# THE CHURCH OF LIGHT

#### **Points of Interest:**

- The Planet Pluto
- Astrological Keywords
- Alchemical Meditation
- Birth Chart Analysis
- Tarot Spread Example
- Membership Room
- Stellarian Honor Guard Ist Quarter 2010

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# Quarterly

#### Volume 85, Issue 3

# Astrology—Pluto

#### By Christopher Gibson

nvisible to the human eye, Pluto was not identified until the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. After the discovery of Neptune in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, there was much speculation that another planet might exist. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Percival Lowell, founder of the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff. Arizona. noted perturbations in the orbits of the gas giants, Uranus and Neptune, which fueled the search for hypothetical Planet X. Lowell was to die in 1916 and was buried near the observatory that bears his name. The search for the mysterious Planet X continued after Lowell's death, and on February 18, 1930, Clyde Tombaugh a young researcher at the Lowell Observatory, was to discover Pluto while analyzing photographs of the heavens taken the previous month.

It was an eleven-year-old English schoolgirl, Venetia Burney, who suggested that the newly discovered planet be called Pluto, after the lord of the underworld who could make himself invisible. Tombaugh was pleased that the first two letters in Pluto coincidentally included the initials PL for Percival Lowell. Less than three months after its discovery, in May 1930,



Pluto Agostino Carraci—16th Century

Pluto was officially named, and the symbol P was adopted by astronomers and most astrologers.

Pluto is the planet with the lowest gravitational pull in the Solar System. A day on Pluto is the equivalent of 6 days and nine hours on

(Continued on page 4)

## Transmuting Pluto: The Beginning and The End

#### By Peter Tourian

A nd so we arrive at the final planet in our query, the giver and the taker, the creator and the destroyer, Pluto. If we conceive of Pluto as the termination of our quest, we can consider its symbolism in the guise of the number 10. The number 10 symbolizes the process of renewal, the concept that every ending is a new beginning. Analyzing the number itself, the "I" tells us that the core identity of Pluto is the same as that of the number I; that is, Unity.

(Continued on page 10)

#### Summer 2010

#### Quarterly

# **Stellarian Honor Guard**

For the period between January 1 and March 31, 2010

Regular Contributors form the solid foundation from which The Church of Light can grow. This column honors those who financially support the work of spreading the Religion of the Stars. Guardian Angels contribute more than \$500 in a quarter. The Stellarian Honor Guard includes those who contribute between \$100 and \$500 per quarter. We are grateful for your generous contributions to The Church of Light.

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Summer Issue 2010 ISSN: 009-6520 Vol. 85, No. 3 PUBLISHED BY The Church of Light

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The Church of Light Quarterly is the official publication of the Church of Light. It includes educational and inspirational supplements to The Brotherhood of Light Lessons.

There are four issues per year: Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall.

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# Editorial

#### By Christopher Gibson

"The way of the Creative works through change and transformation, so that each thing receives its true nature and destiny and comes into permanent accord with the Great Harmony: this is what furthers and what perseveres."

— Alexander Pope (English Poet, 1688 - 1744)

Transformation implies a change in form, appearance, nature, or character. Certainly the human form from birth to death undergoes a transformation of form, from infant to elder. If the individual has lived a conscious life there might also be a transformation of character or nature. Over time, organizations can also undergo a transformation in form, appearance, nature, or character.

According to the oral tradition of the Church of Light, in the year 2,440 B.C., a group separated from the Egyptian theocracy. This group, the name of which translated in English is called The Brotherhood of Light, evolved as a secret society and has subsequently exerted a beneficial influence upon Western civilization throughout history. Over the millennium, our group has changed and transformed according to the time, place, and culture where we resurfaced. In our more recent history, the group reorganized in 1870 as The Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor and remained an active organization for the next 48 years. In November 1918, The Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor disbanded and became absorbed into The Brotherhood of Light, which was a vital membership organization for the next 14 years. In 1932, as anti-astrology ordinances were being passed in Los Angeles County, it was determined that the Brotherhood could better promote the Religion of the Stars as a religious non profit. On November 2, 1932, the Brotherhood of Light closed its doors and incorporated as The Church of Light, a religious non profit. This November celebrates 78 years of existence as The Church of Light. From the aforementioned examples, the reader can see how our organization has changed and transformed in form or appearance.

The word church generally applies to a building of Christian worship or assembly. The majority of our membership, as well as new seekers who contact our group, are for the most part refugees from orthodox religions. For them, the word "Church" can be very discomforting; carrying all the associations of negative experiences they may have gained through mainstream religion. Over the decades, much discussion has ensued as to whether or not the use of the word church adds or detracts from the success and growth of our organization.

Our group is now considering a transformation of appearance. Over time we will gradually shift from using The Church of Light in our advertising and public promotions to using light.org. We feel that this will more adequately reflect our function as a unique spiritual organization, rather than being perceived as being affiliated with mainstream religion. This will be a transformation of appearance only, as our character and nature will remain that of a religious non profit which emphasizes the spiritual education of our membership. The actual name of the organization will still continue to be The Church of Light. Members will still make their tax-deductable contributions to The Church of Light.

