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- The Sign Pisces
- Astrological Keywords
- Birth Chart Analysis
- Tarot Spread Example
- Membership Room
- Stellanian Honor Guard  
1st Quarter 2013

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# Quarterly



Volume 88 Issue 3

Summer 2013

## Astrology — Pisces

By Christopher Gibson

Pisces, Latin for fishes, is the twelfth sign of the zodiac. Located in the northern celestial hemisphere, Pisces is surrounded by the constellations of Aries, Triangulum, Andromeda, Pegasus, Aquarius and Cetus. The constellation Pisces is pictured as two fish swimming in opposite directions, yet bound to the same point by a long length of ribbon or string. A large, yet faint constellation, Pisces contains no

stars greater than fourth magnitude. Perhaps the most significant star in the constellation is *Alpha Piscium* or *Alrescha* (meaning rope or cord), representing the knot, or binding point, which falls below the ecliptic and which binds both fish to the underworld. According to Greek mythology, Aphrodite and her son Eros are sunning themselves on a riverbank when monstrous Typhon appears. Aphrodite and son



*Pisces, Johannes Hevelius c 1687*

Eros swiftly transform themselves into fish in order to escape the demon. To make sure they do not lose one another, they are tied together with a cord.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Pisces Insights

By Meg Dissinger

*Pisces Text: "Love is the Tree of Life, and Its Fruit is Universal Brotherhood."*

Spiritual Astrology—C. C. Zain

Pisces is the sign where the physical cycle of life ends. If there is to be still further life, such is indicated by the new cycle commencing in Aries, those processes which lead to revitalization should be commenced before the time of transition thus indicated. These are the processes so clearly indicated by the ribbon which binds the two Fishes of Pisces into an indissoluble union" (CS 7 266).

Pisces, the exaltation of Venus; Pisces, ruled by Neptune; Pisces the martyr; all these give us every bit of the information we need to understand the dynamics of this sign. Zain says that since Neptune is the upper octave of Venus, it relates to interior states which physical manifestations of love are unable to penetrate; that they relate specifically to the astral body, and then to the spiritual. I say that parsing the sign of Pisces is as veiled and

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*For the period between January 1 and March 31, 2013*

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## Editorial

By Christopher Gibson

*“The shadow is a moral problem that challenges the whole ego-personality, for no one can become conscious of the shadow without considerable moral effort. To become conscious of it involves recognizing the dark aspects of the personality as present and real. This act is the essential condition for any kind of self-knowledge.” - Carl Gustav Jung (1875 – 1961)*

Jung, a Swiss psychiatrist and former disciple of Freud, tried to bridge the gap between psychology and spirituality. He embraced the archetypal studies of Western mysticism through his researches into astrology, alchemy and the tarot.

In Jungian psychology, the shadow may represent every aspect of self of which an individual is not fully conscious. This may include the hidden or least desirable facets of one's character in which the shadow is primarily a negative force. The shadow may take on foreboding archetypal imagery, not unlike a Hieronymus Bosch painting. It is often the expression of our animal instincts not considered socially acceptable. We find expression for this in holidays such as Halloween and Mardi Gras, where we don costumes that may be outlandish, horrifying, or bawdy. Since the shadow is irrational and prone to projection, our own shortcomings are often perceived as the moral deficiencies of others. However, positive aspects of character may also remain secreted in one's shadow self.

In a horoscope, the Twelfth House, naturally ruled by Pisces, best describes the “Shadow Side” of the personality. The astrologers of antiquity referred to this area of the horoscope as the house of “Bad Spirit,” “the valley of miseries,” “the dark den of sorrow and horror,” and the “portal of toil.” This stems from the unpredictable days of tyrants and limited freedoms where a frequent question asked of astrologers was, “Will I ever be made a slave?” The slavery of the Twelfth House can symbolize both human bondage and addiction. It can represent psychic afflictions from demons, non-physical entities, and the dark recesses of the psyche. Like the masks of the revelers, the Twelfth House or shadow, can create blind spots in ourselves where we are either unable or unwilling to look. According to Jung, “What we do not face directly will return to us as fate.” We each share a personal responsibility to identify and embrace our shadow selves, to accept our negative characteristics before they drive us to act out of the lower emotions of resentment, greed, fear and shame. Embracing the shadow can only be accomplished through cultivating an attitude of forgiveness and self-acceptance. We must recognize that what we despise most in others might somewhere be contained within our own character. It can be harder to look inward to inner space than it is to point the finger outward.

*(Continued on page 16)*



### **Pisces Associations**

Thought-Series: I Believe  
 Ruling Planets: Jupiter & Neptune  
 Best Quality: Sympathy  
 Worst Quality: Worry  
 Talismanic Gem: Peridot  
 Color: Dark Purple

### **Pisces Figures**

Abbot, actor, aviator, benefactor, celebrant, cleric, counselor, day-dreamer, deep sea diver, designer, devotee, entertainer, fortune-teller, guru, humanitarian, jailor, make-up artist, minister, mystic, nurse, performer, pharmacist, prophet, petroleum industry worker, philanthropist, physician, priest, psychic, rabbi, ritual specialist, sailor, seer, shaman, special-effects artist, spiritualist, social-worker, visionary, visual artist, warden.

### **Positive Pisces Traits**

Alluring, benevolent, captivating, charismatic, charitable, clairvoyant, compassionate, creative thinker, devout, dreamy, dramatic, empathetic, enchanting, engaging, entrancing, ethereal, exotic, fantastical, fascinating, futuristic, generous, giving, good-willed, idealistic, imaginative, intuitive, magnanimous, other-worldly, pious, poetic, prophetic, quixotic, romantic, saintly, seer, sensitive, sincere, spiritual, sympathetic, telepathic, theatrical, tranquil, utopian, visionary.

