile Trade, as aforesaid, he may do better in serving the King, some Nobleman or Gentleman: After this manner consider in all those Signs which represent the shape of four-footed Cattle, according to the Angles, ♄, ♃, ♁, ♀, ♁, for these five signify Cattle: ♀, ♁, ♁ represent men, yet sometimes ♀ presents flying fowl; ♃, ♁, ♁ when they are in angles, signify Fish and Waterfowl, or such like; but if no Planet be therein, then they import anything of the nature of water. — **Christian Astrology**, Book 2, of 1647, by William Lilly

HEAD TO HEAD

# Is This You?



**10°–20°**  
**Taurus rising**  
*The Virgo*  
*decanate*

Appearance of the second decanate:

Note the wide Taurus face, but the tall figure of Virgo, also the slightly prominent "Hapsburg" underlip [underbite] which almost invariably accompanies a strong Virgo influence on the ascendant. The

walk has a certain self-conscious elegance so frequent with a strong Virgo influence.

The *Virgo* decanate of Taurus is ruled by Mercury. It gives an appreciation of music, and usually acquires money and social position through the efforts of others. This is achieved subconsciously through benefic aspects. The mind is matter-of-fact and sometimes detached, possessing considerable discrimination, intuition and artistic ability.

— **Man & the Zodiac**, by David Anrias.

**Halloween:**

- 1517—Martin Luther posts 95 theses.
- 1864—Nevada becomes Halloween state.
- 1913—Lincoln Highway opens.
- 1924—World Savings Day, Milan.
- 1926—Harry Houdini dies.
- 1940—Battle of Britain ends.
- 1941—Mount Rushmore completed.



calls the “paranormal.” I personally believe Randi to be a reincarnation of a turncoat magus who was rather harshly treated (put to death) for breaking his oaths and is now seeking revenge. Randi is, on the one hand, too large a subject for this article, while on the other, no longer widely known, meaning I am unlikely to write an article expressly on him. I caution that I believe him to be exploiting people for his own private amusement, which is a dangerous thing. As is often said, revenge is best served cold, and Randi, who uses his considerable psychic powers to attack people, is best left alone.

**T**HE alternative to Uranus/Pluto in the 9th is that we put Savage’s Mars-South Node-Moon trio there and see what happens, but simply writing about Uranus-Pluto in the 9th is pushing me in that direction. It seems to me that Mars/S. Node/Moon in the 9th will not make for mechanical ability, which Savage clearly has in abundance.

So we now have a tentative chart for Adam Savage: **6:00 pm on July 15, 1967, New York.** Let’s read this chart until contradictions between chart and Savage force us to throw it out wholesale, or until Savage and nuance leads us to tweak it. One or the other.

At 6:00 pm, the chart has Sagittarius rising. Sag rising is Enthusiastic! That’s Savage. Eager to try anything, which he is. Ruler is Jupiter, in Leo, which means he is proud of his ability, and that he wants to be larger than life, the king of all. In the 8th house, he also wants to be profound in some way or another. It makes him a wanna-be daredevil, as there is a distinct 8th house life-or-death aspect to his work on Mythbusters. So far, this looks like a good fit.

Jupiter is disposed by the Sun in Cancer, which is also in the 8th house, but you will note, not in the same sign as Jupiter. Savage will therefore profit from the resources of a partner, in fact needs a partner, which, so far as Mythbusters is concerned, is the person of **Jamie Hyneman**, eleven years senior, born September 25, 1956, in Marshall, Michigan. Mythbusters is in fact set in Hyneman’s (not Savage’s) shop. Hyneman is therefore “producing” Savage. Which is 8th house. For those of you looking to delineate chart subtleties, note that the conflict between chart ruler Jupiter, in Leo in the 8th, and the ruler, Sun in Cancer, also in the 8th, is one that takes time to resolve.

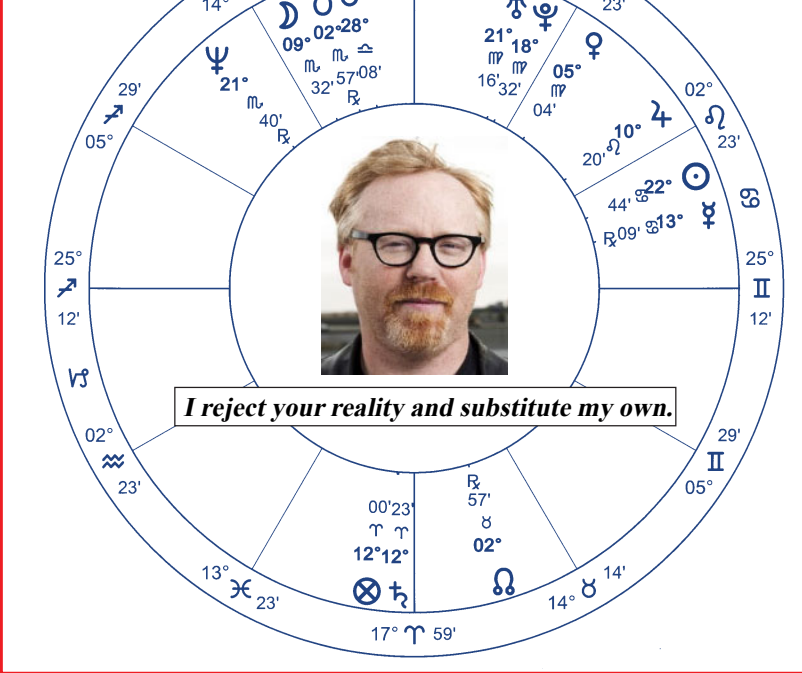
Mythbusters and the Hyneman/Savage partnership date from 2002, but the two men had previously worked together some years