Pluto, the planet featured in this issue of the Quarterly, is all about change and transformation. It functions like the mythological Phoenix, which would burn itself up and rise again from its ashes. As we transform our public image from The Church of Light to light.org, may we enter into what is described above by the 18<sup>th</sup> century English poet Alexander Pope as, "permanent accord with the Great Harmony."



#### **Pluto Associations**

Thought-Cell: Universal Welfare House Influence: Conformity Alchemical Metal: Silver (upper octave of The Moon) Talismanic Gems: Clay Color: Black, infra-red, and ultra-violet Musical Tone: Harmony or Inharmony

## **Pluto Figures**

Black Marketer, bootlegger, bully, CIA agent, civil rights activist, community organizer, coordinator, counter-terrorist, crook, detective, ecologist, embezzler, extortionist, FBI agent, gangster, gangmember, intimidator, investigative reporter, investigator, kidnapper, labor organizer, mobster, organized crime, private investigator, racketeer, reformer, smuggler, social worker, spy, stalker, swindler, tail, terrorist, union organizer.

#### **Positive Pluto Traits**

Alliance-building, collaboration, collective, cooperative, communal, consensus-building, coordinating, group effort, humanitarianism, inclusive, integrative, mutual assistance, partnership, teamwork, universal welfare.

#### **Negative Pluto Traits**

Bullying, coercive, compulsion, dastardly, deceitful, devious, dishonest, exploitative, extortion, fixated, harassing, intimidating, manipulative, menacing, obsessed, oppressor, ostracizing, possessed, scheming, sequestration, sinister, sly, sneaky, tyrannical, uncooperative, underhanded.

#### (Astrology: Pluto Continued from page 1)

Earth, which means that it has the second slowest speed of rotation in the Solar System. Pluto moves around the Sun on a more diverse plane than the other eight planets, passing further north and south of the celestial equator. Pluto has an eccentric orbit; sometimes it is closer to the Sun than Neptune. However, due to Pluto's extreme axial tilt and high orbital eccentricity, the planets should never collide. It takes Pluto 248 years to orbit the sun, spending, on average, approximately 21 years in each sign of the zodiac. However, Pluto's orbit is so eccentric that this can vary from 25 years in Cancer (1913 -1938) to 12 years in Scorpio (1983-1995). Pluto's moon, Charon is just over half the size of the planet, leading some observers to classify Pluto as a binary planet system. No other moon is as close to the size of its planet as Charon is to Pluto.

In Greco-Roman mythology, Pluto was the ruler of the underworld, which included both Hades and the Elysian Fields. Hades was not only the Greek name for the God, but also the title of his underground realm. The Greeks had concerns that those who did not receive a proper burial would return to haunt the living. Although Pluto ruled the realm of the dead, he was not the god of Death. It was actually the twin offspring of Nyx (night) and Erebros (darkness), Hypnos (sleep, peaceful death), and Thanatos (violent death), who determined how one would die. The symbols commonly associated with Pluto were the Helmet of Darkness, which rendered the bearer invisible, and Cerberus, the three headed dog who guarded the entrance to Hades, ensuring that those who entered could not leave. In ancient times Pluto was referred to as, "The Wealthy One" as most mineral wealth was extracted from his underground realm. In geology the term pluton refers to a mass of igneous rock that crystallized from magma while still below the surface of the earth.

Since the time of its discovery, Pluto still has 177 years to go until it has made a complete orbit around the Sun. As astrologers, we have only had time to observe Pluto's movement through 1/3 of the zodiac over the last 80 years. The placement of

(Continued on page 9)



# **Alchemical Pluto**

"Experiences in cooperation, either for the benefit of a small and selfish group, or for the benefit of a wider membership, have in lower life forms built into the astral body the Universal Welfare thought elements, mapped in the birth chart by the planet Pluto. These thought elements, which may express either as spirituality or as inversion, are prominent in the stellar bodies of dictators, gang leaders, and those who are importantly associated with group movements of various kinds."

Mental Alchemy - C. C. Zain

# **Alchemical Meditation**

I, (your name here), am a spiritually-minded and cooperative being, I am sensitively attuned to the subtle animating force that permeates all things and which motivates me to contribute to the well-being of all life forms. It is natural and comfortable for me to lend a helping hand to those members of my community who are in need.

I (your name here), am constantly vigilant to the moods, feeling, and thought forms that might be part of a greater societal or group consciousness, and I make certain that I act only from my own inner convictions. At times when I feel pressure to conform, tow the party line, or maintain the status quo, I go within and find the courage and individuality to stand up for my beliefs. When others try to entangle me in their destructive behavior, I redirect their energy into purely constructive outlets for the welfare of the community.

I am intuitively drawn to only those groups and individuals who are beneficial for my spiritual growth. I acknowledge that there is a web of interconnectedness that unites all of creation to the Creator, and I work enthusiastically to understand my role in God's Great Plan.

So shall it be!

# **Dominant Pluto Personality**

Karen Carpenter

#### By Christopher Gibson

"Why do stars fall down from the sky

Every time you walk by?

Just like me, they long to be

Close to you."