### **Negative Pisces Traits**

Absent-minded, addicted, affected, ambiguous, blurred, confusing, deceptive, delusional, devious, disingenuous, elusive, escapist, exaggerative, extravagant, fantasy-thinking, flamboyant, fuzzy, hazy, histrionic, holier-than-thou, ill-defined, illogical, illusory, impractical, imprecise, insincere, irrational, melodramatic, misleading, nebulous, ostentatious, over-the-top, sanctimonious, self-righteous, uncertain, unclear, unfathomable, unreliable, unrealistic, vague, wasteful.

### **(Astrology — Pisces Continued from page 1)**

In tropical astrology, the Sun can be found in the sign of Pisces during the 30 days immediately preceding the Spring Equinox, from February 18 to March 20. In sidereal astrology, the Sun moves through Pisces from March 15 to April 14.

As they are filled with hundreds of eggs, fish are symbols of fertility in many cultures. The Chinese Taoists used a symbol known as the yin-yang, which may be seen as two black and white interlocked fish. Each fish has a dot of the other's color contained within its center.

Eighty percent of all fish swim in schools, and it was once believed there was a leader in the school who directed the movements. However, it is now known that a complex combination of senses, such as hearing, sight, and a sense of smell that allow fish to respond to the movements of the other fish.

The sign Pisces is dualistic: it represents the depths to which humans can descend, as well as the heights which can be attained. This is symbolically pictured by the one fish rising above the ecliptic as the other makes its way back to the underworld. Pisces is associated with the Twelfth House of a horoscope that governs a wide variety of mysterious activities like the underworld of drugs, secrets, and places of enforced confinement such as jails, prisons, detention centers, reformatories, hospitals, and mental asylums. It can also rule places of refuge, such as retreats, ashrams, convents, monasteries, sanctuaries, and other environments where we go to seek a contemplative life or voluntary confinement. Pisces symbolism is about that which binds us and that which confines or restricts us. Sometimes these restrictions may be self-imposed, and at other times they are imposed by others, outside circumstances, and the contingencies of life.

Along with Cancer and Scorpio, Pisces is a water sign; all tend towards being emotional. They are kind, caring, gentle, thoughtful, compassionate, and humane. Pisces are unusually sensitive, sometimes to the point of being hyper-sensitive. Like schooling fish, Pisces persons are naturally empathetic and finely attuned to the members of their group. They are quick to respond to the needs of those persons with whom they come in contact. They are extraordinarily attached to their pets, plants and other living things for which they feel responsible. Self-reflective by nature, Pisces can be timid, shy, fear-

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Astrology—Pisces Continued from page 4)*

ful, and self-deprecating. Often lacking in self-confidence, Pisces can be greatly influenced by their environment and the attitudes of their contemporaries. They can dance with wild abandon until they become aware that others are watching, and then their extreme self-consciousness can take over.

Pisces share the Mutable Quality with the signs of Gemini, Virgo, and Sagittarius. The Mutable signs have the ability to take the original ideas of the Moveable signs and develop them to a state whereby they can be perfected by

the Fixed signs. Zain describes the mutable signs as, “a happy medium between the excessive activity of the moveable signs and the stubborn resistance of the fixed signs.” Three of the four Mutable signs are depicted as dual beings: Gemini as twin humans, Sagittarius as half man, half horse, and Pisces as twin fish. Because the twin fish swim in opposite directions, Pisceans, can have trouble making up their minds, and frequently change direction due to outside pressure.

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Dominant Pisces Personality: Erma Bombeck

By Christopher Gibson

*“It is not until you become a mother that your judgment slowly turns to compassion and understanding.”*

– Erma Bombeck (1927 - 1996)

Erma Bombeck is best known as an American humorist and syndicated newspaper columnist who wrote from the 1960's until the late 1990's. She was born Erma Louise Fiste on February 21, 1927 at 4:40 a.m. to Cassius and Erma Fiste, in Dayton, Ohio. After her father's death in 1936, Erma and her mother moved in with her grandmother. Her mother remarried two years later. As a child Erma loved singing and tap-dancing and for eight years she worked in a children's review for a local radio station. At age 14, Bombeck, whose natal Sun conjuncts Jupiter, the planet of comedy, in her First House of self-expression, knew she would become a humor writer. From 1940 – 1944 Bombeck did humorous writing for school papers. In 1944, Bombeck's interview of Shirley Temple became a newspaper feature.

1949 was a momentous year in Bombeck's life; she graduated from the University of Dayton with an English degree, converted to Catholicism, married Bill Bombeck and, when she was unable to get pregnant, adopted her daughter, Betsy. Bombeck would eventually give birth to a son,



Andrew, in 1955, and have a second son, Matthew, in 1958.