### Adam Savage

July 15, 1967

6:30 pm *rectified*

New York



earlier. There should be some means to progress a chart to determine when a ruling planet like Jupiter “resolves,” as it did in Savage’s case, but I regret that in this case, without a better birth time and a first meeting chart, it will probably not be possible. Savage was 35 years old in 2002 when he and Hyneman started Mythbusters. In that same year, Savage married his wife, Julia.

**S**AVAGE and Hyneman are both convinced there is no God. I myself view God as a probability, but also as an unneeded distraction. When you’re dead you will face a given scenario and it will make no difference if you are a craven believer or a raging atheist, but I am digressing again.

In Savage’s chart, he believes in atheism because, Virgo on the 9th, he has the details that will prove it. These details, with Uranus and Pluto in the 9th itself, are widely shared among his peers, and with Venus in Virgo as well, they harmonize well. Venus in debility in Virgo, opposed to its proper home in Pisces, means that while Savage is probably wrong, he still feels he is a “modern”, that he has repudiated an erroneous past. Note that each time we see a planet out of its element, in other words, in its debility or fall, the exact explanation changes from chart to chart, depending on the chart itself. As an astrologer, you have to know how to finesse these nuances.

For Savage we can go further. Venus in Virgo is disposed by Mercury, retrograde in

Cancer. Mercury in Cancer is active, feels deeply and can be defensive. Retrograde, Mercury is usually wrong, but – for adverse aspects – has only a square to Saturn to annoy it. Savage can therefore largely convince himself that his beliefs are true and correct.

It sometimes happens that people take up public speaking in order to convince themselves of what they do not quite believe and I frankly have a hard time believing that atheists are all that happy with what they believe, because while we don’t need a God to get ourselves from one life to the next, we do profit by knowing the process. Atheism repudiates that knowledge, while religions give only crude, fearful mechanisms. Neither are correct, both are harmful and should be ignored.

The post-death state is pretty much an autopilot process, but there are limits to it, and a disturbing number of people now arrive at death’s door badly damaged psychologically, are unable to make use of it, and thus suffer horribly. Which is where ghosts come from, but again I digress. But look where Savage’s Mercury goes:

In its turn, Mercury is disposed by the Moon, trine to it in intense Scorpio. This is a probing, searching, sexy nature. In the 11th house, it finds friends who agree with it. Since the Moon traces back to a debilitated Venus with strange beliefs, friends can be used to reaffirm what it wants to believe. We note its proximity to the south node, also in

Scorpio, which, as with a debilitated Venus and a retrograde Mercury, confirms our belief that Savage has constructed a private fantasy. Well, why not? Many people do.

Pushing the Moon forward, we find it disposed by Mars in Libra. For itself, Mars is disposed, on the one hand, by Venus in Virgo, which makes a closed loop. Mars is also disposed by Saturn, which is exalted in Libra. As Saturn is itself debilitated in Aries, and as Mars disposes of Saturn, I will ignore the Mars/Venus relationship and concentrate instead on Mars/Saturn.

In Savage's chart, a debilitated Mars in Libra disposes of a debilitated Saturn in Aries. Mars in Libra is not confident of its own abilities. It would rather look across the chart, to Aries, which it rules, in order to find direction. Remember that the debilitated sign in question is Libra, which is the sign of the Other. And across the chart in Aries we find Saturn. Who represents someone who is older, authoritative, not active. In other words, Jamie Hyneman. You will note that Jamie's face has a reddish cast, red being the color of Aries, and that Hyneman shaves his head. Baldness, or lack of hair on the head, is said to happen with Aries when there is too much fire, which "burns the hair away". Saturn being incompatible with the fire of Aries, Jamie shaves his hair away.

**H**AVING, so far, found no reason to throw out the 6 pm chart and start over, we find Saturn near the 4th house cusp. Given that the 4th house is Savage's father and that Saturn is tied up with Mars in the 10th, we go back to Wiki to find out if Savage had serious Saturn/Mars conflicts with his father, which, if there was, would have left serious scars and would place Saturn in the 4th. Instead we learn that Savage's father gave his son an early break on Sesame Street, on which daddy worked as an animator. Saturn is thus not in the 4th.