— Burt Bacharach and Hal David

The pop music legend Karen Anne Carpenter was born to Agnes and Harold Carpenter at 11:45 A.M. on March 2, 1950 in New Haven, Connecticut. In June 1963, at age thirteen, Karen moved with her family to the Los Angeles suburb of Downey. A self-described tomboy, Karen was out playing baseball and football as her brother, who later became her musical collaborator, was in the basement listening to music. Karen would develop her love of drumming after joining the band at Downey High School. Although Karen's drumming skills would achieve critical acclaim, she is primarily remembered as a vocalist.

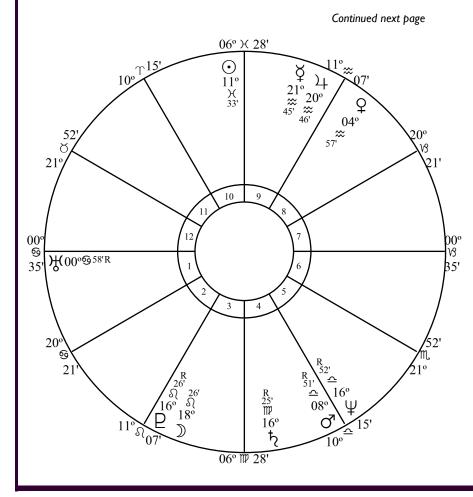
In 1966, the Richard Carpenter Trio won a "Battle of the Bands" contest and went on to produce some demo tapes. It was Herb Alpert who signed them on to A & M records after listening to a demo and liking what he heard. From 1965 – 1968 she performed in the Richard

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ASC								 8.79 0.00		 7.55 0.00		



Karen Carpenter 1950—1983 March 2, 1950 11:45 A.M. New Haven, Connecticut

Carpenter Trio with Wes Jacobs and her brother, Richard. The Carpenters are probably best remembered for their two hits from the 1970's "(They Long to Be) Close to You," and "We've Only Just Begun."



PLA	NETS		
	Power	%	Harmony
ж	62.17	11.8	1.92
Б	61.76	11.7	-6.13
ASC	57.47	10.9	-1.82
$\odot$	51.04	9.7	-19.33
ħ	46.07	8.8	-17.12
$\mathbb{D}$	43.30	8.2	-11.76
¥	42.71	8.1	1.92
4	40.12	7.6	9.57
MC	38.08	7.2	6.81
ď	32.73	6.2	-7.22
Ψ	31.58	6.0	19.15
Ŷ	19.31	3.7	7.13
	526.32	100.0	-16.87

#### HOUSES

	Power	%	Harmony
1	141.28	17.9	-5.78
3	130.57	16.6	-27.55
9	109.89	14.0	7.70
10	107.05	13.6	-5.34
4	100.15	12.7	-23.38
8	42.34	5.4	-1.43
5	41.23	5.2	22.72
6	33.65	4.3	-0.94
7	23.03	2.9	-8.56
2	21.65	2.7	-5.88
12	20.33	2.6	4.05
11	16.36	2.1	-3.61

#### SIGNS

	Power	%	Harmony
69	162.93	20.7	-11.66
N	130.57	16.6	-27.55
≈	129.20	16.4	14.83
Ж	107.05	13.6	-5.34
≏	73.96	9.4	15.50
MP	67.42	8.6	-16.16
1/3	46.07	5.8	-17.12
M,	23.62	3.0	-3.34
Υ	16.36	2.1	-3.61
I	10.68	1.4	0.48
1	10.03	1.3	2.39
б	9.65	1.2	3.57

#### Dominant Pluto Personality—Karen Carpenter (Continued from page 7)

In 1967, under the guidance of a doctor, Carpenter would begin her lifelong obsession with dieting. By 1982 she was being treated unsuccessfully with psychotherapy for anorexia nervosa. On February 4, 1983, less than a month before her thirty-third birthday, she died of heart failure associated with her anorexia.

Carpenter dated numerous Hollywood notables who included Tony Danza, Mark Harmon, and Steve Martin. She would marry real estate developer Thomas James Burris on August 30, 1980. Fifteen months later, the unhappy couple would file for divorce in November 1981. Ironically, she died on the day that her divorce was scheduled to have been finalized.

Karen Carpenter's death worked to draw public attention to eating disorders such as bulimia and anorexia. In the years following her death, numerous celebrities came forward with their own horror stories about eating disorders. The Carpenter Family Foundation continues to honor Karen by funding research for eating disorders, the arts, entertainment, and education. In October 1983, Karen Carpenter was posthumously recognized with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Karen Carpenter's chart is an interesting example of dual rulership. Uranus (11.8%) is actually her dominant

Year	Event	Aspect
1963, June	Family moves to Downey, CA	ď∆♀r
1965-1966	Makes first recordings with her brother Richard	MC ⊻ ¥r
1967	Commences dieting	ASC $\star$ $ t_2 p $
1965-1968	Performs with the Richard Carpenter Trio	MC ⊻ <sup>1</sup> +p
1969	Signs recording contract with A & M Records	¥ م MC <b>p</b>
1970, May 15	"(They Long to Be) Close to You" released	⊙ ₀° ♂°p
1970, August 21	Hit single "We've Only Just Begun" released	⊙ ₀° Ơ p
1974, Sept 8	Final tour performance at MGM Grand in Las Vegas	мс□₩р
1980, August 30	Marries Thomas James Burris	¥ σ <sup>ο</sup> ¥p
1981, November	Files for divorce	Ф а 7tb
1982, April	Records last song "Now"	MC ♂ <sup>O</sup> ♂ <sup>T</sup> r
February 4, 1983	Death from heart failure	$\odot  au  au p$

# **Karen Carpenter Timeline**

planet separated from Pluto (11.7%) in strength by only one tenth of a percent of astrodyne power. Nevertheless, I have chosen this chart for the Quarterly on Pluto, as her experiences powerfully reflect both the compelling and compulsive nature of the planet Pluto.