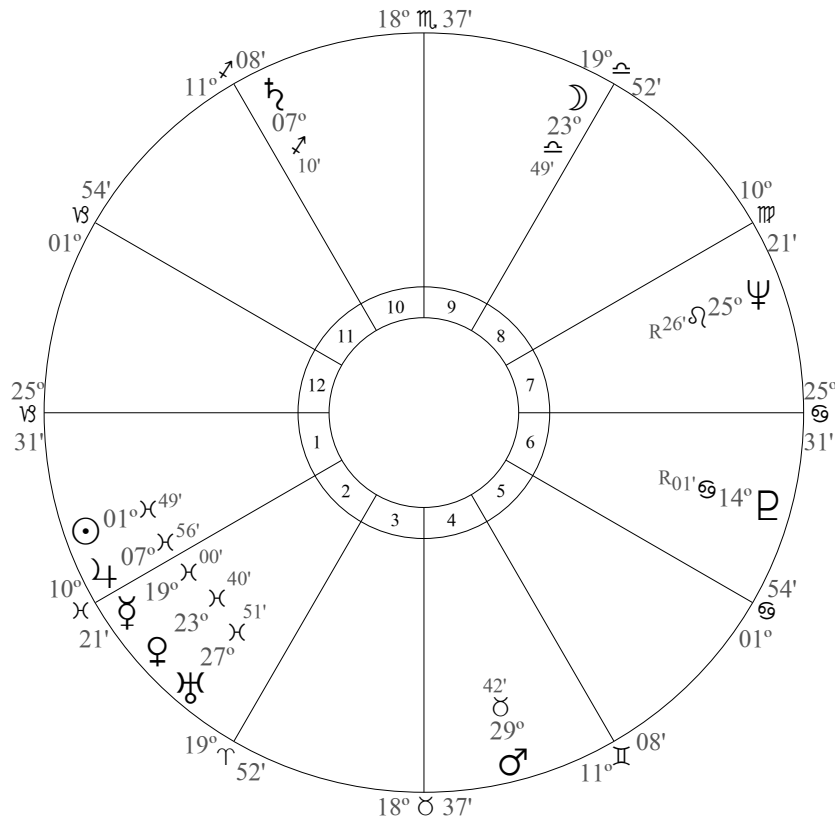
Bombeck's career break came in 1965 when her regular column “At Wit's End” became syndicated into 36 major U.S. newspapers, with three weekly columns. Bombeck quickly became a household name, and for a \$15,000 fee, she began giving lectures in the various cities where her columns appeared. Bombeck's prominent and harmonious

Second House of finance allowed her to prosper from her writing and speaking efforts. By 1971 Bombeck was so successful that she could move her family to the affluent community of Paradise Valley near Phoenix, Arizona. By 1978, 900 U.S. newspapers were publishing Bombeck's syndicated column, and she wrote for numerous popular magazines such as Family Circle, Reader's Digest, Good Housekeeping, McCalls, and Redbook.

Bombeck's First House of health is the most powerful and discordant area of her chart, and she was to ultimately suffer as a result of this. In 1992, after being diagnosed with breast cancer, she had a double mastectomy. The sign Cancer governs the zone of the breast and stomach. In Bombeck's chart this can be found on the cusp of the Sixth House of health and healing; Pluto is in Cancer in this house. She survived

*(Continued on page 6)*





**Events Timeline:**

Year	Event	Aspect
1936	Father dies (age 9)	♀ * ♂ <sub>p</sub> , ♀ ♂ <sub>♁</sub> r
1941	Decides she wants to be a humorist (age 14)	♃ * ASC <sub>r</sub>
1949	Converts to Catholicism	♃Δ♁r, ASC♁♁r
1949	Marries Bill Bombeck	ASC♁♁r, ☉♁♀r
1949	Adopts Daughter Betsy	MC♁♁ <sub>p</sub> , ♃♁♃r
1955	Gives birth to a son, Matthew	☉ * ♂ <sub>r</sub> , ♃♁♃ <sub>p</sub>
1964	Begins job as a humor columnist	MCΔ♁r, ASC♁♀r
1965	Her writing enters syndication	ASC♁♀r, ASC * ASC <sub>r</sub>
1971	Moves family to Paradise Valley, Arizona	♁ * ♁ <sub>p</sub> , ♁♁MC <sub>r</sub>
1992	Diagnosed with breast cancer, undergoes double mastectomy	♃□♁r, MC□♁r
1993	Experiences total kidney failure, begins dialysis	MC□♁r, ♂Δ♃r
1996, April	Undergoes kidney transplant, dies due to complications three weeks later at age 69	♃□♁ <sub>p</sub> , ♂♁♁ <sub>p</sub>

**(Astrology — Pisces continued from page 5)**

In classical astrology, Pisces was the home sign of the religious planet, Jupiter. The word religion comes from the Latin, *religare*, which means to tie or to bind up. This can reflect both the duty and obligations that tie us to religion, as well as the concept of binding oneself up with God. Jupiter's influences lend the Pisces individual a powerful devotional nature, which often expresses as a need for prayer, ritual and ceremony. They have an abiding belief in a higher power and are motivated by an ethical need to do the right thing. From this religious sense comes the keyword for the sign – I Believe.

Since its discovery in 1846, Neptune has been considered the chief ruler of Pisces. Upon the overthrow of the old order of the Titans, the three brothers, Zeus, Poseidon and Hades divided up the world. Zeus/Jupiter received the realm of the heavens and Mount Olympus; Hades/Pluto obtained the mineral wealth of the underworld; and Poseidon/Neptune took control over the watery world of the oceans. Neptune's influence contributes to Pisces natives' sensitivity, high levels of imagination, intuitive and visionary natures and utopian ideals. Pisces persons are mediumistic and psychic. The best trait of Pisces is sympathy, their ability to emotionally connect to others. The worst trait of Pisces is worry –

they can go through life “waiting for the other shoe to drop”. Just as one of the fish in the constellation is ready to dive below the horizon into the realm of darkness – Pisces persons can also dive into the depths of despair through disillusionment or addiction. They can easily develop cravings for drugs, alcohol, pornography, sugar, food, or blood-sport. However, much as in the yin-yang symbol where each fish contains the light or dark germ of the other, within the sign of Pisces the remedy can be discovered in the fish that swims heaven-ward. This side of Pisces rules the nurses, counselors, social workers, breadlines, and halfway houses that can lead us out of depravity.

Pisces is the detriment for the planet Mercury, as it is opposite his home sign of Virgo. Pisces is the inharmony for Saturn (Typhon) because it's highly imaginative qualities can lead to exaggerating fearful conditions and developing phobias. Venus, the planet of love, is exalted in the sign of Pisces. The astrological glyph for Pisces is two outward facing crescents, representing the twin fish which are united by a crossbar, symbolizing the cord that binds them. It is said that the twin fish represent twin souls, and the ribbon that binds them is the sympathetic bond that psychically unites these souls.