I advance the chart to 6:30. It puts Saturn definitely in the third, but it also changes the sign (Placidus cusps) on the 8th, from Cancer to Leo. This frees Jupiter in the 8th, but now intercepts and strands the Sun in the 7th. I thought about that. I also looked at the 6:15 pm chart. It also put Saturn in the 3rd, not the fourth, and kept the 6:00 pm intercepted Jupiter. At 6:00 and 6:15, Hyneman is Savage's "producer". At 6:30, with Leo on the cusp of the 8th, ruled by the Sun, and the Sun intercepted in Cancer in the 7th, Hyneman is now Savage's producer *and* his partner. At 6:30 pm, the Sun has rights in both houses, 7 and 8. This is clearly a better fit.

So now Savage's daddy is represented by

an empty 4th house with Aries on the cusp. An empty 4th means that daddy was not important, one way or the other, in Savage's life. At Wiki I can find no more than a brief mention. Ruled by Mars in Libra, we would expect daddy to be involved with others (which he was), and in the 10th, we would expect daddy to make his son public in some way, which he did. That Mars is debilitated in Libra tells us daddy's efforts would fail in the end, which they did. This is all *ex post facto*, I am interpreting the chart to fit the life. The point is not to cheat in this way, but to show that you may have confidence in dispositors, in rulerships, in debilities and all the rest, and to use them in your work. Your "guesses" will more often be right than not.

Shifting the chart, from 6:00 pm to 6:30, you will note that Venus, which had been inside the 9th, is now just outside of it, late in the 8th. Which is, as I have mentioned before, a case of a planet wanting to be in the house with the same sign as the sign the planet is in. The effort to get into that house can make these planets "more eager" than planets which are actually in the house and so do not have to strain themselves. Venus wants to prove, in other words, that the quasi-religious, detailed beliefs that Adam Savage has, really are real and true. Again: A man who is quietly content with his beliefs (whatever they are) has no need to parade them before the public. An insecure man clamors to be heard.

On Mythbusters, Jamie Hyneman is known for his ingenuity, skill and craftsmanship. Savage, by contrast, is known for being crude and often wrong. Will Savage's chart tell us why? Of course:

Mars is the planet of energy. We find it debilitated in cardinal Libra, which means it needs someone to direct it. It is square to the Sun, also cardinal, giving both more energy than either can handle. It is also widely square to Mercury, the planet ruling the hands and fingers. The result is compulsively active fingers, as you would expect.

In Savage's chart, Mars is ruled more by Saturn, in Aries, than Venus in Virgo. Opposed by their signs, conjunct because of their mutual rulerships (Mars rules Saturn, Saturn rules Mars), the result is compulsively clunky, unwieldy Mars/Saturn, fast/slow, contraptions that only occasionally outshine those of Hyneman. Mars in the 10th, Savage has a compulsive need to show the results to the public. Look what I have made: Show and tell. Why so much compulsive? With four planets, and the nodes and the Part of Fortune, all in cardinals, one is always

compulsive. With two of the four angles cardinal as well, visibly compulsive.

**W**hat if? What if Savage was goaded into finding his time of birth (it's at **125 Worth Street**, downtown Manhattan, be sure and ask for the **long form**), just to prove me wrong and prove astrology to be utter bunk and rubbish? A tempting target for a Mythbuster, don't you think? Savage is, of course, proudly ignorant of astrology, so this would be an easy job for him. Merely cite my inane remarks and then display the **unadulterated (NY State Seal** clearly visible) long form of Savage's birth certificate. Magnified so we can all read what it says. If Savage likes this challenge, and if his birth certificate is going to be on TV and I am therefore to be ridiculed, I claim the right to personally inspect the document beforehand. James Randi, whom I presume Savage idolizes, has pulled too many cheap tricks, and I have seen one or two on Mythbusters itself. I do not trust those who anoint themselves as "scientists." Those who claim to have "truth" on their side I regard with open hostility. I've learned the hard way.

But what if I am right, that Savage was born after 6:15 pm but before 6:50 pm? A true believer, I expect Savage to find some way to privately rationalize it away and there would be no Mythbuster exposé. Rationalization and denial has become the favorite excuses of weak and feeble "scientists". Those who are too timid to boldly go.

I myself would be amazed if I was right. I've been down in the trenches for 25-odd years. Astrology is really crazy. If I am wrong and it turns out that Savage was born at some other time, the analysis would be a wonderful learning experience, the sort I don't often get. I am essentially an empty-headed idiot, I am always eager to learn. As Savage himself says, **Failure is always an option**. For both of us.

And so it goes. Personally, I like Mythbusters, I like the banter between Adam and Jamie, I like the second string of Grant, Kari and Torry, I like the stunts they get up to. The Discovery channel has a policy prohibiting them from debunking the "paranormal" (whatever that is, the term is only used by those who are openly hostile), which keeps the Mythbusters from embarrassing themselves. A couple of weeks ago they started another new season. I wish them well.