Pluto is positioned in the sign of Leo in her third house of mental outlook separated by exactly two degrees from a conjunction with the Moon. This can be a powerful astrological constant for obsessive/compulsive behavior. Both Pluto and the Moon are engaged in semisquare (45°) or friction aspect with her dominant Uranus in the first house of health, appearance, and the physical body. The Pluto/Moon conjunction also forms a sextile (60°) or opportunity aspect with Neptune, the visionary planet in the fifth house of performance and creativity. Her Sun at 11° of Pisces is powerful in her tenth house of career and public visibility. The Sun is also in opposition to Saturn co-ruler of her eighth house of death. Saturn rules losses and deficiencies; Carpenter was literally self-starved through anorexia nervosa. Her most powerful aspect is a parallel or intensity compound between the Sun and Saturn; this no doubt, contributed to her incredible discipline as a musician, but also fueled her complex in which self-esteem was equated with an almost skeletal appearance. Like the keyword for the parallel aspect, Karen Carpenter lived her life with "Intensity." A brilliant drummer and vocalist, just shy of 33 years, her life came to an untimely end through dietary obsessions. She remains a popular icon of her era. P

#### Astrology: Pluto (Continued from page 4)

Pluto among the signs of the zodiac refers to generational qualities. This means that much of our interpretation of Pluto's influences is speculative, rather than being based on millennium of observation as are the loweroctave planets. Nevertheless, Pluto was readily assigned rulership (along with traditional Mars) over the sign of death, Scorpio (1735-1747 and 1983-1995). The other dignities of Pluto were quickly allotted as follows: Opposite his home in Scorpio, Pluto is at his detriment in Taurus (1852-1883 and again 2098-2129) where his tendency is to monopolize resources to benefit a few rather than the whole. Pluto's exaltation is in Leo (1938 to 1958) where his influence is to use arts and entertainment to educate the masses. His fall is in the sign Aquarius (1778-1798, and again 2024-2044) where he foments social unrest.

In Hermetic Astrology Pluto governs those urges best described as the Universal Welfare urges, which express as a need to be connected to something larger than one's self. This can express as a need to belong to a group or community, or to discern one's place in God's Great Plan. The divisions of labor and specialization of parts that we see in insect communities such as bees, termites and ants represent the plutonian desire to work cooperatively for the benefit of the whole.

The best quality of Pluto can be summarized in the word cooperation. A harmonious Pluto in a chart can express

as cooperative efforts, a sense of community, positive experiences with groups and organizations, an awareness of your life's purpose, and a profound feeling of interconnectedness to all of life. Additional vocabulary for harmonious expressions of Pluto can be found under the sidebar titled Positive Pluto Traits.

The worst quality of Pluto is coercion. A discordant Pluto in a chart can attract negative experiences with groups, experiences with compulsion and conformity, obsessions, and mob influences. Additional vocabulary for discordant expressions of Pluto can be found under the sidebar titled Negative Pluto Traits.

The professions that most accurately reflect the cooperative or coercive nature of this planet are listed in the sidebar under Pluto figures. This list is not comprehensive; it actually is weighted to the more subversive and secretive qualities of the Pluto personality, nevertheless it is intended to stimulate the reader's imagination.

In 2006 The International Astronomical Union voted to reclassify Pluto as a dwarf planet. A number of scientists continue to hold that Pluto should be classified as a planet. In Hermetic Astrology we still continue to include Pluto in our interpretations as it corresponds to key, observable psychological factors.

#### Page 10

#### Transmuting Pluto (Continued from page 1)

The "0" represents a completed cycle, designating that this latter Unity is therefore not quite the same as the former, but, rather, a new unity which is in some way more complex, more developed, or more complete than the first. Whereas the number "1" symbolizes an altogether undeveloped Unity—one complete in its potential, but not yet made manifest—the number "10" symbolizes the complete development, growth, and maturation of that same concept. It is the Realization of our magical journey.

However, the Ancient Egyptians who crafted these subtleties of thought conceived of time in two distinct fashions: first as *linear*, as our society largely operates today; but also as *cyclical*, whereby the completion of one journey marked the beginning of another (Pinch, 2002). And it is in this sense that the number 10 very well represents the order of the Cosmos, in that observation will indeed inform any attentive student that Nature operates according to cyclical processes, snapshots of which perhaps appear to be linear.

The rotation of the Earth on its axis creates the period of day and night; the revolution of the Moon about the Earth marks out a month; the revolution of the Earth itself about the Sun designates the solar year, the basis of our entire chronological system. Innumerable cycles extend above and below, terminating perhaps only in the Infinity of God Itself. Such questions move quickly out of the realm of answerable posits and into the realm of the Deep and Unknowable Mystery of God.