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**(Pisces Insights Continued from page 10)**

Pisces is to practice ceaselessly. We must sacrifice all of the dross of ourselves for the greater good of knowing our Authentic Self, our Beloved. In order to attain the highest love, we begin by forgiving injustice and transmuting that energy into the high and refined love. Recall how quickly anger and gross emotion will break the ribbon that binds the two souls. Be inspired to be WILLING to forgive ourselves and others, even when forgiveness is not seemingly available. Forgiveness and reconciliation are powerful functions of love, and when we practice on ourselves and then on others, we discover that without these, there can be no love. Without LOVE, there is no eternal progression.

*“Remember then, Children of Earth, that sacrifice is a divine law from which none is exempt; but expect any ingratitude from humanity. Always hold your soul in readiness to render its account to the eternal.*

*If Arcanum XII should appear in the prophetic signs of your horoscope, a violent death will spread its snares upon the way. But if the world attempts your earthly life, do not die without accepting with resignation this decree of God, and pardon your cruelest enemies; for whoever does not forgive here below will be condemned in the next life to eternal solitude.”*  
*The Sacred Tarot, C. C. Zain p. 168*

From a sermon presented by Rev. Meg Dissinger, February 2006, at The Church of Light, Albuquerque, NM.

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## Convention 2013—The Alchemist's Laboratory: Transforming Your Everyday Life

*“That which is below is like that which is above, and that which is above is like that which is below...”*

From the Emerald Tablet of Hermes Trismegistus

The word laboratory derives from the Latin, *laboratorium*, meaning workshop. We think of a laboratory as a place of observations, investigations and experimentation, nevertheless, it is a place of work. The alchemist's laboratory was the workshop where he undertook the *Magnum Opus*, or The Great Work – the reunion of twin souls. The ancient alchemists knew what is just now being accepted by science, that the act of observing will influence the phenomenon being observed. This is referred to in science as the “observer effect” and in social sciences as the “observer paradox.” The ancient alchemists also knew that, vice versa, the experimenter is impacted by the process of the experiment. Thus, physical alchemists carefully guarded their secrets, and their laboratory experiments. During certain parts of the process they would not allow anyone to enter their workplace knowing that another person's character vibrations could have an impact on their experiment.

Thus, alchemical texts were written in code using the symbolism of astrology, and the metals of alchemy were known as the terrestrial planets. The pictorial imagery of alchemy contained highly symbolic allegories that reflected the spiritual and physical transformations that took place. For example; a three-headed dragon in a crucible might represent the three alchemical processes known as albedo, nigredo and rubedo. Or the marriage of the king and queen could symbolize the union of soul-mates.

The Egyptians referred to their Nile homeland as Khem, after the dark soil that was deposited annually by the flooding of the river. Alchemy and chemistry both reference their origins in the land of Khem. Chemistry has its

origins in the experiments in the alchemists' laboratories. However, the difference between chemistry and alchemy is that chemistry is only concerned with the physical properties of substance, whereas alchemy embraces both the physical and spiritual components of matter.

Alchemy, astrology and magic are called the Hermetic sciences as tradition holds that these disciplines were given to the world by the ancient sage, Hermes Trismegistus. The [Asclepius](#), the [Corpus Hermeticum](#), the [Divine](#)

[Pymander](#) and the [Emerald Tablet](#) are works that were all attributed to Hermes Trismegistus. As a modern day Hermetic order, The Brotherhood of Light has 21 courses which instruct in alchemy, astrology and magic. The 7 alchemical lessons include: [Spiritual Alchemy](#), [Mental Alchemy](#), [Natural Alchemy](#), [Occultism Applied](#), [Cosmic Alchemy](#), [Organic Alchemy](#) and [Personal Alchemy](#).

The 2013 Church of Light Convention is titled The Alchemist's Laboratory: Transforming Your Everyday

Life. Over a three-day period spanning June 21-23, 2013, we will feature eight different Church of Light speakers who will be offering illuminating workshops on the process of alchemy. These presentations will not only take you into the fascinating workshops of the historical alchemists, but also train in practical techniques for experiencing a happier, more prosperous, and spiritual life. In addition to the workshops, we will also be holding initiations, a summer solstice service and an awards banquet complete with Clan Tynker, a family circus which combines music, comedy, juggling and sleight of hand. Stellarians know how to have a good time, and no conference is complete without a party. Saturday night's performance by Clan Tynker will be followed by a Hogwarts Reunion Costume Ball and dance party.



*Clan Tynker our entertainment at the 2013 Convention*

*(Continued on page 14)*

*(Pisces Insights— Continued from page 1)*

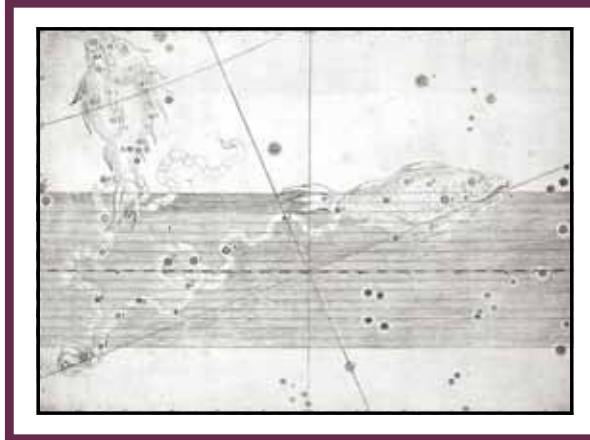
confusing as Neptune himself, but we know for certain that, as always, love is the key.