Alchemically, Pluto represents the upper octave expression of the Moon, the planet which symbolizes loving, nurturing qualities that care for, protect, and insulate the world against harm. Just as the Moon faithfully lights the way as darkness descends, a mother is charged with the sacred duty of lighting the way for her own family, especially in times of hardship. At best, she is epitomized by the loving mother who cares unconditionally for her children and husband. She does her best to feed them, clothe them, and nurture them into happiness and success. They in turn, of course, owe the same to her.

Pluto borrows from the same concept but applies it at a far broader level. Here, the same loving, nurturing motive is extended to larger and larger groupings of individuals. Perhaps the Plutonian sort embraces his or her church family; their national family; their international family; or even the world at large—not only people, but the grass, trees, animals, and the Earth itself. In the ideal sense, Pluto represents a protective urge which goes so far as to embrace the totality of God's Creation—what Zain refers to as "Universal Welfare" (Zain 2000, p. 31).

Unfortunately, while this high-minded conception of Pluto inspires us on to wider and wider circles of love, Pluto has a decidedly dark, even predatorial side. The negative aspect of Pluto is representative of some of the worst atrocities committed by one person against another especially against large groups of others. Dictatorial thinking, subversive mafias, and even genocide can all be fairly considered under the dark rule of a fallen Pluto. In this case, the person in question is still devoting their attention and effort to large groups of people, but their love urge is corrupted, exposing their charges to bitter, dangerous, even life-threatening displays of violence, control, and coercion.

As with all enervated planets, two effective ways of correcting these sordid trends are Conversion and the application of an Antidote. Converting such behavior entails cleansing the corrupted love urge and thereby opening the individual's heart and mind to the damaging effects of their beliefs and actions upon others.

As, in *The Church of Light's* conception, Pluto is representative of the upper octave expression of the Moon, the antidote for a debilitated Pluto is the same as the antidote for a weakened Moon—that is, Mars. In this case, the antidote for a corrupt Pluto is to help the person in question to redirect their Universal Welfare thought elements energetically, zealously, courageously, and unwaveringly towards improving the lives of as many as possible. In so doing, the Universal Welfare urge is polished, and the desire to unfairly or harmfully exert dominance and control is attenuated.

In Pluto, we find both the beginning and the end, the virtuous and the vicious. Its energy can move us powerfully towards the highest spheres or strand us in the deepest depths of spiritual slumber. But most of all, Pluto represents a launching point; a point of completion attained which asks us to look further, to probe deeper, and to become more fully awake, aware, and alive.

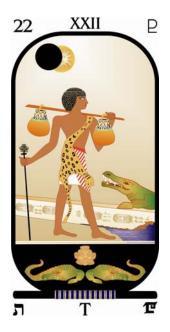
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Zain, C.C. (2000). Mental Alchemy: How thoughts and feelings shape our lives. Brea, CA: The Church of Light.

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# Tarot Correspondence—The Fool



# Divination

Expresses in the spiritual world, annihilation; 0 expresses eternal progression. In the intellectual world, 22 is atheism; and 0, devotion to The Religion of the Stars. In the physical world, 22 is materialism, and 0 is ceaseless cooperation in the furtherance of God's Great Plan.

# Admonition

Remember, then, son of earth, that all things physical pass away; and that before the soul can pass to higher realms every debt to nature must be paid to the utmost farthing. If Arcanum XXII should appear in the prophetic signs of thy horoscope, imprudence threatens to encompass thy ruin, and thou wilt be called upon to pay for thy folly unless thou immediately changeth thy ways.

# Astrology

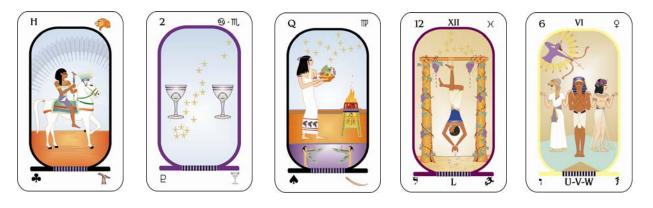
In astrology it is found that the planet Pluto has two marked and opposite qualities. It rules the gangster and racketeer when its destructive side manifests; and it rules the highest type of spiritual effort, and the realization by the individual of his cosmic work, when the better side is manifest. These two extremes are symbolized by Arcanum XXII.

Excerpts from The Sacred Tarot by C. C. Zain

# Tarot Spread Example—The Yes or No Spread

4

The Querent asked the following question: "Will the refinancing of my home go through as expected in a timely manner?"



5

# Tarot Spread Interpretation

3

The Yes or No spread is comprised of five cards laid out from left to right. Cards I and 2 represent the past of the matter inquired about, the center card represents the present, and cards 4 and 5 symbolize the future. Right side up cards represent a "yes" answer, and reversed cards "no." Each card is worth the value of one point for yes or no with the exception of the center card, which has the value of two points. In this spread all of the cards were right side up spelling out a resounding "yes."

The distant past—Arcanum VI, The Two Paths. Trials and tribulations.