The constellation Pisces is represented by the two fishes. The story from Greek mythology is that Venus and her son, Cupid, are taking a walk by the Euphrates when Typhon, the malevolent creature of Arcanum XV, appears with typically selfish motives in mind. Cupid and Venus change into two fishes in order to escape. Cupid and Venus represent love. They propel themselves into the water, signifying emotion. The ribbon which binds them is Neptune, and as an invisible energy it unites them but does not restrict the movement of either one.

Anyone who has or has had a consistent loving relationship with another person will affirm the existence of this ribbon of energy which helps us to hone in on the vibratory rate of the other. Zane refers to this circuit as a current of life, which has amazing potential, limited only by the basic vibratory rates of the two between whom the energy flows, and by the amount of energy generated by their love. Be sure though, this event belongs to the inner plane of life. As we have all experienced, mental discord tends to cause it to break, and physical sensations of a base nature will cause it to dissolve.

There is nothing like experimentation to verify esoteric Truth. In our relationships, we will see that this ribbon of love is developed and maintained only by intense and tender love of both in the relationship. It is so sensitive to gross expressions that it cannot function in their presence. It thrives on feelings that respond to SPIRITUAL STATES. If there is any selfishness present, any desire to deprive another, to manipulate, or to cause suffering, the ribbon of life and love which unites the souls will be disrupted. In our loving relationships we see how this manifests. When we come into our loving connection with any negative thoughts, feelings, or emotions; things just never seem to go smoothly.

Imagine the two fishes, the two souls, each with a ribbon extending toward the other. As the loving emotions build, they grow toward each other and finally connect with a knot. This knot represents the EGO, the divine spark of Deity which energizes them both.



The two souls with this common Ego form a distinct system. This system is a spiritual cell in the cosmic body. It has an actual form on the inner planes, and when it is permanent it is known as an angel! Now here is the part I love: the two souls do not lose their individual identity. Just as the ribbon which joins the fishes extends to allow them each to go their separate ways; the two souls are able, even required, to be able to express their separate talents in order to assist the

combined form, the angel as five dimensional form, to complete its function in the cosmic scheme for which it has been especially prepared and educated. Amazing.

If we are not sure this is true, and I know we all doubt, we have only to apply the Hermetic Axiom: As Above, So Below. Notice how when we act in concert and harmony of life, light, and love with our Beloved Companion or with a group in order to accomplish

something; when we direct finer energies toward the realization of the same thing, that the event comes to pass? The more love we add to this with true "desire to be as helpful and beneficial to all creatures as possible [cultivating] tenderness and sympathy for the other [s]," conditions are ripe for realization of the Great Work. We work for what is right, because we truly love others. When we do all we can for love, we have the key to the Tree of Life. (CS 7 268-9)

Who is my Soul-mate? Who is my Beloved? My challenge to you all is to find your true love, find your Beloved. And who is this? Begin with self. I am my Beloved. My first love must always be to love myself, to find my SELF, and to commit firmly to the knowledge and love of the higher, the Authentic Self. The reality is that we will never recognize the love of a Beloved Companion until we are in love with our Beloved Self. To know love, we must have love; and we begin by giving the most precious love to our Self in order to begin to be able to give it to another.

Few will attain the union of soul-mates here on this physical plane, but we can certainly attain our own union with our higher and Authentic Self. Our task of

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Numbers as Archetypes: The Decad: And the Last Shall Be First

By Scenza

The Decad is the masterful culmination and realization of the creative process which began with the Monad, and stepwise worked its way through all of the archetypes represented by the single digits. Its mathematical symbol, 10, depicts its nature perfectly: it is both the completion of one cycle, as indicated by the 0, as well as the initiation of a new round of evolution and growth, as represented by the 1. Juxtaposing these two numbers expresses quantitatively the timeless process of creation by which all things are manifested.

Indeed, as was discussed in the very first article of this series, almost three years ago, the basic mathematical equation  $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 10$  may reveal much about the ancient mathematical philosophers. Obviously, it is a mathematical equality, but if we treat it similarly to the manner in which we have been treating the numbers – that is to say, not only as quantities, but as possessing *qualities* – then, metaphorically this statement says that it takes no less than four discrete steps and ten independent archetypes in order to effect a complete cycle of creation. If we step back from our modern world, and consider the knowledge which it would take an ancient culture to make such a statement, it is nothing short of awe-inspiring. This statement reveals an understanding of the three-dimensional nature of creation in our universe, and the fact that even the simplest three-dimensional figure, the tetrahedron, requires no less than four distinct evolutions in order to manifest. It seems that the ancient mathematical philosophers extended this basic premise, and developed a philosophy and understanding of the Creation upon it.

Originally, the world is dark and void. It exists, yet it has no shape or form. It is in the state of the undifferentiated Monad-existing, but having no distinction or difference. Then, a magical event occurs: the Monad diverges into two discrete quantities, revealing the Dyad. Yet, in

this immature state, where only opposites exist, there is no communication, no bridge between these entirely disparate entities. That bridge, or Harmony, as Pythagoras termed it, is revealed in the Triad. Now, for the first, there is an opportunity for communication. For consider it at its base: in order for any communication to occur, there must be at least two entities, and there must be

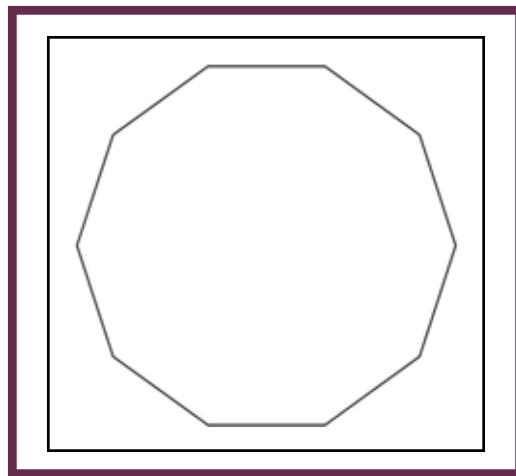
an opportunity for them to interact. This state of communication is first revealed in the Monad, Dyad, and Triad, the Holy Trinity back of all Creation.

Yet, life is infinite in its potential. It is myriad in its manifestations. How, then, could life remain simply three-fold, existing and communicating, yet unable to evolve or develop further? Hence, the Tetrad emerges. The Tetrad, in a vein very similar to the Decad, is at once a completion and a new point of origin. It is on one

hand the realization of the creative process initiated by the Monad, and on the other hand, offers the fresh hope of an ever expanding, ever diversifying world. There are countless examples of this in the universe, but the one thing they all share in common is the mystifying fact that a united Triad, as manifest in the Tetrad, takes on a whole new order of complexity and capacity. It is at once only literally the sum of its parts, and at the same time, something greater. Consider the following examples: protons, electrons, and neutrons come together in discrete quantities, yet somehow when they are united, they advance to a new level of complexity, the chemical element. This element, though composed of a quantifiable number of subatomic particles, somehow takes on properties that none of the particles independently bear.

Or consider a more familiar example: a man couples with a woman, and they bear a child. They are three

*(Continued on page 16)*



## Tarot Correspondence — The Martyr



### Divination

“Expresses in the spiritual world the revealed law.

In the intellectual world, the precept of duty.

In the physical world, sacrifice.”

### Admonition

“Remember, then, son of earth, that sacrifice is a divine law from which none is exempt; but expect any ingratitude from men. Always hold thy soul in readiness to render its account to the eternal. If Arcanum XII should appear in the prophetic signs of thy horoscope, a violent death will spread its snares upon the way. But if the world attempts thy earthly life do not die without accepting with resignation this decree of God, and pardon thy cruelest enemies; for whosoever does not forgive here below will be condemned in the next life to eternal solitude.”

### Astrology

“As the sign Pisces is the last sign of the zodiac, and rules the house of self-undoing, of expiation and crime, as well as sacrifice and disappointment, the astrological correspondence with Arcanum XII is obvious.”

Excerpts from *The Sacred Tarot* by C. C. Zain

## Tarot Card Example Spread—Lucky Seven

### Tarot Spread Interpretation

The Querent asked, “How can I best resolve my conflict with my neighbor?”

Card Spread

**1) The Past** — Youth of Cups (reversed) “Signifies a person ruled by the sign Pisces: negative, timid, listless, harmless, and much influenced by those about him. Right way up it denotes a Pisces man; reversed it indicates a Pisces woman. The dominant idea is I BELIEVE.”

**2) The Present** — Arcanum XXII The Materialist/Spiritualist (reversed) “Spirituality, Power.”

**3) The Future** — King of Cups

“Signifies a person ruled by the sign Cancer: mild, reserved, home-loving and pleasant. Right way up it denotes a Cancer man; reversed it indicates a Cancer woman. The dominant idea is I FEEL.”

**4) The Ability to Control** — Ten of Coins

“Alternate financial loss and gain; its inner interpretation is ASPIRATION.”

**5) The Environment** — Arcanum XII—The Martyr (reversed) “Sacrifice, Expiation.”

**6) The Opposition** — Seven of Scepters (reversed)

“Success in teaching or publishing; its inner interpretation is DEVOTION ”

**7) The Outcome** — Arcanum III—Isis Unveiled (reversed)



### Summary

The Querent was troubled by his next-door neighbor, a woman, who over the years had developed an extreme case of compulsive hoarding syndrome. Among the many items that covered her property, she had started hoarding cases of rotting fruits and vegetables, which were creating a horrible stench. He and other neighbors had called officials for three years, but the situation had only worsened.

The Youth of Cups in the past positions indicates a Pisces woman and more than likely represents his neighbor. Arcanum XXII when reversed is called The Spiritualist and represents the higher qualities of Pluto which are working for the realization of Universal Welfare. The Querent decided to contact City, County and State officials to gain their cooperation in resolving the matter. The future of the matter is pictured by King of Cups, a Cancer man; This signifies that the Querent, who has felt like a prisoner in his own home, will once again be able to

enjoy it. The ability to control is represented by the Ten of Coins, which has as its inner interpretation, aspiration. The Querent was advised to hope for the best and to continue exerting constructive energy until the desired change of conditions is accomplished. The fifth card that represents the environmental influences is occupied by Arcanum XII, The Martyr, showing that the Querent had suffered for many years and had been feeling helpless. The opposition is the Seven of Scepters reversed. Sevens which represent victory or success, show little to no opposition to his matter. The final outcome, represented by Arcanum III—Isis Unveiled reversed, is interpreted as marriage or action. Within a day of contacting his legislators, they had a task force on the matter trying to resolve the complaint.

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(Continued from page 9)

## Pre-conference Tours

For those of you who will be coming to town prior to the conference, we have planned two exciting day trips. On Wednesday, June 19, 2013, we will be taking a scenic train ride from Albuquerque to Santa Fe on the Rail Runner. We will leave hotel at 8:50 a.m. to catch the 9:35 a.m. train at the downtown station arriving in Santa Fe at 11:15 a.m. There are more than five museums and scores of art galleries all within walking distance of the downtown Santa Fe Plaza. We'll break up the day's journey with a delicious lunch within walking distance of the plaza. After lunch there will be time to break into groups for shopping or additional museum visits. At end of day, we will return to Albuquerque on the Rail Runner. The fees for this excursion will be paid individually. For budgeting purposes, a round-trip day pass on the train is approximately \$10, Museum admissions average about \$10 per site, and lunch should be less than \$20.