The recent past—Arcanum XII, The Hanged Man. Sacrifice and expiation.

The present—The Queen of Swords. A woman of Virgo temperament.

The near future—The Deuce of Cups. A work of love.

The distant future—The Horseman of Scepters. Thoughts in favor of one's business success.

#### Summary

The Querent, acting on a hunch that interest rates would be rising, decided to apply for a refinancing of his home, with the goal of performing repairs and lowering monthly mortgage payments. Arcanum VI could represent his weighing out the pros and cons of such an application. Arcanum XII in the recent past shows troubles and sacrifice. The recent inspection had him concerned that minor repairs might have to be performed prior to receiving the loan. The Virgo woman pictured by the Queen of Swords no doubt represents the underwriter for the loan, who will no doubt scrutinize the application. The Deuce of Cups shows that lender and borrower will be working cooperatively towards their mutually beneficial goal. The Horseman of Scepters, when right side up, represents thoughts towards one's business advantage. This can represent the Querent's good credit history as well as the mortgage banker being eager to make the loan. With all cards right side up, this looks favorable for the Querent with a possible completion date in late August or early September.

2

# Church of Light Convention 2011 The Royal Path to Spirit

You are invited to attend what is expected to be one of our most exciting conventions ever. In honor of our newly published color tarot deck. "The Royal Path to Spirit" will feature the Tarot, or Silver Key of The Brotherhood of Light tradition.

# **Pre-conference Activities**

#### Day I: Madrid, New Mexico

#### Exploring Madrid and Hiking the Sandia Crest

Join us Wednesday June 22<sup>nd</sup> as we take an all-day excursion up the legendary Turquoise Trail to visit the charming artist colony of Madrid, New Mexico. Once a mining town that became a ghost town, Madrid was rediscovered in the 70's as artists moved in. This town is filled with wonderful art galleries and boutiques and even a mining museum! There are a variety of restaurants from which to select your lunch. Later that afternoon, we will travel to the top of the Sandia Crest (elevation 10,378 feet) for stunning views of the Rio Grande Valley and an hour of hiking in alpine forests.



Day 2: Albuquerque Biopark



#### Albuquerque Biological Park

Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, is our day to stay close to home and enjoy one of the destination spots of Albuquerque. The Albuquerque Biological Park, or Biopark, is an environmental museum spread out over three campuses which are connected by a train. The north campus features the Aquarium and Botanic Gardens, and the south campus houses the zoological park. The two campuses are connected by Tingley Beach, a series of fishing ponds and bird sanctuary. There are gift stores and cafes scattered throughout the park. Travel between all three locations is accommodated by a small open-air train. Admission to all facilities is \$12 (seniors \$5).

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# Day 3 Preconference Intensive: Emma Hardinge Britten Revealed



Tarot Intensive, Convention 2007

On Friday June 24<sup>th</sup>, our special guest presenters are Marc Demarest and K. Paul Johnson. They will present on Emma Hardinge Britten, the 19<sup>th</sup> century Spiritualist propagandist and one of the founders of the Theosophical Society. A document titled, "The History and Principles of The Church of Light," informs us that it was through two books *Ghost Land* and *Art Magic*, both translated and edited by EHB, that the Brotherhood of Light Teachings first came to America. Marc Demarest a Theosophical researcher and writer currently working on a Biography of EHB, will share some of his most recent discoveries with us.

K. Paul Johnson, author of *The Masters Revealed*, will present on the topic of EHB and her relationship to The Orphic Circle, an occult brotherhood operating in 19<sup>th</sup> century Europe.

# Convention 2011 **The Royal Path to Spirit** Friday-Sunday, June 24th-26th

C onvention 2011 officially begins on Friday, June 24th, at 3 p.m. with our Annual Business Meeting. This is a great opportunity to get informed and participate in our organizational leadership.

On the evening of the 24th, we will engage in one of our most celebrated activities—Church of Light Initiations. This is a chance for new members who have passed Course I to be inducted into the organization. Those members making a grade change or graduating to Hermetician status may also request to be initiated. A member's reception immediately follows the Initiations



Local Members, Jamie & Yvette

Saturday June 25th's programming will include Tarot and Initiation Part III by Christopher Gibson featuring the complimentary relationships of the tarot Arcanum on the pillars of the temple of initiation. Yvette Fortin will present an inter-

disciplinary talk focused on the astrological assignments attributed to the major arcanum by different occult authors. Sandra Mayo and the Clinton Astrological Association will be back to entertain us by giving a dramatic voice to the trump cards of the tarot.

Saturday night's activities include an awards banquet and comedic sketch by Radine Ramsey, followed by a *Come as Your Favorite Tarot Card* costume and disco party.



Lisa and Missy from the Clinton Astrological Group Skit, 2009

Sunday's program features a summer Solstice Service led by Rev. Meg Dissinger. Allyn McCray will speak on the symbolism of the Magus. Patrick Ramsey will lead us through a hands-on workshop of tarot spreads and counseling techniques. Veiga

O'Sickey will reveal the esoteric meanings of the minor Arcanum, and the conference will end with a special panel discussion addressing tarot questions and answers.