*Rail Runner to Santa Fe*



*Sandia Tram*

Thursday, June 20, 2013, is not for the faint of heart, as we will travel to the top of Sandia Crest aboard the Sandia Peak Tramway. leaving the hotel at 11 a.m. The trams to the top of the Mountain run every 20 minutes.

The Sandia Crest towers above Albuquerque at an elevation of 10,678 feet. The mountain is home to the Sandia Mountain Wilderness Area, part of the Cibola National Forest. At the top of the mountain, we will hike through Alpine forests and meadows, enjoying numerous varieties of native wildflowers that bloom at this time of year. A bag lunch will be provided by High Finance Restaurant, located at the top of the crest. The group-rate fee for round-trip passage on the tram and lunch is \$38. This will be payable in advance, as this trip requires reservations. We hope you will join us for these two exciting day trips as they are a great way to bond with other Church of Light members outside of the classroom environment.

## Conference Registration

The incredibly low rate of \$175 includes both days of workshops, lunch buffet for Saturday and Sunday, the Friday night reception, and the Awards Banquet. Single day attendance is available for \$110. Additional guests who are not attending the convention can join you at the Awards Banquet for \$40. Friday's preconference workshop on The Alchemy of Progressions is offered for \$45 as a fundraiser for The Church of Light.



## Best Western Rio Grande Inn

This year's conference will be returning to the Best Western Rio Grande Inn located in Albuquerque's historic Old Town district, at 1015 Rio Grande NW. This classic Southwestern inn is within walking distance to unique shopping, dining, galleries, and museums. A complementary shuttle is available to transport you to and from the Albuquerque Sunport, Old Town Plaza, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, and the BioPark. The Church of Light has secured a special group rate for our members and friends who plan to attend our convention June 21-23, 2013. The Best Western Rio Grande Inn has graciously offered our attendees the discounted room rate of \$89 plus tax per night until May 21, 2013. Our special group rate is also valid three days before and two days after our event for those who would like an extended stay in New Mexico. To make your hotel reservations, call 1.800.959.4726 or, locally, 505.843.9500. When making your reservation, please identify yourself as a member of The Church of Light in order to receive our group discount. The Best Western Rio Grande Inn provides complimentary shuttle service to and from the Albuquerque International Airport from 7:00am to 10:00pm daily.

**For detailed updates on our convention plans, please visit the 2013 Convention page on our website: [www.light.org](http://www.light.org)**

## Conference Schedule

### Friday June 21, 2013

Time	Event
9:30 AM-12:30 PM	Creating Your Future Christopher Gibson
12:30-2 PM	Lunch participants are on their own
4-5:30 PM	Business Meeting
7:30-10 PM	Initiations and Reception



*Christopher Gibson*



*Allyn McCray*



*Linda Oglesby*



*Veiga O'Sickey*



*Meg Dissinger*

### Saturday June 22, 2013

Time	Event
7 - 7:45 AM	Morning Yoga Meg Dissinger
8 - 8:30 AM	Registration
8:30 - 9 AM	Opening Ritual & Welcome Paul Brewer & Allyn McCray
9 - 10: 30 AM	Alchemy From A to Y Allyn McCray
10: 30 AM - 12 PM	Alchemical Metals and the Planets Linda Oglesby
12 - 1:30 PM	Lunch Buffet
1:45 - 3 P.M.	A Zodiacal Treasure Chest Veiga O'Sickey
3:30 - 4:30 P.M.	The Alchemical Laboratory Christopher Gibson
6 - 7:30 P.M.	Dinner Buffet and Awards
7:30 - 8:30 P.M.	Clan Tynker
8:30 - 10:00 P.M.	Hogwarts' Reunion Costume Ball

### Sunday June 23, 2013

Time	Event
8 - 8:45 AM	Morning Yoga Meg Dissinger
9 - 10:30 A.M.	The Breath of Life Meg Dissinger
11 A.M. - 12 P.M.	Summer Solstice Service Pat and Radine Ramsey Ministers
12 - 1:30 P.M.	Lunch Buffet
1:30 - 2:45 P.M.	The Alchemical Laboratory Christopher Gibson
3:15 - 4:30 PM	The Symbols, Triplicities and the Great Work in Alchemy Yvette Fortin
4:30 - 5 PM	Speakers Panel Q & A Patrick Ramsey



*Pat & Radine Ramsey*



*Yvette Fortin*

***(Editorial Continued from page 3)***

Just as Pisces is a dualistic sign pictured by twin fish, contemporary astrologers address both the light and dark sides of the Twelfth House. And like the yin-yang symbol there is a spot of light in the dark fish and a spot of dark in the light fish. Just as some individuals are explorers drawn to adventures in the uncharted territories of the external world and outer space, those persons with a dominant Twelfth House are drawn to exploring their "inner space" or subconscious. This is the dream factory where we research and develop our future. As the portal to the collective unconscious, the Twelfth House is

***Numbers as Archetypes Continued from page 11)***

separate, discrete, unique individuals. And yet, when they come together, they create a new level of complexity- the family. This family, as with the atom, is identifiably composed of certain individuals. And yet, the nuances of communication and potential which occur when they are united seem to outpace any basic quantification of their independent abilities.

It is perhaps a fundamental miracle of the world that this jump in complexity occurs when a certain number of factors come together. It is the basis of all of the rich and awesome diversity which fills our world, and whatever

where we tap into archetypes and symbol sets which guide us in divining the future. Through the Twelfth House we tap into our suffering, which can give us the empathy for others and the desire to alleviate the suffering of others.

Pisces and the Twelfth House have dual ruling planets; Neptune is the planet of compassion, and Jupiter the planet of forgiveness. Embracing the shadow requires that we cultivate both qualities.

X

countless others might exist. And all of this is revealed, metaphorically, in the simple sum  $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 10$ .