Roland Wissler 2005 Egyptian themed costume party,

# **The Church of Light Annual Membership Meeting**

Date: Friday, November 19, 2010,

Time: 6:30 p.m. MST

Place: Church of Light Headquarters, 2119 Gold Avenue, Albuquerque, NM

Out of State members who would like to participate can do so by logging on to www.churchoflight.tv

# Follow us on Twitter and Facebook ...

Ali McCray, the New CofL Communication Director has created space for the Church of Light and members. For more information contact ali@light.org

# Membership Room

# **Church of Light TV**

Where? Log onto churchoflight.tv

<u>When</u>? Whenever there is a class scheduled or 3rd Sunday Services. Archived classes/services anytime.

Who can watch? Anyone with internet access

What does it cost? For now, it's free. Donations are encouraged!

# What viewers are saying about www.churchoflight.tv

"Thanks again for bringing more light to this dark corner of my knowledge. Thanks for your work and your helpfulness." — B. J. California

"I am enjoying the classes you are presenting and thank you for this opportunity." — G. A. Colorado

"I just downloaded the handout for our classes—boy this is very meaty stuff for me. ..... I am excited and feel very privileged that I have access to this information through you and The Church. ..... This **is** very illuminating. I will look into ordering some of the books you have mentioned...." — M. T. Hawaii

"I want to thank you for sharing your wisdom. You are a marvelous teacher; knowledgeable and thoroughly enjoyable. Thank you so much for teaching these classes! — A. O. California

"I very much enjoyed your sessions and material. You also provide a very centered, comfortable, modest, deep presence." — W. S. Washington D. C.

# The Order of The Sphinx Annual Meeting

Date: Saturday, November 20, 2010,

Time: 9 a.m. MST

Place: Church of Light Headquarters, 2119 Gold Avenue, Albuquerque, NM

Members of the order will receive more details by email

# **Albuquerque Sunday Services**



Potluck buffet at Sunday Service

Sunday Services are held on the third Sunday of the month at 11 AM. MST and broadcast at:

#### www.churchoflight.tv

Our liturgy includes an opening and announcements by Rev. Paul Brewer, a Centering Prayer, a discussion on the relationship of the sign of the zodiac to the current season and holidays by Rev. Christopher Gibson, a homily derived from *The Sacred Tarot*, by Rev. Meg Dissinger titled, *The Greater Trumps*, and Healing Intentions led by Veiga O'Sickey.

Services followed by a potluck buffet and social time.

The following are the dates and topics for upcoming monthly services:

- August 15: Knock Three Times
- September 19: The Yin and Yang of It All
- October 17: How To Survive When Lightning Strikes

# Advertise in the 2011 Convention Program

"This coming year the Church of Light 2011 Convention Program will feature advertising space. This is an opportunity for our members to make their services and products known to other members and to help support the cost of hosting the convention. If you do not have a service or business product to advertise, space is also available for special messages to friends, family, or the universe at large! Our rates are based upon accommodating an average business card, equaling 1/4 sheet. The space and rate breakdown is as follows:

1/4 sheet = 2" tall x 5-1/2" wide	\$15
1/2 sheet = 4" tall x 5-1/2" wide	\$30
Full Page = 8" tall $\times$ 5-1/2" wide	\$50

If you are interested in this opportunity, please mail us your business card, advertising material, or personal message along with your space requirement, contact information, and a check made payable to The Church of Light. The address is The Church of Light, 2119 Gold Avenue SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106, attention Veiga O'Sickey. All ads and messages will be submitted to you for your final approval before they are printed.

If you have any questions, please contact Veiga O'Sickey at veigaosickey@comcast.net.

# Understanding the Minors of the Egyptian Tarot—With Allyn McCray

#### 6 Tuesdays August 17 - September 21 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. MST

There are many traditions surrounding the History and use of the Tarot. In the Brotherhood of Light tradition the Tarot card images were originally derived from bas-reliefs found in the subterranean initiation chambers of the Egyptian Mystery School. This is the companion course to Beginning Egyptian Tarot where we will explore the Mundane, Astrological, and Spiritual interpretations for each Minor Arcana of the Brotherhood of Light deck. Student notes will be provided as well as a colorful and entertaining PowerPoint presentation.

There is a suggested donation of \$10 per class. Log on to our website www.light.org for a class brochure. To attend classes online go to: www.churchoflight.tv.



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## **Fort Worth Activities**



The Fort Worth branch of The Church of Light offers classes on the first and second Tuesdays of the month from 7-9 p.m.

A schedule of the classes for the year is on our website at:

www.owlswebnest.com.

All classes and services are held at:

Owl's Clover Bookstore 3037 James Avenue Fort Worth, Texas

For more information contact Rev. Gail Carswell or Rev. Michael Foltz at:

817-921-5809.

# **Welcome New Hermeticians**

# Pedro Rosales-Martinez Barry L. Young



# **Online Course: Astrological Indicators for Success**

6 Thursdays: September 9 - October 14 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. MDT

In this time of world-wide recession and high unemployment, it is important to identify the advantages one has over one's competitors. Astrology can provide the spiritual insights needed to identify and cultivate those advantages.