References:

Iamblichus. (1988). The Theology of Arithmetic. (Robin Waterfield, Trans.). Grand Rapids, MI: Phanes Press.

Schneider, M. (1994). A Beginner's Guide to Constructing the Universe. New York, NY: Harper Perennial.

Zain, C.C. (1994). The Sacred Tarot: The Art of Card Reading and the Underlying Spiritual Science. Los Angeles, CA: The Church of Light.

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## Membership Room

### 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 donating their membership fee, lessons, and the exam processing fee as the student studies the lessons and passes exams.

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.

If you are interested in anonymously sponsoring a member in need, please contact our Membership Minister, Rev. Patrick Ramsey, at [drpat@prodigy.net](mailto:drpat@prodigy.net) or call the

office Monday, Tuesday or Thursday from 9:30 a.m. -5:30 p.m. Mountain Time at 505-247-1338.

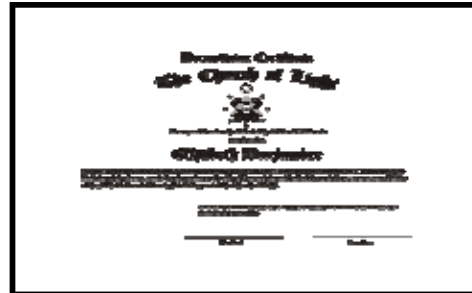


**Patrick Ramsey (and assistant Tiggy)**



## Welcome New Hermeticians

David Duran  
Joseph Boughan Hill



## In Memoriam

Shelah Ben Judah

October 14, 1935 – January 19, 2013

Shelah began his studies with The Church of Light in 1978 achieving Hermetician status in August 1980. He is fondly remembered by the many students whose lives he touched over the decades.

## Volunteer Opportunities The Order of the Sphinx



*The Order of the Sphinx* is an organization of Hermeticians continuing their service to the **Church of Light**.

Currently *The Order of the Sphinx* is recruiting Certified Teachers and Hermeticians to participate as mentors in the Mentorship Program. Duties involve communicating with students by email or telephone who are currently passing their Brotherhood of Light Lessons. If you are interested in volunteering your time as a mentor contact:

peter@light.org  
or scribe.sphinx@light.org



## The Weekly Beacon

Would you like to receive weekly up-to-date information about Church of Light activities, events and special offers via email?

If so, either go online to [www.light.org](http://www.light.org) and register as a member and choose "yes to be notified" or send us an email to [churchoflight@light.org](mailto:churchoflight@light.org) with your request.

We'll be happy to add you to the Weekly Beacon contact list.

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook ...

Ali McCray, CofL Communication Director, has created a Facebook page and Twitter feed for the Church of Light and its members. If you're interested, make friends with the Church Of Light and add your comments or subscribe to receive the Weekly Beacon.

## Fort Worth, Texas, Activities



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

Religious services are held on the third Sunday of the month at 11 a.m.

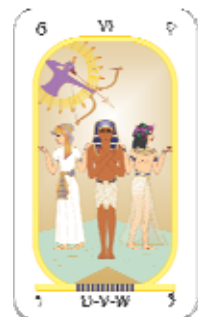
A schedule for the upcoming year is available on their website at: [owlswebnest.com](http://owlswebnest.com).

All classes and services are held at:

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

817-921-5809

## Upcoming Class: Tarot and Intuition



### Five Consecutive Thursdays September 5—October 17, 2013 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. These images comprise the *Royal Path* of life and provide insights on the evolution of the soul back towards spirit after its descent into matter.

In this five-week course, we will concentrate on the use of tarot in *divination*, or foreknowledge of the future. The student will learn the basic meanings for each of the major arcanum, minor arcanum, and court cards. Emphasis will be placed on how the cards can be read in a variety of tarot spreads. Additional discussion will focus on different methods of Extra-Sensory Perception such as clairvoyance, clairaudience, and psychometry.

For students outside of Albuquerque, the class will be offered live, online, and archived for later viewing.

There is a suggested donation of \$12 per class or \$50 for the five-week series.

Instructor: Christopher Gibson



Paul Brewer



Vicki Brewer



Meg Dissinger



Yvette Fortin



Christopher Gibson



Allyn McCray

Participate with us live at Church of Light Headquarters in Albuquerque, New Mexico or online at: [www.light.org](http://www.light.org)

**Astrological Meditations**

A discussion group facilitated by Veiga O'Sickey is on summer vacation until the first Sunday in October at 11 a.m.



Veiga O'Sickey



Patrick Ramsey

**Finding Our Light by Accepting Our Shadow**

Yvette Fortin's discussion group is on summer vacation until the second Sunday in September. At that time join Yvette at 11 a.m. for an overview of Hermetic studies



Radine Ramsey

**Religious Services**

Join our ministerial team consisting of Paul Brewer, Vicki Brewer, Meg Dissinger, Yvette Fortin, Christopher Gibson, Allyn McCray, Veiga O'Sickey, Patrick Ramsey and Radine Ramsey on the Third Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. for our monthly religious service.

**Calendar Third Sunday Services: June—November 2013**

Date	Event	Presented by
June 23, 2013	Cancer Service-Summer Solstice	Pat & Radine Ramsey
July 21, 2013	Leo Service	Christopher Gibson & Paul Brewer
August 18, 2013	Virgo Service	Allyn McCray & Christopher Gibson
September 15, 2013	Libra Service—Autumnal Equinox	Christopher Gibson & Meg Dissinger
October 20, 2013	Scorpio Service	Paul Brewer & Allyn McCray
November 17, 2013	Sagittarius Service & Thanksgiving Potluck	Christopher Gibson & Allyn McCray

## THE CHURCH OF LIGHT

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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



### 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 human-kind 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.