Success or failure in life is determined by a combination of factors; the conditioning energy indicated in the astrological chart of birth, the habit systems to which we direct our will, and forces in the environment which either assist or impede our progress.

In this six-week course facilitated by Christopher Gibson we will discover:

 The impact of character and temperament on one's career path

- Natal chart indicators for vocational selection, employment opportunities, and financial success
- Progressed indicators of periodic success or failure
- Cultivating attitudes and habit systems for personal success

Classes will be offered at Church of Light Headquarters at 2119 Gold Avenue SE, Albuquerque. Thursday evenings 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

There is a suggested donation of \$10 per class or \$50 for the entire series of six classes. Call 505-247-1338 for a brochure or calendar of events

Students interested in long-distance learning can participate in class by going to: www.churchoflight.tv.

# **Astrological Research Department**

The Order of the Sphinx has four sections: Wings, Paws, Body and Head. The Head Section has the aspiration to further study. Current research is vital to understanding and responding to current issues in our times. Possible future projects can include researching groups of charts in specific areas such as autism, Alzheimer's, murders, weather, mundane astrology or a specific area of your interest. The Head Section is currently looking for active members interested in working and researching specific areas. If you are interested in participating, please e-mail Pat Ramsey at <u>drpat@prodigy.net</u>. As you would be working with charts, a computer, e-mail and the current Church of Light Horoscope Program would be required.

# Esoteric Psychology—With Yvette Fortin

#### **Ongoing Sundays**

June 20 - August 29

3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Esoteric Psychology is the study of the inner mind and consciousness. In this class we will discuss:

- Reason and Intuition
- Language and the value of Dreams
- Correct Use of Affirmations

 How to Develop Creative Imagination and more!

Come and join us for a closer look into your own inner workings!

Recommended Reading: Course 5: Esoteric Psychology by C.C. Zain



Available from The Church of Light for \$22.95 & 6.00 shipping and handling - a total of \$28.95



# Sunday Astrology Roundtable—with Veiga O'Sickey

**The Planets in Astrology** with Veiga O'Sickey is a weekly roundtable discussion aimed at helping beginning and intermediate level students build their astrological vocabulary and interpretive skills. On Sundays (with the exception of the third **Service Sunday** of the Month) from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

> Venus: July 25 Mars: August I Jupiter: August 8

Uranus: August 22 Neptune: August 29 Pluto: September 12

# Sponsorship Program

The Church of Light offers a Sponsorship Program for financially disadvantaged members. Sponsors agree to financially assist a member in their C of L studies by contributing their membership fee, supplying lessons, and donating for the exam processing fee as the student studies the lessons and passes exams.

There are thirty-two members currently enrolled in the Sponsorship Program. Twenty-seven of those members are incarcerated. One member is a quadriplegic. Three members are from Africa, one of which was recently employed and is now a contributing member. To remain in the sponsorship program, an enrolled member must pass an exam once every six months with a grade of 75% or better. The next course is mailed only upon completion of the previous course.

There are always more members wishing to be sponsored than we have sponsors. Currently there are four persons on the waiting list. If you are interested in anonymously sponsoring a member in need, please contact our Membership Minister, Rev. Patrick Ramsey, at <u>drpat@prodigy.net</u>, or call the office during our regular office hours.

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#### THE CHURCH OF LIGHT

2119 Gold Avenue SE Albuquerque, NM 87106-4072

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# Building A Better World With A Better Vision! The Church of Light Vision For the 21st Century

#### **OUR MISSION:**

To promote Universal Welfare and the exaltation of humankind through the teaching and practices of the Religion of the Stars as outlined in the writings of C.C. Zain.

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

A loving Cosmic Intelligence, of which we are all a part, whose infinite goodness guides us through undeviating natural law.

A Divine Plan manifests through progressive evolution in which each soul has a unique and important role.

A soul is completely moral when to the maximum extent of its abilities it adheres to the universal moral code: Contribute Your Utmost to Universal Welfare.

The realization of the soul's Mission and the attainment of Self-Conscious Immortality is the goal toward which each soul moves.

Love is the way to life. Unselfish Love alone makes immortality possible.

Through the proper exercise of one's mentality using Directed Thinking and Induced Emotion, it is possible to control one's own life and destiny, both here and hereafter.

Astrology is the Golden Key that unlocks the door to understanding the Soul's true character and potential.

The safe development of extrasensory perception (Extension of Consciousness) is the best tool for realizing each individual's mission in the Divine Plan and for verifying the survival of the soul after death of the physical body.

Religion is the sister of Science, and it evolves by incorporating new information as it is discovered and verified.

## **OUR VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY:**

We are a powerful force for good and for spiritual enlightenment and expand the reach and experience of our members because:

We provide reliable and verifiable information regarding the nature of the soul and its relationship to Deity and other life forms;

We seek out reliable and verifiable information regarding life on higher planes of existence, especially in regard to the transition we call death and the nature of the next life;

We develop increasingly advanced tools and training in astrology, extrasensory perception, directed thinking and induced emotion toward the end of maximizing each person's happiness, usefulness and spirituality;

We promote the importance of the four essential freedoms: Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear, Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Religion;

We build a sense of community and spiritual purpose which uplifts and inspires our members to Contribute Their Utmost To Universal Welfare.